

Pre-Clerkship Electives Master Course List

This document lists all of the currently active pre-clerkship electives that may be offered to first- and second year medical students. The list may be used to help students identify interesting courses, plan to meet their Concentration electives requirement, and identify Service Elective options to satisfy the RE component of their CARE course. While the individual course tables include an “Often Offered” field listing the quarter(s) in which the course has historically been offered, availability can vary from year to year. The chart will be updated as new courses are added, older courses are retired, and as frequency patterns change. Added Concentration designations will apply retroactively; if a designation is removed, courses taken when the designation was in place will still count toward the Concentration requirements.

Courses:	**	Building Systems	Compassion in Care	Equity & Advocacy	Exploration & Innovation	Teaching & Learning
ANES 223: Fundamentals of Health Care Policy, Advocacy, and Leadership		X	X	X		
ANES 224: Introduction to Health Policy	(G/PH)	X	X	X	X	
ANES 226: Clinical Perspectives in Global Health	(G/PH)	X	X	X	X	X
ANES 227: Introduction to Pain Medicine	(G/PH)		X			
ANES 229: Practical Pharmacology in Anesthesia in Critical Care	(G/PH)		X		X	X
CMM 250: Core Course in Stem Cell Biology	(G)				X	
DERM 280: Pathophysiology of the Skin						X
EMED 225: Introduction to Emergency Medicine		X	X			
EMED 275: Introduction to Wilderness Medicine			X			
FPM 221: Medical Improv – Playing Doctor		X	X	X	X	X
FPM 224: Health Fair Medicine & Community Care	(PH)	X	X	X	X	X
FPM 236: Introduction to Osteopathic Medicine			X			X
FPM 242: Lifestyle Medicine: Integrating Wellness & Exercise into Med Practice	(G)	X	X			
FPM 244: VIIDAI - Clinical and Public Health Elective Baja California		X	X	X	X	X
FPM 272: Community Advocacy I (Free Clinic I)		X	X	X	X	X
FPM 286: Free Clinic II		X	X	X	X	X
FPM 296: Cultivating Compassion: Mindfulness Tools for Future Providers		X	X	X		X
MED 232: The Healer's Art and Service	(G/PH)		X	X		X
MED 233: Innovations in Healthcare		X		X	X	
MED 235: Tribal Ambulatory Healthcare Experience		X	X	X		X
MED 238: Molecular Biology & Cardiovascular Systems	(G)				X	X
MED 239: Health Frontiers in Tijuana		X	X	X	X	X
MED 240: Careers in Medicine		X	X	X	X	X
MED 242: Leadership in Medicine		X	X	X	X	X
MED 243: Translational Research in Medicine	(G)	X			X	
MED 249: Understanding the Application of Meditation to Medicine	(PH)		X	X	X	X
MED 250: Medical Spanish – Español en la Clinica		X	X	X		X
MED 253: Medical Chinese		X	X	X		X
MED 262: Current Trends in Biomedical Informatics	(G)	X			X	
MED 263: Bioinformatics Applications to Human Disease	(G)	X			X	X
MED 264: Principles of Biomedical Informatics	(G/PH)	X			X	
MED 265: Informatics in Clinical Environments	(G)	X			X	
MED 271: Gene Therapy Principles and Clinical Applications	(G/PH)				X	
MED 277: Intro to Biomedical Natural Language Processing	(G)	X			X	

MED 278: Cancer Genomics Journal Club (G/PH)				X	X
MED 279: Introduction to Geriatrics	X	X	X		X
MED 285: From Volume to Value: Ensuring a Future of Accessible Healthcare	X	X	X	X	
MED 286: Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant Health	X	X	X		X
MED 290: Hormone Action (G)				X	
NEU 223: Preceptorship in Clinical Neurology		X			
NEU 233: Circadian Rhythms and Health (G/PH)		X		X	
NEU 234: Aerospace Medicine				X	
OPHT 250: Introduction to Ophthalmology		X			X
ORTH 250: Preceptorship in Musculoskeletal Medicine	X	X			X
PATH 216: Pre-Clerkship Experience in Laboratory Medicine		X		X	X
PEDS 245: Preceptorship in Pediatric Gastroenterology		X			X
PSY 200: Intergen. Narratives: Building Empathy for Older Adults through Storytelling		X	X		X
PSY 201: Literature in Medicine		X			X
PSY 227: Youth Mental Health Outreach	X	X	X	X	X
PSY 229: Exploring Child and Adolescent Psychiatry		X	X		X
PSY 234: Mindful Student Leadership (G/PH)	X	X	X	X	X
PSY 296: Compassionate Arts & Humanities-Based Peer Facilitation		X	X		X
RMED 296: Obstetric Immigrant Health and Clinical Experience	X	X	X		X
SOMI 223: Intersections of LGBTQIA+ Health (PH)	X	X	X		
SOMI 230: Health Education Outreach/ DOC 4 a DAY	X		X		X
SOMI 233: Influences on Health: From Genes to Communities			X		
SOMI 234: Beyond the Bench and Bedside: Partnering with Communities	X	X	X	X	
SOMI 235: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies (G/PH)	X		X		X
SOMI 236: Fade Hypertension: Interventions in the Community	X	X	X	X	X
SOMI 237: Introduction to Healthcare Teaching & Learning					X
SOMI 238: Introduction to Exploration & Innovation				X	
SOMI 239: Compassionate Patient Care		X			
SOMI 240: Introduction to Health Systems Science	X				
SOMI 248: Introduction to Global Health Interventions and Evaluation	X		X	X	
SOMI 296: Seq2Care: Genomic Insights & Empathy for Inclusive Healthcare (PH)	X	X	X	X	X
SURG 200: Biomedical Ethics: Case-Based Seminars	X	X	X	X	X
SURG 225: Preceptorship in Surgery			X		X
SURG 232: Representing the Human Body: Drawing as a Way of Seeing (G/PH)		X			X
SURG 260: Introduction to Vascular Surgery		X			X

*Note: The courses indicated in orange are open to med students, but primarily taken by graduate students. They often conflict with core SOM courses and/or start earlier/end later than the SOM quarters. If they don't conflict, they will be listed in the quarterly catalogs. If not, they will only be listed on the main campus' [Tritonlink Schedule of Classes](#). A med student may be able to enroll in these courses if their schedule allows; contact SOMelectives@health.ucsd.edu or SOMRegistrar@health.ucsd.edu to inquire.

**Letters in parentheses indicate if graduate ("G") or pharmacy ("PH") students may enroll.

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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ANES 223: Fundamentals of Health Care Advocacy and Leadership

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Robert E. Hertzka
Description	<p>Today's healthcare environment is intricate and costly, shaped by private insurance and government programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and the ACA, that can have challenging consequences for medical practice. Regrettably, most med students graduate without a clear understanding of how this system operates. This course aims to equip students with a fundamental and practical understanding of this system and to teach some of the skills required to maneuver through the legislative and political aspects of the system to become an effective advocate.</p> <p>The course will include lectures, discussions with physician leaders and health policy experts, small group activities, role-playing scenarios, and a detailed media training workshop. Based on YOUR interests, classroom discussion could cover topics such as: where money actually goes in health care, what it means to be in "private practice," practical considerations for various specialties, as well as the role of physicians as system level-advocates. Students may also participate in an optional class trip to Sacramento in Spring Quarter to engage with additional legislators and policymakers at the State Capitol.</p> <p>Dr. Hertzka is career clinician with forty years of experience who has served as President of the CMA and Chair of the AMA's Health Policy Council. His work includes collaboration with state and federal legislators to enact changes that improve patient care.</p>
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy

ANES 224: Introduction to Health Policy

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Robert E. Hertzka
Description	<p>The health care system into which today's medical students will graduate is a complex and confusing blend of private insurance with multiple major government programs (Medicare, Medicaid, "Obamacare" and others). This course, offered by a physician with thirty-five years of health policy experience working directly with state and federal legislators, will detail the unique history of the US health care system that resulted in this complex blend. The course will allow students to better understand the specific challenges that must be addressed before we can actually improve health care access and quality while reducing health care costs.</p>
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation

ANES 226: Clinical Perspectives in Global Health

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Reema Sanghvi
Description	<p>Offered by an anesthesiologist with over 30 years of field experience in international health, this course aims to understand the issues in global health from the point of view of the policy oriented top-down approach, but also from the critically important perspective of those on the front lines, the clinicians and their patients. Policy is only helpful and relevant when informed by the bottom-up perspective.</p> <p>There is an in-class presentation, and a final paper. Attendance is crucial, as is involvement in discussion in class, which presumes that the student has done the week's assigned readings.</p>
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

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ANES 227: Introduction to Pain Medicine - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Farshad Ahadian
Description	This is a hands-on interactive course. The student will have both patient and faculty interaction and learn how to perform a pain history and physical, develop a differential diagnosis and treatment plan and have daily pain mechanisms/management didactics. Optional didactics are offered by Faculty and Fellows throughout the week during non-clinical hours. Subjects include Oral Opioids and Other Analgesics, Neuropathic Pain, Low Back Pain, and Interventional Pain.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care

ANES 229: Practical Pharmacology in Anesthesia and Critical Care - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Larry Weinstein, M.D
Description	A clinical elective with emphasis on respiratory and cardiac physiology as illustrated on patients. Students will have hands-on operating room experience with normal and abnormal physiology events, pharmacologic therapy. The course is designed to be an observational and hands-on introduction to clinical anesthesiology and pharmacology. It will take place in the OR setting and students will be changing into scrubs and shadowing resident and CRNA providers each week. There will also be an opportunity to spend a day on the OB anesthesia service learning the basics of spinal and epidural anesthesia.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

CMM 250: Core Course in Stem Cell Biology	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Karl Willert
Description	This course provides the latest information in stem cell biology, medicine, and ethics. Faculty members from UCSD, The Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, The Salk Institute, La Jolla Allergy & Immunology, and The Scripps Research Institute will give 1-hour lectures on the basic concepts of embryonic and adult stem cells. In addition, once per week students will present scientific papers that cover some of the recent findings in these rapidly advancing fields of stem cell research.
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation

DERM 280: Pathophysiology of the Skin	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Drs. Jeremy Schneider & Laura Romero
Description	This course provides the basics of clinical dermatology for 1st and 2nd-year medical students. At the end of the course, students should be able to make an informed decision about dermatology as a possible career option.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Teaching & Learning

EMED 225: Introduction to Emergency Medicine - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Brenna Hogue
Description	This course is offered to first and second year medical students who are interested in learning about emergency medicine. The course is designed to expose students to emergency medicine (EM) at the UCSD Hillcrest Emergency Department (ED), which serves a diverse patient population with multiple social determinants of health. In addition to several required 4-hour clinical shifts in the Hillcrest ED, students will attend weekly interactive, small-group sessions at the Hillcrest campus (a virtual option

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	is available), focusing on various topics including: introduction to EM and focused physical examination, suturing skills, pre-hospital care and disaster medicine, EM administration and informatics, pediatric emergency medicine, EM ultrasound, toxicology, hyperbaric medicine, international emergency medicine, and the EM residency application process with tips on matching successfully.
Often Offered	Fall, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care

EMED 275: Wilderness Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Christanne Coffey, MD
Description	A practical course covering diagnosis and treatment of injuries and illnesses encountered in the wilderness environment including cold, heat, high altitude, diving medicine, outdoor orthopedic trauma, plant and marine life poisonings, and survival in the wilderness.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care

FPM 221: Medical Improv – Playing Doctor	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Val Lantz-Gefroh
Course Instructor	John-Michael Maury
Description	<p>This class provides participants with an opportunity to experience and contemplate health care and the profession of medicine from the perspective of a humanities discipline. As an applied arts seminar this elective takes a humanities approach to health care with practice in creativity through the art-form of improvisational theatre.</p> <p>Over the course of this seminar, participants have a chance to demonstrate heightened and improved clinical communication skills and experience how improvisational theatre skills can enhance their ability to speak up in group settings, actively listen with compassionate curiosity and to accept all information being shared with them as a gift.</p> <p>This elective will help participants on their path as they strengthen the necessary skills needed to successfully communicate with confidence in all their current and future interactions with colleagues, patients, and supervisors. They will gain these skills experientially by doing “medical improv”. An added bonus to this class will be access to healthy, decompressing activities that the participants will be able to utilize when their schooling and medical studies might seem too overwhelming.</p> <p>This is a basic improv workshop with an awareness of, but not exclusive focus on, the medical context. The emphasis will be placed on collaboration, curiosity, and discovery in a brave space where it is safe to make mistakes and expand one’s capacity to communicate at a higher level of awareness, empathy and unity.</p>
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

FPM 224: Health Fair Medicine & Community Care	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Audra Meadows & Dr. Valita Jones
Description	<p>This course offers an innovative, hands-on approach to healthcare delivery in underserved communities by focusing on health fairs. In partnership with The San Diego (CA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and other local community organizations, students will organize and participate in a health fair specifically designed to promote health equity for Black families in San Diego.</p> <p>Students will receive training to assist with health screenings and outreach activities targeting health conditions that disproportionately affect Black communities. A key component of the course includes</p>

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	<p>mentoring 4th-12th grade students from underserved areas, aiming to inspire and guide them toward health-related careers. Didactic sessions will cover essential topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Needs Assessment – Understanding the specific health challenges and resources of underserved communities. • Conducting Health Fairs – Planning and organizing effective community health events. • Funding Community Outreach – Exploring strategies to secure funding for sustainable community health initiatives. • Culturally Responsive Care – Providing care that is respectful of and relevant to the diverse backgrounds of patients. <p>Students will be required to attend an orientation/training session as mentors and participate in a community outreach event. This course blends practical experience with key public health concepts to equip students with the skills to advance health equity in real-world settings.</p>
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

FPM 236: Introduction to Osteopathic Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Vanessa Mervyn-Cohen
Description	This course will expose students to osteopathic manipulative medicine through didactics and clinical experiences. Students will be introduced to the osteopathic medicine philosophy, learn basic manipulative medicine techniques, and be paired with clinicians using integrative medicine to observe clinical practices. Students will participate in one session working with or shadowing DO faculty. To be organized with enrollment by faculty.
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

FPM 242: Lifestyle Medicine - Integrating Wellness and Exercise into Med Practice	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Deepa Sannidhi
Description	<p>Students will develop competencies in lifestyle medicine, including health-related fitness and performance assessments, exercise prescription, measures of metabolic and cardio-respiratory function, bone health, and body composition across the lifespan, with exercise physiology lab experience.</p> <p>This is an interactive elective, with opportunity to do things like testing your exercise capacity, balance and flexibility, taking food logs, physical activity monitor tracking...be ready to have fun and interact!</p>
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care

FPM 244: Clinical and Public Health Elective – Baja California (VIIDAI) (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Richard Garfein
Additional Instructor	Dr. Marianne McKennett
Description	VIIDAI is an integrated clinical and public health experience for U.S. and Mexican medical and graduate students. Faculty and student teams spend 3 days (Fri, Sat, Sun) in San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico, to address common clinical and public health concerns in an underserved, largely indigenous community. Students take part in activities ranging from clinical practice, to survey research, to health promotion and education. Cross-cultural exchange is an integral component of this course. In addition, students are expected to attend a full-day orientation meeting at the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California School of Medicine in Tijuana on one Saturday (date TBD) prior to the trip. Students should plan to miss all classes on the Friday of the trip. There is a course fee of ~\$300.
Often Offered	Fall, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

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FPM 272: Community Advocacy – Free Clinic I - LOTTERY (SE)

Course Category	Service Elective
Course Directors	Drs. Michelle Johnson & Natalie Rodriguez
Description	<p>This course is for MS1s ONLY.</p> <p>This is the required introductory course for participation in the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic Project. In partnership with the community, our mission is to provide respectful, empowering, high quality health care with the underserved while inspiring the next generation of health professionals. For more information, please visit the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic (SRFC) website: http://freeclinic.ucsd.edu.</p> <p>In clinical, didactic and small group activities, you will learn about the history and philosophy of the SRFCP, delivering care to patients without access to healthcare, social resources and anti-racism, working with community and transdisciplinary partners and leadership. Personal transportation is highly recommended, as students will need to travel to multiple sites.</p>
Offered	Fall and Winter ONLY
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

FPM 286: Free Clinic II (SE)

Course Category	Service Elective
Course Directors	Drs. Michelle Johnson & Natalie Rodriguez
Description	<p>This course is required for first- or second-year students to continue in the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic Project after they have finished the introductory course (FPM 272). Students may enroll multiple times throughout the first and second year. It is intended for those who take leadership, management, or continuity of care roles. Students, under faculty supervision, provide clinical services and learn administration, health education, and leadership.</p> <p>The UCSD SRFC, in partnership with the community, provides accessible, quality healthcare for the underserved in a respectful environment in which students, health professionals, patients, and community members learn from one another. For more information, please visit the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic (SRFC) website: http://freeclinic.ucsd.edu</p> <p>NOTE: FPM 272 (Free Clinic I) is a required pre-requisite for this course. FPM 286 is also available in the summer by invitation.</p>
Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

FPM 296: Cultivating Compassionate Communities: Mindfulness Tools for Future Providers

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Deepa Sannidhi
Description	An introduction to foundational skills in mindfulness, self-compassion, and associated practices such as mindful prioritization and mindful communication. Skills will be grounded in students' personal and professional lives, offering tools to more comprehensively care for themselves and others.
Often Offered	New in Winter 2022; no pattern
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 232: The Healer's Art and Service (SE)

Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Betty Joan Maly
Description	<p>This course is a discovery process consisting of six (6) non-judgmental, non-competitive, and collegial student/faculty group sessions and your choice of available service opportunities (Family Med, Internal Med-HIV & Palliative Care, Phys. Med & Rehab, School-Based Clinics, or Cross-Border Health). The goal is to recognize, value, enhance, and preserve the human dimension of medicine. Together we discover sources of our individual health & how to maintain them throughout our study and training, compassion for self & others, commitment to serve, reverence, and commitment as a way of life. The group sessions will explore our journey through nurturing our own wholeness, honoring loss,</p>

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	grieving loss, being with dying persons and their families, the awe/mystery & meaning in our study and work, and the compassionate service of persons of all cultures, social function, beliefs, skin color, and gender identity. Students must complete 6+ hours of service and a report for service elective (RE) credit.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 233: Innovations in Healthcare	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Charlie Goldberg
Description	This course explores the full breadth of innovation and how it's utilized in providing and improving healthcare. Participants will be introduced to the processes of both identifying clinical problems and engineering solutions. Hardware, software and other novel approaches will be explored. Students will hear the stories of physicians and scientists who are innovative and entrepreneurial. They will also interact with patients who have benefited from technology. The educational format will include panel discussions, lectures, small group activities and virtual site visits. Business and Engineering school students will participate, allowing for collaborative learning.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation

MED 235: Tribal Ambulatory Healthcare Experience (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Matthew Allison, M.D.
Description	Over the course of the quarter, students will shadow physicians at one of two indigenous serving clinics: The 1) Indian Health Council (IHC) in Pauma Valley or 2) San Diego American Indian Health Center (SDAIHC) near downtown San Diego. The IHC clinic provides a full spectrum of on-site and outreach services and programs to the North San Diego County reservations of Inaja-Cosmit, La Jolla, Los Coyotes, Mesa Grande, Pala, Pauma, Rincon, San Pasqual, and Santa Ysabel. The SDAIHC also provides comprehensive primary care to indigenous populations from diverse backgrounds and who reside in a major urban/suburban area. At both locations, you will be able to further your understanding of Native American health and learn key components of the physical exam, H&P, and chronic disease management. The Indian Health Council has a number of additional requirements (e.g., background checks, drug testing, etc.) that will need to be completed prior to participating.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 238: Molecular Biology & Cardiovascular Systems	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Ju Chen
Description	This course is a broad survey of the molecular biology of the cardiovascular system, covering the development of the heart, cardiac conduction system, and vasculature and the relevance of this to understanding and treating cardiovascular disease. Practical principles underlying utilization of the mouse and human iPSCs as models to study cardiovascular disease are introduced, and several mouse models of cardiomyopathy and cardiac hypertrophy are discussed. Current understanding of processes underlying atherosclerotic disease is introduced, including the role of fluid shear stress in vascular remodeling.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Teaching & Learning, Exploration & Innovation

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General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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MED 239: Health Frontiers in Tijuana (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Jose Luis Burgos, M.D., M.P.H.
Additional Instructor	Victoria D. Ojeda, M.P.H., Ph.D.
Description	Students will learn about Mexican health systems and principles and practices of global health as they design and implement health education and screening programs. Under faculty supervision, students will learn how to take histories and perform physical education as well as administration, health education and leadership
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 240: Careers in Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Binh Ly
Course Instructor	Ramon Aldecoa
Description	The Careers in Medicine elective will provide students additional structure to begin and continue personalized career development exploration using a variety of didactic activities. Students will appraise and assess their own values, skills, and interests in relation to career/specialty decisions. Students will become familiar with the timeline and components of residency application and will synthesize various aspects of specialty decision for future course of action. Physician Shadowing experiences are integrated to observe and interact with practicing physicians of your choice in a non-evaluative environment.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 242: Leadership in Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Scott Mullaney
Course Instructor	Ramon Aldecoa
Description	The goal of the Principles of Leadership elective is to create a space where students can develop core leadership skills and traits through reflection and discussion. Students will receive prompts from readings, videos, and speakers with diverse backgrounds in clinical care and administration. Learning sessions will be organized into discrete modules designed to help students identify opportunities to exercise skills relevant to leadership in the context of medicine. Students will be exposed to a more holistic view of the challenges faced by leaders in healthcare as well as what opportunities await them in their own career.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 243: Translational Research in Medicine Journal Club	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Mary Lewinski & Dr. Aaron Carlin
Additional Instructors	Dr. Neil Chi and Dr. Alex Chavez
Description	Medical research Journal Club for SOM students. Students will present scientific work to peers and faculty. Aims are to teach critical reading of biomedical literature and to serve as a forum for integrating research methods with unsolved clinical problems. This course is required for MSTP MS1s.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation

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MED 249: Understanding the Application of Meditation to Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Daniel Lee, MD
Additional Instructor	Dr. Amy Sitapati
Description	<p>Course introduces students to meditation including: a broad review of origins and meditation types, meditation research design considerations, and current comprehensive review of published evidence. Meditation taught emphasizes use as medical therapeutic and to enhance patient-physician relationship.</p> <p>Students will get firsthand experience with learning Kelee meditation (www.thekelee.org), including the Anatomy of the Kelee and how to apply the Basic Principles of the Kelee to improve their patient care interactions.</p>
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 250: Medical Spanish – Español en la Clinica	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Patricia Gonzalez-Zuniga and Dr. Natalie Rodriguez
Description	<p>The course is primarily focused on developing medical Spanish language communication for students with pre-existing Spanish conversational skills but will also incorporate the sociocultural context of Hispanic/Latino patients to enhance students' understanding and sensitivity regarding the cultural beliefs and socioeconomic factors that are important in providing appropriate health care to Spanish speaking communities.</p> <p>This course will be conducted by a native speaking medical doctor in a non-stressful and nonjudgmental environment with discussion of common diagnoses, procedural consent management/treatment plans, and patient education in Spanish to empower medical students to practice conversational medical.</p> <p>* Students may NOT legally use Spanish in an official context in a hospital setting without further certification.</p>
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 253: Medical Chinese	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Jinghong Li
Description	<p>The objective of this course is to prepare medical students with the basic skills required to conduct a clinical exam in Mandarin Chinese. Students will learn to use Mandarin to take a medical history and to perform a physical exam.</p> <p>Students must have pre-existing Mandarin conversational skills.</p>
Often Offered	Recently revived course; no pattern
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 262: Current Trends in Biomedical Informatics	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Jejo Koola
Description	This seminar series is designed to help students understand the foundations as well as current and new directions in biomedical informatics. Discussions of cutting-edge research conducted by local, regional, national and international experts will be presented.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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MED 263: Bioinformatics Applications to Human Disease

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Kathleen Curtius
Description	This course is designed to provide clinicians and graduate students with the background knowledge and practical skills required to elucidate the mechanisms of human disease using bioinformatic approaches. Students should be proficient with using a computer programming language to analyze data.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 264: Principles of Biomedical Informatics

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Tsung-Ting Kuo
Description	This course introduces the fundamental concepts and some of the algorithms used in biomedical informatics applications as well as provide exposure to its many sub-domains.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation

MED 265: Informatics in Clinical Environments

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Robert El-Kareh
Additional Instructor	Dr. Amy Sitapati
Description	This course is designed to introduce the fundamental concepts involved in quantitative healthcare at the same time as it provides exposure to different healthcare environments: Primary, Specialty, Emergency, Urgent Care, ICU, and the Operating Room. See website for more details: https://dbmi.ucsd.edu/education/courses/med265.html .
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation

MED 271: Gene Therapy Principles and Clinical Applications

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Stephanie Cherqui
Description	Gene Therapy is revolutionizing the current medicine and offers the opportunity to radically redefine what a “curable” disease is. Four gene therapy products have already been approved by the FDA to treat cancer and genetic disorders, and much more are expected to be approved in the next few years. Learn the theory, techniques, challenges and clinical applications from the scientists and clinicians at the forefront of this rapidly developing field.
Often Offered	Fall in even numbered years
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation

MED 277: Intro to Biomedical Natural Language Processing

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Michael Hogarth
Description	Biomedical Natural Language Processing (BioNLP) is an essential tool in both biomedical research and clinical applications. Students taking this course will learn how to process free text data and their integration with other types of biomedical data with BioNLP.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Exploration & Innovation

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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MED 278: Cancer Genomics Journal Club	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Hannah Carter
Description	Rotating presenters (class members, instructors, attending faculty, staff) will discuss a recent article from the published scientific literature on the topic of cancer genomics and related bioinformatics methods. Students are expected to present a paper and attend regularly. Class website: https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/dbmi/education/courses/Pages/MED278.aspx
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

MED 279: Introduction to Geriatrics - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. James Templeman
Additional Instructors	Tessa Antalan, MD, Emily Sladek, MD, Steve Huege, MD, Ramin Motarjemi, MD
Description	The scope of this pre-clerkship educational experience is to gain an introduction to the field of geriatrics and the care of older adults. In this course, students will gain individual mentorship and exposure to career options within the field of geriatrics and/or geriatric sub-specialties through hands-on experiences with a preceptor(s). The focus of the course will not be on mastering all diagnoses within the field of geriatrics, but to learn about the various health challenges faced by older adults, as well as to become more mindful healers and communicators. Through active engagement in the clinical setting and under the guidance and mentorship of preceptors, students will begin to appreciate the importance of older adult care regardless of the students' future chosen medical field.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

MED 285: From Volume to Value – Empowering Students to Ensure a Future of Accessible Healthcare	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Greg Seymann
Description	This course is designed to introduce students to the concept of value in healthcare: maximizing outcomes that matter to patients per total costs of care. Students will be exposed to topics including health care financing, administration, waste and inefficiencies—as well as methods to combat overutilization—and delivery models that prioritize and incentivize a team-based approach to care delivery and coordination, in contrast to the traditional fee-for-service model. The course will feature a variety of faculty facilitators to allow a broad perspective by highlighting real-world applications of high-value care in practice.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation

MED 286: Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant Health	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Megha Shankar, Dr. Janine Young, & Dr. Tala Al-Rousan
Description	Are you interested in learning more about the current state of the global refugee health crisis? Do you want to learn how to better serve this population in a clinical setting? Do you want to become more involved with volunteer efforts in San Diego County? In this course, you will learn more about the global refugee crisis and how you can provide quality care to this unique and vulnerable population. This course will include site visits to community organizations across San Diego. Students will need transportation to sites through car pool, public transportation, or ride share.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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MED 290: Hormone Action	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Nicholas Webster
Description	This course covers recent advances in research into hormone action; molecular endocrinology; lipid, lipoprotein, and carbohydrate metabolism; and reproductive medicine.
Often Offered	New in Spring 2024
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation

NEU 223: Preceptorship in Clinical Neurology - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Jamie LaBuzetta
Description	Students will be exposed to neurologic history taking, neurologic exam, tests and interpretation of imaging, and management of the neurological patient in a clinic setting.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care

NEU 233: Circadian Rhythms and Health	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective – Often Listed as a Graduate Class
Course Director	Dr. Paula Desplats
Description	For MS2s ONLY – This class will cover basic principles of circadian regulation and discuss effects of circadian impairment across a wide range of clinical outcomes. As we unravel the mechanisms that govern circadian biology, lifestyle and therapeutic interventions that align circadian rhythms may soon become standards of health care. This course is highly relevant as it will provide the next generation of physicians and biomedical scientists with crucial understanding of circadian rhythms and deliver the necessary concepts to design and/or implement circadian-based strategies to improve patient health and recovery.
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Exploration & Innovation

NEU 234: Aerospace Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Erik Viirre
Description	<p>Aerospace medicine is a growing field that explores the survival and functionality of the human body in the challenging environments of air and space flight. Physicians in the field explore medical and safety issues of aviation and space transportation. Aerospace medicine is a multidisciplinary field that incorporates the knowledge of various medical specialties such as pulmonology, neurology, cardiology, and many more. As space travel technology grows and as more humans take on the space frontier, there is a greater need for physicians in this field.</p> <p>UCSD is one of the few institutions in the United States that actively researches aerospace engineering and space medicine. However, aerospace medicine is not a typical part of the medical school curriculum. By creating an introductory space medicine elective for medical students, we plan to introduce more students to the field and make the knowledge more accessible. We also want to empower students to be on the frontier of the up-and-coming movement of air and space travel and introduce students to the nontraditional and variable paths taken by physicians to work in the aerospace medicine field.</p>
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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OPHTH 250: Introduction to Ophthalmology - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Andrew Camp
Description	Course Description: This course introduces the field of ophthalmology through lecture, shadowing in clinic, and the operating room. Students will gain early exposure to, and general appreciation of, ophthalmology as a medical and surgical specialty.
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

ORTH 250: Preceptorship in Musculoskeletal Medicine - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Douglas Chang, MD, PhD
Description	This preceptorship involves the evaluation and management of ambulatory orthopedic conditions, taught by members of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery. This will involve musculoskeletal history taking, physical examination skills, imaging interpretation, planning a differential diagnosis, treatment planning and communication of clinical information with members of the treatment team.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

PATH 216: Pre-Clerkship Experience in Laboratory Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	David N. Bailey, MD
Description	Open to MS2s ONLY This course will familiarize students with the use of the laboratory in diagnosis of the most common diseases and the pathophysiologic basis behind specific laboratory tests. It will be useful in preparing students for USMLE I and the core clerkships.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

PEDS 245: Preceptorship in Pediatric Gastroenterology – LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Elizabeth L Yu, MD
Description	This course is a preceptorship in outpatient pediatric gastroenterology for first and second-year medical students who wish to expand their exposure to children with acute and chronic problems. Emphasis will be on history and physical skills. Besides direct patient contact in a clinical setting, this course also offers optional endoscopy observation.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

PSY 200: Intergenerational Narratives – Building Empathy for Older Adults Through Storytelling (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Desiree Shapiro
Description	This course provides an opportunity for students to learn about the older adult experience and perspective directly from volunteer older adults in the local communities and aims to promote empathy and compassion by allowing trainees to engage in narrative storytelling, a well-researched empathy-building activity with the potential to decrease age-related stereotypes. Students will be paired with a community member to interview them over a series of meetings and will also have group discussions to build community and appreciate diverse perspectives with topics including positive psychology themes (e.g., resilience, gratitude) and healthy aging. We hope students will learn to consider and appreciate healthy aging, wisdom, community, and wellbeing as part of the aging experience, and learn to empower their future patients to strive towards these as they age.
Often Offered	New in Winter 2023; no pattern
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

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General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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PSY 201: Literature and Medicine	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Lisa Eyler
Description	Literature and Medicine is a course engaging medical students through humanities and the arts. In this course we will explore topics such as medical education, death/dying, and the art of healing through various excerpts and short works that will be read together in class. Reflective writing and creative expression will be encouraged. We will meet and discuss online materials.
Often Offered	Winter
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

PSY 227: Youth Mental Health Outreach (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Desiree Shapiro
Description	Students will first learn about the importance of youth mental health and then research, adapt, and/or create an interactive workshop on youth mental health to be delivered during the Elective period. In this learning opportunity, students will gain an introduction to youth mental health and also be empowered to follow their interests, dive deeply into topics of best practice mental health education and engaging youth in talking about their own mental health, and develop language to talk about mental health and create a safe environment for others to do the same. Through this process, students will become more confident in advocating for youth mental health awareness. This Elective will be individualized by allowing students to work closely with the Course Director to find and discuss resources, including existing lessons, readings, and studies, which will allow the student to be supported in developing their own active teaching strategies and ways to meet the needs of a classroom/youth community group.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

PSY 229: Exploring Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CAP)	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Desiree Shapiro
Description	The goal of this course is to gain an introduction to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry and learn about mental health and wellness. The focus of the course will not be on covering all diagnoses within the field but to begin to appreciate the importance of mental health within youth development. Using a culturally sensitive and curious approach, students will actively learn and dialogue during the course, gain exposure to career options within the field of child and adolescent psychiatry, appreciate the importance of mental health during childhood and adolescence, and have greater comfort in discussing topics of mental health.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

PSY 234: Mindful Student Leadership	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Deepa Sannidhi
Description	Despite the diversity of health care providers and specialties, there are several trends that cut across disciplines: facing an increased workload with diminishing time, increased burnout and stress amongst clinicians, working within interprofessional teams, and shouldering growing administrative activities. The course aims to provide a toolkit to help future care providers cope with these challenges through the tools of mindful leadership and mindfulness-based practices. Leadership can take a variety of forms and, at various points through our careers, and even within the same day, we are all expected to both lead and to follow. By becoming more present and conscious of our role as leaders to our peers and our patients through the principles of mindfulness, we can bring greater clarity, focus, creativity, and compassion to our lives and the lives of those around us. This 8-week course is designed for health sciences graduate students to become familiar with the tenets of mindful

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General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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	leadership and to develop the expertise and skill to apply these core competencies to the delivery of health care.
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

PSY 296: Compassionate Arts & Humanities-Based Peer Facilitation (SE)

Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Lisa Eyler, PhD
Additional Instructors	John-Michael Maury, Josh Robinson, Samantha Barrick
Description	MS2s ONLY - The "Compassionate Arts- and Humanities-Based Peer Facilitation" elective will prepare MS2 students to facilitate small group activities in CARE1 by enhancing their general facilitation skills and training them how to lead small group sessions involving: a) theater-based exercises b) music/drumming exercises, and c) Narrative Medicine exercises. Students will then serve as peer facilitators for 3 different CARE1 sessions; these hours of serving the School of Medicine community will count for Real Engagement (RE) credit in CARE2. The skills learned in this elective will serve as an important foundation for aspiring medical educators and will also provide valuable insights that can be used in compassionate care for patients
Often Offered	*New in Fall 2024* (no pattern)
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

RMED 296: Obstetric Immigrant Health and Clinical Experience (SE)

Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Mai Hoang
Description	This is a 12-week service elective course available to first and second-year medical students interested in obstetric migrant health and wish to expand their knowledge of community resources to help minoritized patients overcome structural and systemic barriers to care. Each student will be paired with a patient care navigator and a pregnant immigrant patient to experience the health care system from the patient's perspective. Students will work with care navigators to connect their assigned patient to community resources and coordinate medical care. Depending on their patient's medical needs, students may accompany their patients to medical appointments or attend their delivery. Through lived experience, didactics, and group discussions, students will better understand the socioeconomic and legal challenges that minoritized pregnant patients face in accessing medical care. Importantly, they will also learn how those barriers impact pregnancy outcomes. In addition to improving student knowledge of obstetric migrant health, this course strives to cultivate empathy and promote compassion for vulnerable patient populations among pre-clinical students.
Often Offered	*New in Fall 2024* (no pattern)
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

SOMI 223: Intersections of LGBTQIA* Health

Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Dr. Mary Lewinski
Additional Instructors	Drs. Jill Blumenthal, Tamanava Eden-McLintock, Maribel Gomez, David Grelotti, Michael Kreuzer, Daniel Lee, Britt Skaathun, Courtney Thompson, Gabriel Wagner, & Jeremy Willis
Description	This open-forum-based course aims to increase awareness of LGBTQIA+ issues among health care professionals-in-training in order to ameliorate the experiences of sexual and gender minorities. It combines didactics with group discussion on LGBTQIA+ health and the disparities that exist within the LGBTQIA+ community. Each week is led by facilitators from different practices in medicine and the relevant communities as we try to unpack these complex and thought-provoking topics to help us become more competent healthcare professionals.
Often Offered	Varies
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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SOMI 230: Health Education Outreach / DOC 4 A DAY (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Dr. Happy Araneta
Description	Doc-for-a-Day provides medical students with the unique opportunity to interact with and engage disadvantaged middle and high school students for one day at the School of Medicine. Geared towards exposing inner city kids to the possibility of pursuing a career in science or medicine, students work in small groups with kids teaching physical exams, neurological exams, and anatomy. Students will also hold a panel to discuss issues they encountered upon choosing a career in medicine.
Often Offered	Fall, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

SOMI 233: Influences on Health: From Genes to Communities	
Course Category	Concentration Intro Course
Course Director	Jacob Bailey, MD
Description	Open to MS1s in the Equity and Advocacy Concentration and PRIME program ONLY. Family, community and cultural influences on health as well as new efforts to tailor diagnosis and treatment based on genetic variation will be presented. Health care systems' effects on health equity will be discussed. The course will also include a Cultural Immersion activity in City Heights.
Often Offered	Fall ONLY
Concentrations Met	Equity & Advocacy

SOMI 234: Beyond the Bench and Bedside: Partnering with Communities	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Luis Castellanos, MD, MPH
Description	This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to partner with communities to develop, conduct and evaluate community-based research, and design and conduct program evaluations of community programs.
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation

SOMI 235: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Jacob Bailey, MD
Additional Instructor	Valita Jones, EdD
Description	This course exposes students to an urban high school. Students will be trained to give ten lessons on health topics to the same high school class providing a longitudinal health curriculum. They will learn teaching strategies and written feedback, track student learning and act as role models.
Often Offered	Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

SOMI 236: Fade Hypertension: Interventions in the Community (SE)	
Course Category	Service Elective
Course Director	Drs. Alexander Bullen & Happy Araneta
Description	Students will learn about developing relationships with local communities to deliver effective healthcare, particularly with regards to disparities in cardiovascular disease and address health disparities in cardiovascular disease primarily through screening local populations for hypertension. Strategies for screening for hypertension will include learning and executing procedures for taking a manual & automated blood pressure, as well as learning clinically important features of hypertension.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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SOMI 237: Introduction to Healthcare Teaching & Learning

Course Category	Concentration Intro Course
Course Directors	Dr. Katharina Brandl and Dir. Stephen Scheid
Description	Open to MS1s in the Teaching & Learning Concentration ONLY This course provides exposure to foundational teaching principles, skills, and techniques that will be reinforced with several opportunities in the teaching and learning concentration for hands-on application within the curriculum and in the community.
Often Offered	Fall ONLY
Concentrations Met	Teaching & Learning

SOMI 238: Introduction to Exploration & Innovation

Course Category	Concentration Intro Course
Course Director	Dr. Harpreet Bhatia
Description	Open to MS1s in the Exploration and Innovation Concentration ONLY This required introductory elective within will provide an overview of fundamental skills related to biomedical research and entrepreneurship, as well as practical skills related to participation in these activities.
Often Offered	Fall ONLY
Concentrations Met	Exploration & Innovation

EMED 240: Compassionate Patient Care

Course Category	Concentration Intro Course
Course Director	Dr. Leslie Oyama
Description	Open to MS1s in the Compassion in Care Concentration ONLY. This course teaches students about the populations we care for, their vulnerabilities, special considerations, and challenges faced as they try to access and interface with the health care system. Advanced preparation of assignments for lectures, and class discussions is expected.
Offered	Fall Only
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care

SOMI 240: Introduction to Health Systems Science

Course Category	Concentration Intro Course
Course Director	Dr. Brian Kwan
Description	Open to MS1s in the Building Systems Concentration ONLY Physicians cannot function effectively in modern healthcare systems without a substantive understanding of healthcare delivery, ways in which people work together in healthcare systems, and means by which patient care can be delivered more effectively, efficiently, and equitably. This triad defines the foundation of health systems science, and this course introduces this vital field in a unified manner that would otherwise be unavailable to medical students. Key topics include the academic health system enterprise; healthcare leadership; patient safety and quality improvement; finance, billing, and coding in healthcare; healthcare advocacy; applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare; and clinical informatics, health data analytics, and data visualization.
Offered	Fall Only
Concentrations Met	Building Systems

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General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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SOMI 248: Introduction to Global Health Interventions and Evaluation	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Sarah Averbach
Description	Students will be introduced to common research methods and implementation challenges in Global Health. Students will critically evaluate the impact of sociocultural factors on health disparities in global health outcomes. This knowledge can be applied towards future research experiences and career development.
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation

SOMI 296: Seq2Care: Genomic Insights and Empathy for Inclusive Healthcare	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Directors	Ramya M. Rajagopalan, PhD and Cinnamon S. Bloss, PhD
Additional Instructor	Taylor Berninger, MS, MA, MEd, CGC
Description	<p>(Formerly Sanford Precision Health Scholars: Journeys in Genomic Testing)</p> <p>Seq2Care employs an innovative experiential learning approach to develop fundamental skills for integrating precision health tools in clinical settings. Students will have the option to participate in a voluntary, no-cost, secure, clinically validated personal genetic testing experience, to learn about their own genetic variants and engage with course content from a patient perspective. Students will receive an equivalent learning experience regardless of whether they opt-in or opt-out of the genetic testing experience.</p> <p>Skills learned in this course provide a baseline foundation for incorporating genomic healthcare into any specialty. Course activities explore the utility of clinical genomics technologies for identifying and managing hereditary health risks. Key issues of ethics, social justice, and health equity provide real-world framing for strategies that can support the inclusive delivery of genomic healthcare. A central focus is on skill-building to support compassionate interaction, interpretation, and communication of genomic information with diverse patients and families.</p> <p>Learning activities are delivered through a series of self-paced, asynchronous modules, bookended by two in-person sessions (attendance required). In-class interactions focus on case scenarios, peer-to-peer role plays, and group discussion.</p>
Often Offered	Fall
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

SURG 200: Biomedical Ethics – Case Based Seminars	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Anthony Magit
Description	This course will explore fundamental and emerging topics in the field of biomedical ethics. Seminars will include an overview of foundational concepts utilizing classic papers and presentations of challenging bioethics questions of today. Students will first be introduced to the core theoretical approaches to biomedical ethics, proceed to discussing clinical ethics and the basic principles of human subject research ethics, then explore topics such as the application of emerging health care technologies in medicine, and end of life decisions in an increasingly aging population. Each session, faculty instructors present a brief synopsis of the topic, then the students discuss a historical, real-life case. Each case, consisting of a paragraph or two, will be assigned to students on the first day of the course and the assigned student will present the case to their peers and co-lead the discussion along with the faculty instructors for their session. This course will provide students with the knowledge and understanding to critically evaluate today's rapidly evolving bioethics challenges and opportunities.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Building Systems, Compassion in Care, Equity & Advocacy, Exploration & Innovation, Teaching & Learning

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SURG 225: Preceptorship in Surgery - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Nicole Lopez
Description	The goal of this course is to allow students to explore surgical careers by providing organized opportunities to shadow surgeons during their preclinical years. By providing these opportunities, students will begin to appreciate surgical specialties and can start to prepare to pursue careers in these areas. Students will get first-hand experience observing in the operating room and will build connections with surgical faculty and residents. This elective will provide stimulus for reflections on career aspirations and potential goals.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter, Spring
Concentrations Met	Equity & Advocacy, Teaching & Learning

SURG 232: Representing the Human Body – Drawing as a Way of Seeing	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Geoffroy Noel
Course Instructors	Debby & Larry Kline
Description	Drawing can potentially train the hand "to see" and the eye "to feel." To learn to draw the human body with empathy is to acquire valuable training in visual sensitivity and perception. No special graphic skills are required.
Often Offered	Spring
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

SURG 260: Introduction to Vascular Surgery - LOTTERY	
Course Category	General (Non-Service) Elective
Course Director	Dr. Erik Owens
Description	This course introduces clinical vascular surgery for the pre-clerkship student. Students spend one afternoon each week in a surgeon's practice participating in patient care to the degree commensurate with the student's training. Emphasis will be on the vascular patient and the extensive evaluation and work-up that is required.
Often Offered	Fall, Winter
Concentrations Met	Compassion in Care, Teaching & Learning

Color Key:

General Electives	Service Electives	MS1 Concentrations	Graduate*
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