

Elective Name: Rural Health Elective

Course Director(s): Dr. Betsy Jones, EdD betsy.jones@ttuhsc.edu

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Student Coordinator:

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Sponsoring Department: Department of Family and Community
Medicine

Duration: September 2024 - February 2025

Capacity: 20 students enrolled in MS1 or MS2 curriculum

Course Description: This course will present opportunities to heighten students' understanding of rural health experiences and challenges.

Goals and Objectives

The learning objectives of the Rural Health Elective are as follows:

1. Explore the unique and challenging aspects of practicing in a rural setting.
2. Become familiar with current policies, trends, and research findings that are relevant to rural healthcare.
3. Connect with faculty members and physicians that share an interest in rural healthcare.
4. Learn about internships, scholarships, and programs that are available for students interested in exploring and/or pursuing a future in rural medicine.
5. Experience healthcare practices in a rural setting through shadowing/volunteering and reflecting upon those experiences with others.

Course Format

Purpose:

The purpose of the Rural Health Elective is to provide students an opportunity to explore and experience the practice of medicine in rural America. It also aims to raise interest in and awareness of the current state of rural healthcare both locally and nationally. Such an elective would aim in furthering TTUHSC SOM's mission to "meet the growing needs of a diverse and largely rural patient population" and "enhance the healthcare of communities in the (West Texas) region."

Completion Requirements:

Attendance: The last meeting is mandatory. The student **must then attend at least four** of the remaining meetings throughout the rest of the academic year and be an active participant via Zoom or in person sessions if possible. **If you attend Session 1 (which is the informational meeting at the beginning of the year) that may count as one of your sessions.**

Participation: The student must schedule shadowing or an interview with an appropriate physician, and speak with them about their rural health experiences and other topics. During the final meeting, students will present a 3-5-minute oral presentation, power-point presentation or creative project of their choosing to summarize findings from physician shadowing/interviews and discuss topics of choice relevant to rural health.

Application: Interested students should complete the application emailed by the leadership team.

Calendar:

Session	Location	Date/ Time	Lecturer	Brief Description
Session 1	TBD	Tuesday, August 27th 12-1PM	Elective Officers, Dr. Betsy Jones	General Information Meeting
Session 2	TBD	Tuesday, September 17th 12-1 PM- During MS2 P3 week	Dr. Morales or Dr. Billings	TBD P3

Session 3	TBD	Tuesday, October 15th 12-1pm During MS1 P3 week	Dr. Morales or Dr. Billings	TBD P3
Session 4	Zoom	Tuesday, November 19th, 12-1PM	Dr. Vivian Hase-Lipton	Full-scope family medicine in a rural community
Session 5	Zoom	Tuesday, December 3rd 12-1PM	Dr. Klein	TBD
Session 6	TBD	Tuesday, January 7th 12-1PM	Dr. Husband	TBD
Session 7/ Mandatory	Home of Dr. Jones	February 25th or 26th, 6- 7:30PM	Elective Officers, Dr. Betsy Jones	Summary of RHE/ Presentations

*Dr. Klein and Dr. Husband as possible speakers this year

Objectives for individual sessions:

Session 1:

Session 2:

Session 3:

Session 4:

Session 5:

Session 6:

Session 7: