

UC San Diego School of Medicine

Electives Course General Catalog

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Surgery

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SURG 232: Representing the Human Body: Drawing as a Way of Seeing

SURG 260: Introduction to Vascular Surgery – LOTTERY

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ANES-223: Introduction to Health Care Policy

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Health care policy at the national and state level including current legislative initiatives pertaining to medicine will be discussed in depth. Students will learn how health care policy shapes the field they will practice in and how they can become personally involved in shaping public policy on health care. Speakers will include state legislators as well as recognized experts in the areas of health care, financing, residency training conditions and advocacy for national and state-level health care policy change.
General Information	Out of Class Work: In addition to weekly readings, each student will briefly present on an assigned health care policy topic to the class.

ANES-225: Business in Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course provides students with an understanding of how medicine is influenced by business and the industries surrounding it. It explores this intricate relationship of medicine and business, and exposes students to industry leaders.

ANES-227: Introduction to Clinical Pain Management - LOTTERY

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.
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ANES-229: Practical Pharmacology in Anesthesia and Critical Care - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General Information	Please email the course directors directly to confirm a start day/time before the first week of the course. This elective is participatory only. Students will be changing into scrubs so dress comfortably and wear closed-toe shoes. Also, bring as little as possible, and limited valuables, as storage is limited.

DERM-280: Pathophysiology of the Skin

Waiting List	No
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.
General Information	This elective is participatory only. Students will be changing into scrubs so dress comfortably and wear closed-toe shoes. Also, bring as little as possible, and limited valuables, as storage is limited.

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EMED-225: Introduction to Emergency Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Lectures and practical sessions expose students to the varied clinical settings of emergency medicine, including observational time in the emergency department, at the 911 dispatch center, and on a paramedic ride-along. Discussions will include introductions to pediatric emergency medicine, prehospital care, air medical transport, resuscitation, toxicology, hyperbaric medicine, ultrasound, international emergency medicine, and disaster medicine. A suture lab is also held.
General Information	Educational exposures with a fixed schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hours of lecture scheduled each Thursday afternoon Educational exposures with flexible scheduling (scheduled by the student in his or her time outside of lecture) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three 4-hour blocks (12 hours total) of ED Observations at UCSD• One 4-hour 911 Dispatch Observation• Either 1) one Paramedic Ride-along OR 2) one ED Observation at the Rady's Children's Hospital ED

EMED-275: Wilderness Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
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.

FPM-221: Medical Improv: Playing Doctor

Waiting List	Yes
Description	In this course, students will contemplate health care and the profession of medicine from the perspective of the art-form of improvisational theater. This seminar combines creativity with health care by utilizing improvisational exercises that sharpen one's clinical communication skills.
General Information	This is an experiential learning seminar. Students will learn by participating in class exercises.

FPM-224: Health Fair Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course explores an alternative way to deliver healthcare to underserved communities: health fairs. In conjunction with Asian Pacific Health Foundation (APHF), students are trained to volunteer at outreaches where they will practice screening methods for diseases that disproportionately affect Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities (e.g. diabetes, cholesterol, hepatitis C, hypertension, obesity, metabolic syndrome, and osteoporosis). There is no didactic sessions, but a minimum of 1 volunteer orientation/training and 1 community outreach is required for completion of the course. No language skills are required.

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FPM-233: Clinical Nutrition

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Clinical nutrition is the study of nutrition and diet as related to the prevention and treatment of human disease. Nutrition is an interdisciplinary field of study, built on a foundation of biomedical and behavioral sciences. This course emphasizes class discussion of clinical topics and assigned readings in current areas of research and practice (i.e., diet and cancer, vitamin and other diet supplements), with case studies and illustrative class exercises.

FPM-236: Introduction to Osteopathic Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>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.</p> <p>Both lecture and clinical experience with OMT providers at UCSD.</p>
Report Instruction	Students will be at the offices of the DOs being precepted – organized by course faculty

FPM-242: Lifestyle Medicine, Integrating Wellness and Exercise into Medical Practice

Waiting List	Yes
Description	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.
General Information	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!

FPM-244 / MED 248: VIIDAI Clinical and Public Health Elective Baja CA

Waiting List	Yes
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 in San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico, address common clinical and public health problems in underserved populations. 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.
General Information	The course involves a pre-trip orientation seminar at Universidad Autonoma de Baja California (UABC) School of Medicine and Psychology in Tijuana and a 3-day trip to San Quintin. The orientation takes place on a Saturday 2-4 weeks prior to the trip and is required for this elective, because it allows students to visit the university and to meet UABC faculty and students prior to the trip. Rare exceptions may be allowed depending on the circumstances. The trip takes place from Friday morning to Sunday evening, so students who are considering this elective should inform their block directors that they will be missing all classes on Friday. Any questions regarding the trip and orientation schedule should be directed to the course director. The course fee is \$250 to help cover the costs of food, lodging and transportation. The fees are due to Dr. Garfein by the date of the orientation meeting. Students must have a valid passport to participate in this course. Graduate students please contact the course director in advance to gain approval for enrollment.
Daily Schedule	This course takes place on 1 Saturday (orientation) in Tijuana, BC, Mexico on Saturday and 3 days (clinic) in San Quintin, BC, Mexico.

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FPM-272: Community Advocacy-Free Clinic I - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<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://meded.ucsd.edu/freeclinic/</p> <p>Students participate in didactic sessions learning principles of working with the underserved and are supervised in clinical and health education roles at the clinic sites.</p>

FPM-286: Free Clinic II

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>This course is required for first or second year students to continue to participate in the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic Project after they have finished the introductory course (FPM 272). Students may enroll in this course multiple times throughout the first and second year. It is intended for those who take leadership, management, or continuity of care roles. In this class, students, under faculty supervision, provide clinical services and learn administration, health education and leadership.</p> <p>The UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic Project, 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://meded.ucsd.edu/freeclinic/</p> <p>NOTE: FPM 272 (Free Clinic I) is a required pre-requisite for this course.</p>

MED-225: Advances in Glycobiology

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Advanced elective for medical and graduate students who have had courses in cell biology or biochemistry. This course consists of discussions of classic papers leading to modern concepts in glycobiology, with the objective of exploring the structure, metabolism, and function of glycans in biological systems.

MED-232: The Healer's Art: Awakening the Heart of Med

Waiting List	Yes
Description	A discovery process for preclinical students to recognize, value, enhance, and preserve the human dimension of medicine: the Hippocratic Oath - compassion, service, harmlessness, reverence, covenant - as a way of life. Enables faculty and students to experience non-judgmental, non-competitive, collegial relationships.
General Information	A noon information session will take place the first week of class. Look for an announcement on the student forum.
Report Instruction	Only students present the First day of class may take the class. Students are not added after the First day of class. Eating food or snacks is done before or after class. Being present is practiced in this class and participation in each of 5 evening sessions permits completion of class requirements. There are no readings nor written assignments out of class time; there are no examinations. Students complete written (in class) and online evaluations at the close of the class to obtain credit and a satisfactory grade for MED 232.

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MED-233: Innovation & Healthcare: Identifying Problems & Creating Solutions

Waiting List Yes

Description Students will be introduced to the processes of both identifying clinical problems and engineering solutions. Hardware, software and other novel approaches will be explored. Participants 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 site visits. Business and Engineering school students will participate, allowing for collaborative learning. Students will also be assigned observerships. These will enable you to interact with clinicians in patient care settings and have an opportunity to develop projects that apply the skills learned in this course.

MED 234 / PATH-234: Practical Histopathology of Mouse Models of Human Disease

Waiting List Yes

Description The course is designed to guide investigators with the analysis of genetically altered mice. Lecture topics will emphasize use of histology, histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, in the interpretation of the histopathology of the various organ systems. Those who will benefit from attending the course will be graduate students, medical students, post-doctoral fellows and interested faculty. Lecture topics will include technical information and protocols, along with discussions on the various phenotyping methods available to help with the analysis of genetically altered mice, as compared with littermate controls.

General Information This course is offered typically in Spring. Course offerings are subject to change without notice.

MED-235: Tribal Ambulatory Healthcare Experience

Waiting List Yes

Description Over the course of the quarter, students will shadow physicians at the IHC in Pauma Valley. The 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, where 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.

MED-238: Molecular Biology of the Cardiovascular System

Waiting List Yes

Description This course will give an overview of heart and vascular development and disease from a molecular biological perspective. Current approaches for generating mouse models of cardiovascular disease and recently developed technologies for physiological assessment in small animal models will be presented. 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.

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MED-239: Health Frontiers in Tijuana

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General	Students will be expected to complete IRB CITI certificate and HIPPA compliance training.

MED-240: Careers in Medicine - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>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 examine personality type as applied to career/specialty decisions.</p> <p>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.</p>
General Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One third of the course is dedicated to personal examination and assessments relating to values, personal preferences, processing information and career exploration. Utilization of AAMC Careers in Medicine® website and Myers Briggs Type Indicator MBTI® assessment will occur.• One third of the course is dedicated to medical education time lines and processes dedicated to assist with career planning, trajectory and information gathering. Topics include residency application time lines and application processes, workforce data, compensation figures, training involved, specialty competitiveness and career satisfaction.• One third of course consist of panel presentations from a variety of physicians and senior medical students to discuss specialty selection, training options, alternative pathways to and from medicine and types of medical practice.• Physician Shadowing experiences are integrated to observe and interact with practicing physicians of your choice in a non-evaluative environment.

MED-242: Leadership in Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	The goal of the Leadership in Medicine elective is to provide students with an opportunity to explore, understand, and develop a personalized leadership skill set to be utilized in their future careers. Students will gain direct exposure to leaders from a wide range of clinical practice settings and career stages. Lectures and learning activities will help students to build a more holistic view of the current challenges leaders in our healthcare system face as well as what opportunities for growth and future leadership await them in their own career.
General Information	<p>The course meets on the following days: Mondays</p> <p>Lunch time talks will precede required elective sessions and both will be required.</p>

MED-243: Translational Research Journal Club

Waiting List	Yes
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.

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MED-249: Understanding the Application of Meditation to Medicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	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.
General Information	Attendance to the first class is absolutely vital as key baseline concepts will be discussed at the first class. From then on, additional concepts that are built on the initial concepts will be discussed in subsequent weeks. Thus, attendance to class will facilitate your understanding. 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.

MED-250: Medical Spanish

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>The course is primarily focused on developing medical Spanish language communication for students with pre-existing Spanish conversational skills, who have at least one year of college level Spanish or 3 years of high school-Spanish or equivalent. For students with less formal training in Spanish, and who want to enroll in the Intermediate level sequence, a screening test will be available upon request.</p> <p>The overall objective of this course is for students to attain proficiency; that is, for students to acquire the requisite linguistic and cultural skills needed to communicate in Spanish while conducting medical interviews.</p> <p>Students will gain experiences in patient interviews, Spanish-language skills, discussion of common diagnoses, procedural consent, treatment plans, and patient education in Spanish to empower medical students to practice medicine with the nationally growing monolingual Spanish-speaking patient population.</p>

MED-262: Current Trends in Biomedical Informatics

Waiting List	Yes
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.

MED-264: Principles of Biomedical Informatics

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course is designed to introduce the fundamental concepts and some of the algorithms used in biomedical informatics applications as well as provide exposure to its many sub-domains.

MED-267: Modeling Clinical Data and Knowledge for Computation

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course will describe existing methods for representing and communicating biomedical knowledge. It will describe existing health care standards and modeling principles required for implementing data standards, including biomedical ontology (e.g., Gene Ontology, Infectious Disease Ontology), messaging standards (e.g., HL7), and knowledge resources (e.g., UMLS).

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MED-268: Statistics Concepts for Biomedical Research

Waiting List	No
Description	Introduction of statistics methods including descriptive statistics, t-tests, ANOVA, linear and logistic regression, survival analysis, power and sample size, non-parametric methods, and factorial experiment design. Students perform statistical analyses using R statistics software and critique statistical results in published research.
Daily Schedule	For medical students who are not able to attend Wednesday lectures, a short summary of each Wednesday lecture will be given the following Monday after the regular class. Students who are willing to study the lecture material they missed on their own should not have difficulty passing the course. Please contact the course contact for questions.

MED-275: At the Crossroads: Science Meets the Medical Patient

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course features a weekly seminar starting with an interview of a patient suffering from a condition followed by a didactic presentation by a leading physician-scientist that is both scientifically and clinically detailed. A discussion will follow.

MED-278: Cancer Genomics Journal Club

Waiting List	Yes
Description	For one hour the presenter will discuss a recent (<6 months) article from the published scientific literature on the topic of cancer genomics and related bioinformatics methods. Rotating presenters include class members, instructors, attending faculty or staff.

MED-283: Network Biology and Biomedicine

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course will describe existing methods for representing and communicating biomedical knowledge. It will describe existing health care standards and modeling principles required for implementing data standards, including biomedical ontology (e.g., Gene Ontology, Infectious Disease Ontology), messaging standards (e.g., HL7), and knowledge resources (e.g., UMLS).

NEU-223: Preceptorship in Clinical Neurology - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
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.

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ORTHO-250: Preceptorship in Musculoskeletal Medicine - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General Information	Please advise the course contact as soon as possible if the assigned schedule will not work, so waitlisted students may have an opportunity to participate.

PATH-216: Lab Medicine Preclerkship Experience

Waiting List	Yes
Description	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.
General Information	Course opened to MS2s only.

PEDS-236: Introduction to Clinical Pediatrics - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
Description	This course provides the preclinical student with early clinical exposure emphasizing specifics of pediatric primary care. Students spend a half day each week in a pediatrician's office participating in patient care.
General Information	Students will be assigned to a preceptor by the SOM Electives Coordinator. Students will be emailed with their preceptor's information and must have reliable transportation to the site in which they are assigned. Please notify the Electives Coordinator immediately if the preceptor assignment will not work so that another student may enroll.

PEDS-245: Preceptorship in Pediatric Gastroenterology - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General Information	Students will be shadowing in the GI Clinic at Rady's. Please contact the Course Contact prior to the start of your rotation (preferably 1-2 weeks before the first session) to obtain a schedule and specifics, and report for orientation 30 minutes prior to the first session. Reading materials will be provided ahead of time.

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SOMI-223: Intersections of LGBTQ Health

Waiting List	Yes
Description	A 9-week open-forum-based course that aims to increase awareness of LGBTQ issues among health care professionals-in-training in order to ameliorate the experiences of sexual and gender minorities.
General Information	This is an engaging course that combines didactics with group discussion on LGBTQ health and the disparities that exist within the LGBTQ community. Each week is led by a different facilitator from a different practice in medicine as we try to unpack these complex and thought-provoking topics to help us become more competent healthcare professionals.

SOMI-230: Health Education Outreach /DOC 4 A DAY

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Doc-for-a-Day is a "service-learning" activity whereby medical students get the unique opportunity to interact with and engage disadvantaged middle and high school students for one day at the School of Medicine. This event is geared towards exposing inner city kids to the possibility of pursuing a career in science or medicine. It involves students working in small groups with kids teaching physical exams, neurological exams, and anatomy. The students will also hold a panel to discuss issues they encountered upon choosing a career in medicine.
Daily Schedule	The event takes place on a Saturday (see WebPortal for the announcement) on the UCSD campus, and usually lasts 5-6 hours (including lunch). The group will meet formally three times to develop the curriculum. Dates TBD. Attendance at these meetings as well as the event is required to receive credit. An announcement will be made on the WebPortal forum for the first planning meeting. Jr D4aD event is Winter Quarter.

SOMI-233: Influences on Health: From Genes to Communities

Waiting List	Yes
Description	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 and their effects on health equity will be discussed. The course will also include a Cultural Immersion activity in City Heights.

SOMI-234: Beyond the Bench and Bedside: Partnering with Communities

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General Information	This course is offered typically in Spring.

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SOMI-235: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies

Waiting List	Yes
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.

SOMI-236: Fade Hypertension: Interventions in the Community

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>This course emphasizes the importance of developing relationships with local communities to deliver effective healthcare, particularly with regards to disparities in cardiovascular disease. Students will 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 (e.g. prevalence, risk factors, epidemiology, and prevention strategies).</p> <p>There is no didactic sessions, but a minimum of 1 volunteer orientation/training and 3 community outreach is required for completion of the course. No language skills are required.</p>

SOMI-248: Introduction to Global Health Interventions and Evaluation

Waiting List	Yes
Description	Students will gain competency in common research methods, and introduced to implementation challenges in Global Health. Students will critically evaluate the impact of sociocultural factors on health disparities. This knowledge can be applied towards future research experiences and career development.

SURG-225: Preceptorship in Surgery - LOTTERY

Waiting List	Yes
Description	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>To gain knowledge of the different subspecialties by shadowing</p> <p>To understand the basics of pathology, procedures, and populations that each subspecialty works with</p> <p>To learn how to scrub into the OR and recognize the basic steps of a procedure</p> <p>To experience and discuss the daily life of surgeons</p> <p>To learn about the process of becoming a surgeon and how this might differ depending on specialty</p> <p>To gain a basic understanding of surgical anatomy</p> <p>To become comfortable introducing themselves to the patient</p>

SURG 232: Respecting the Human Body: Drawing as a Way of Seeing

Waiting List	Yes
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.
General Information	This course is offered typically in Spring.

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SURG-260: Introduction to Vascular Surgery - LOTTERY

Waiting List

Yes

Description

This course provides an introduction to 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.