

Courses/Curriculum



Physician Assistant 1 Year Program Curriculum

Ballsbridge University Physician Assistant Certificates Curriculum

REQUIRED PRECLINICAL YEAR COURSES (1 Year academic year)

PHYASST-200. Basic Medical Sciences. The basic facts, concepts, and principles which are essential in understanding the fundamental mechanisms of genetics, nutrition, immunology, pathology, and microbiology. This course presents the basic methods of clinical problem solving and serves as a prerequisite to the clinical medicine course by emphasizing the underlying principles of the etiology, management, and prevention of disease processes. Credit: 2.

PHYASST-201. Physiology. The basic concepts and principles that are essential to comprehending the fundamental mechanisms of human physiology at the cellular, tissue and organ levels and the requirements for the maintenance of homeostatic control. This course lays the foundation for understanding the underlying principles of the etiology, management and prevention of human disease processes. Credit: 2.

PHYASST-203. Introduction to Prevention. This interprofessional course uses a team-based learning approach to develop appreciation of the unique contributions of various health care providers in providing best practice prevention care to populations. Web-based modules on cultural competence, health literacy and community health are also used. Interprofessional student teams meet in lecture and small group settings for organized activities. A final team project is required. Credit: 1.

PHYASST-205. Anatomy. Functional and applied anatomy stressing normal surface landmarks and common clinical findings. Cadaver gross dissection and prosections, anatomic models, lectures, and electronic resources are utilized in teaching this course. Credit: 4

PHYASST-210, 211, 212. Diagnostic Methods I, II, III. This course encompasses the essentials of ordering, interpreting, and when appropriate, performing diagnostic studies used in the screening, diagnosis, management, and monitoring of common diseases. Topics for this course are sequenced with Clinical Medicine (PhyAsst-220, 221, 222) and Pharmacology (PhyAsst-223, 224, 225). Lectures online module and hands-on laboratory sessions are the teaching strategies utilized in this course. Credit: 3; 2; 1.

PHYASST-220, 221, 222. Clinical Medicine I, II, III. The essentials of diagnosis and management of the most common clinical problems seen by primary care practitioners. Using an organ systems approach, clinical information is presented in conjunction with appropriate correlative lectures in pathophysiology and prevention and non-pharmacologic management of disease. Patient simulations and common problem labs are used in the small group setting to enhance readings and lectures. These are core courses around which most other courses are organized. Topics are sequenced with relevant content in Pharmacology (PhyAsst-223, 224, 225) and Diagnostic Methods (PhyAsst-210, 211, 212). Credit 5; 10; 9.

PHYASST- 223, 224, 225. Pharmacology I, II, III. The essentials of basic pharmacological principles and disease process therapeutics. Topics for this course are sequenced with Clinical Medicine (PHYASST-220, 221, 222) and Diagnostic Methods (PhyAsst-210, 211, 212) and are provided in lecture format. Credit: 1; 1; 1.

PHYASST-230. Fundamentals of Surgery. The basic surgical concepts needed for the PA to function in primary care settings as well as major surgical areas. The course emphasizes surgical technique, as well as asepsis, minor procedures, and anesthesia. Credit: 3.

PHYASST-231, 232, 233. Patient Assessment and Counseling I, II, III. An introduction to history-taking, physical examination techniques, counseling, documentation and presenting clinical information along with the practical application of these clinical skills. Emphasis is placed on acquiring the skills, knowledge and sensitivity needed to communicate and intervene effectively in a wide variety of patient encounters. Teaching methods include lecture, small group demonstrations and practice sessions as well as clinical assignments to examine and/or interview standardized patients and patients in hospital and outpatient settings. Audiovisuals and asynchronous learning are used. Credit: 3; 3; 3.

PHYASST-251. Practice and the Health System I. An introduction to the structure and administrative principles in use in health care organizations, and professional issues review. A lecture series taught by an interdisciplinary faculty and by community experts in health care organization. Topics include the patient as consumer, third-party payment, public policy trends, organizational behavior, legal issues, and the unique place of PAs in the health care system. Credit: 1

PHYASST-255. Evidence-based Medicine I. A lecture and seminar course that provides a practical approach to making sound medical decisions on the basis of current evidence in the medical literature. Through a series of didactic presentations, group exercises, and reading, students will learn the basic principles of evidence-based medicine using a case-based approach. Basic skills in using MEDLINE and other medical databases will be emphasized and practiced. Research principles, research ethics, and basic statistical review are introduced. Credit:3

PRECLINICAL YEAR ELECTIVES

PHYASST-261. Beginning Medical English This elective course is designed to improve students' communication in clinical situations with patients whose native language is English. The focus of the instruction will be on learning conversational skills in order to take clinical histories, conduct physical examinations and give instructions to English speaking patients. For students with very little or no previous English language training or experience. Credit: 1.

PHYASST 262. Intermediate Medical . This elective course is designed to improve students' communication in clinical situations with patients whose native language is English. The focus of the instruction will be on strengthening conversational skills in order to improve students' ability to take clinical histories, conduct physical examinations and give instructions to English speaking patients. For students with previous, but not extensive, . Credit: 1

PHYASST 263. Advanced Medical . This elective course is designed to refine students' communication in clinical situations with patients whose native language is English. The focus of the instruction will be on strengthening conversational skills specific to taking clinical histories, conducting physical examinations and giving instructions to Spanish speaking patients. For students with extensive previous experience speaking Spanish. Credit 1.