

Elective Name: Clinical Practice with Underserved Populations

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Fiona Prabhu, fiona.prabhu@ttuhsc.edu

Course Coordinators: Anjali Aaluri, David Lanford, Shravya Yarlagada

Course Description: This course is designed by medical students for medical students to help prepare us during our pre-clinical years to anticipate the needs of patients with various life experiences. Students will attend informative lectures on clinical realities faced by different communities and then have the opportunity to practice clinical skills such as history taking, vitals, and physical exams with correlating standardized patient encounters.

Prerequisite: Enrollment in MSI/MSII Curriculum

Semester Offered: Fall 2024 through Spring 2025

Max Enrollment: 15-30

Educational Goals of Elective Course:

1. Provide preclinical students opportunities to apply clinical knowledge to scenarios with underserved patient populations through standardized patient encounters and clinical skills workshops.
2. Discuss the social determinants of health (SDOH) that impact patients' daily lives and apply that knowledge to clinical practice.
3. Increase student preparedness for facing difficult social topics and health disparities in clinical settings.
4. Implement clinical simulations that complement ICM sessions but provide contact with patients with a greater array of life experiences and barriers.
5. Allow students to track their improvement/acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes by using verbal and written standardized patient feedback and post encounter surveys.
6. Cultivate physician-patient partnership with a feedback model that allows standardized patients to give direct feedback and voice their compliments and concerns regarding the students' ability to establish rapport and address social determinants.
7. Increase student utilization of open-communication skills alongside scientific and clinical reasoning which can be used in both present and future practice.
8. Encourage students to value curiosity, empathy, and respect in medical practice.

Course Format:

The elective will include didactic lectures over the 2024 – 2025 school year and 4 clinical skills sessions, some of which will involve standardized patient encounters. Meetings will be either in person at TTUHSC Lubbock campus, or via Zoom if guest speakers are not available to meet on campus. The lectures will be led by experts in fields related to the population of interest.

Course Requirements and Grading: Course will be graded Pass/Fail. Attendance of at least 4 of the offered lectures/seminars/discussions AND participation in at least 3 of 5 offered clinical skills sessions. If students miss more than the allowed absences for each type of activity, they may make up for one attendance by attending a lecture/event complementary to the curriculum at the discretion of student leaders.

Application: We will accept a total of 15-30 students (MS1, MS2, & GMS). Those interested in being a part of the elective will submit an application, which will go under consideration by the course directors. The application will be due on **October 22, 2024 at 11:59 PM**. Applicants will hear back by **October 26th**.

Schedule:

<p>Oct. 16th, 1 PM *Interest Meeting, TBD</p>	<p>Introduction Session: Introduction to Health Disparities* - Elective Coordinators (Shravya, Anjali, David)</p> <p>Description: We will be introducing the elective and discussing health disparities that prevent access to care. Some topics we will discuss are challenges faced by rural communities, low-income families, language barriers, etc.</p>
<p>Oct. 28th, TBD</p>	<p>Lecture: Improving Patient Outcomes through the use of Translation Services - Dr. Morales</p> <p>Description: Dr. Morales will speak about the importance of using translation services in patient care.</p>
<p>Nov. 4-5 (will sign up for specific time slot)</p>	<p>Clinical Session: SP encounter with Spanish Speaking Patient partnered with Medical Spanish Club and other languages</p> <p>Description: This SP encounter will be in collaboration with the Medical Spanish Club where students will talk with a patient and practice using a translator.</p>
<p>November 11, 12 PM</p>	<p>Lecture: Working with Victims of Trauma, Abuse, and Assault</p>

	<p>Description: This lecture will feature Dr. Piel speaking on his experiences with working with patients who have experienced trauma, abuse, or assault.</p>
<p>Nov 19-20, 1-4pm</p>	<p>Clinical Session: SP encounter w/ Intersectional Patient History of Trauma/Abuse/Assault</p> <p>Description: The clinical session will include an encounter with a standardized patient. Students will have a patient who is going through abuse and will learn how to safely treat the patient.</p>
<p>Nov 19 (Set by LGBT elective)</p>	<p>Lecture: Gender-Based Care Lecture - Dr. Bennett</p> <p>Description: Dr. Bennett will discuss disparities related to gender and sexuality.</p>
<p>Dec 2-3 (Set by LGBT elective)</p>	<p>Clinical Session: Gender-Based Care</p> <p>Description: This SP encounter will be in collaboration with the Sexual and Gender Health elective and will include a transgendered patient.</p>
<p>Jan TBD</p>	<p>Varied Religion Lecture (lecturer TBD)</p>
<p>Jan TBD</p>	<p>Varied Religion Encounter</p> <p>Description: This SP encounter will allow students to practice working with patients from varied religious backgrounds.</p>

<p>January TBD</p>	<p>Lecture: Barriers to Care and Motivational Interviewing - Dr. Chris Townsend</p> <p>Description: Dr. Townsend will discuss the challenges that patients may face in terms of getting access to care. He will focus on establishing rapport with patients of different backgrounds and life experiences.</p>
<p>January TBD</p>	<p>Clinical Session: SP encounter on Barriers to Care and Motivational Interviewing</p> <p>Description: The SP encounter will include a patient who is dealing with barriers to healthcare including prior poor treatment leading to distrust, inability to take time off work, low economic status, cost of care/lab tests, and/or lack of health insurance.</p>
<p>Feb TBD</p>	<p>Discussion: Elective Wrap-Up - Elective Coordinators</p> <p>One last discussion about what we learned from the lectures, from each other, from our clinical interactions, and from our patients</p>