

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE

Mercer University School of Medicine
1550 College Street
Macon, Georgia 31207
478-301-2775

Course Number	Course Name
CMP.M01	Community Medicine
CMP.M02	Migrant Health Care
CMP.M03	End of Life Issues: A Community Responsive Approach
CMP.M04	Managed Care
CMP.M05	Biostatistics in Clinical Medicine
CMP.M06	Fundamentals of Epidemiology
CMP.M07	Introduction to Public Health
CMP.M08	International Health
CMP.M10	Research in Population Health

COMMUNITY MEDICINE

CMP.M01

DURATION:	2 - 4 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 1 student/site
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	Yes

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Year Two Community Medicine Requirement
FACULTY:	Mercer University School of Medicine Community Preceptors
REPORT:	Selected rural and/or underserved sites, Georgia.
CONTACT:	Dr. Marie Dent 301-4081 E-mail: Dent_mm@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

This elective focuses on the integration of Community Medicine and Clinical Medicine in a private practice, rural/underserved health care setting. Possible settings include both primary care specialties and medical sub-specialties. The student will participate fully with the preceptor in a wide variety of practice responsibilities in the office and/or community related settings. The elective must be taken in increments of two-consecutive weeks.

OBJECTIVES:

- To gain an understanding of the practice of medicine in a variety of settings.
- To prepare a written report (5-6 pages) that would review the primary, secondary, and tertiary preventive measures observed in the practice.
- To discuss with the preceptor the medical, social and ethical issues involved in the selected specialty

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the written report and a satisfactory evaluation by the community-based preceptor will be required. The preceptor's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

MIGRANT HEALTH CARE

CMP.M02

DURATION:	2 – 4 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 1 student
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	Yes

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Year Two Community Medicine Requirement
FACULTY:	Dr. Marie Dent
REPORT:	MUSM, Macon, Georgia and Migrant Health Clinics
CONTACT:	Dr. Marie Dent, 301-4081 E-mail: Dent_mm@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an introduction to clinical problems in migrant health care settings in Georgia. The student will observe and participate with physicians and midlevel providers in the delivery of health care to migrant populations.

OBJECTIVES:

- To observe and participate in a multi-cultural health care delivery setting
- To observe and participate with physicians providing health care through a multidisciplinary health care team.
- To understand the problems and multiple barriers of providing and delivering effective health care to a migrant worker population
- To learn about the disease and health care problems of an indigent and uninsured population
- To understand the occupational and environmental conditions of the migrant population
- To learn about occupational medicine as it relates to the agriculture industry
- To discuss with the preceptor the rationale of treatment rendered
- To read material relating to migrant, multicultural, and occupational health care and discuss with preceptor
- To prepare a 5-6 page paper on a topic related to migrant health.

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the written report and a satisfactory evaluation by the community-based preceptor will be required. The preceptor's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

END-OF-LIFE ISSUES: A COMMUNITY RESPONSIVE APPROACH

CMP.M03

DURATION:	2 – 4 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 2 students
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	Yes

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Year Two Community Medicine requirement
FACULTY:	Cheryl F. Jones, M.D.
REPORT:	Local community-based hospices
CONTACT:	Rene Sanchez, M.D., MPH; 301-5649 E-mail: Sanchez_r@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

This course provides the medical student with an understanding of the bio/psycho/social issues surrounding end-of-life care while preparing them to meet these challenges in a community-responsive manner. The student will explore these issues and dynamics in both an office practice and hospice care settings.

OBJECTIVES:

- Develop knowledge of the skills needed by a physician to provide continuity of patient care when it changes from curative to palliative.
- Develop an understanding of the various community support services available to the dying and other palliative-care patients and their families.
- Observation and participation with personnel and preceptor in community-based hospice programs
- Become familiar with the end-of-life issues, such as pain management, patient/caregiver(s) anxiety, patient/caregiver(s) awareness of condition, stages of grieving and implications for medical practice, advanced directives, organ donation, and aid in dying
- Become familiar with financial aspects of end-of-life care, issues of cost of therapy vs. palliative care should be addressed
- Prepare a written report on two families identifying how hospice care functioned to serve the needs of the patients and caregivers

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the written report and a satisfactory evaluation by the community-based preceptor will be required. The preceptor's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

MANAGED CARE

CMP.04

DURATION:	2 - 4 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 4 students
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	No

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Third Year Clerkships
FACULTY:	Dr. Marie Dent, and Dr. John Boltri
REPORT:	MUSM, Macon, Georgia and a managed care organization (MCO)
CONTACT:	Dr. Marie Dent 301-4081

DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this elective is to familiarize the medical student with the basic concepts and tools required for practice in a managed care environment and to understand how managed care influences the practice of medicine.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the trends in health care and how these changes impact financing and health care reform at the local, state, and national levels
- To understand the evolution of managed care and how the degrees of penetration will affect the practice of medicine, particularly within the managed care environment
- To demonstrate an understanding of the principles of population-based medicine and their effect on medical practice within the managed care environment and the viability of specific managed care contracts
- To demonstrate an understanding of the role of community assessment, health promotion and prevention in a managed care environment
- To understand how different managed care plans evaluate physicians
- To understand the principles of total quality management and continuous quality improvement in the managed care environment
- To understand the principles of evidence-based medicine and their influence on the practice of medicine, particularly within a managed care environment

EVALUATION:

Depending upon the length of the rotation and the projects negotiated between the student and the responsible faculty member, the evaluation will include an oral presentation on a managed care topic, short written reports on projects chosen, and discussion with faculty members regarding progress achieving objectives. Satisfactory completion of the oral presentation and written report and a satisfactory evaluation by the preceptor will be required. The preceptor's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

BIostatistics in Clinical Medicine

CMP.M05

DURATION:	2 weeks
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ENROLLMENT: Maximum 5 students
VISITING STUDENTS: No
PCR MAJORITY: No

PREREQUISITE: Previous statistics course
FACULTY: Dr. Fan Chen
REPORT: MUSM, Macon, Georgia
CONTACT: Dr. M. Marie Dent, 301-4081
E-mail: dent_mm@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an overview of basic descriptive statistics and how they are applied and used in the medical literature. The student will learn how to sample, describe, test hypothesis, analyze, and present data obtained from the medical records in a health care center practice. Simple inferential statistics such as t-test, z-test, chi-square, and f-tests will be discussed in the context of the medical literature.

OBJECTIVES:

- To evaluate the statistical applications used in the medical literature
- To learn how to sample medical records from patient files
- To understand the basic statistical meaning used in clinical medicine
- To be knowledgeable of the major issues in Biostatistics, which can result in error and inappropriate conclusions
- Submit a biostatistical appraisal of a published article pertaining to the appropriateness of the research results.
- Set up a sample design and select an appropriate sample from the medical records in a clinic.

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the written requirements and a satisfactory evaluation by the faculty will be required. The faculty's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

FUNDAMENTALS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

CMP.06

DURATION:	2 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 5 students
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	No

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Year Two Community Medicine Requirement
FACULTY:	Selected faculty from Community Medicine and the community
REPORT:	MUSM, Macon, Georgia
CONTACT:	Dr. M. Marie Dent, 301-4081 E-mail: dent_mm@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

Basic descriptive epidemiology concepts of person, place, and time will be explored in the classroom and at a local department of health. * Concepts related to study design (case control, follow-up, cross-sectional, and clinical trial) and evaluation of screening tests will be studied. Emphasis will be on how family practice physicians can use epidemiological methods in their everyday practice.

* The student will be assigned to a local public health department to do a descriptive epidemiological study project on a specific local health program.

OBJECTIVES:

- To select a disease for study and understand the descriptive epidemiology of that disease in a local area (i.e. person, place, and time)
- To understand the basic study designs used in clinical experiments
- To evaluate the medical literature
- To utilize basic epidemiological skills in a family practice setting
- Prepare a brief written or oral report on the experience in the local health department

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the oral or written report and a satisfactory evaluation by the faculty and community-based preceptor will be required. The evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH

CMP.M07

DURATION:	2 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 2 students
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR MAJORITY:	No

PREREQUISITE:	Completion of Year Two Community Medicine Requirement
FACULTY:	State of Georgia, District Health Officers
REPORT:	District Health Offices Limited availability, check schedule with program coordinator
CONTACT:	Dr. Marie Dent 301-4081 E-mail: Dent_mm@mercer.edu

DESCRIPTION:

The student will be assigned to a health district of the Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, to work with the staff including the District Medical Officer. Opportunities to explore and understand the administration, delivery, and functions of local health programs will be provided. Examples of such programs include Maternal High Risk Program; WIC (Women, Infants and Children); Women's Health Program; Stroke, Hypertension, and Heart Attack Program; and Diabetes Control Program. The student will come face-to-face with the problems and solutions of the delivery of public health programs in Georgia.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the basic principles of public health
- To aid in the screening and evaluation of patients in the health department
- To understand a practice setting from the health officer's (administration) point of view
- To experience the delivery and function of many of the health programs in local health departments
- Prepare an oral report relating to the various experiences that occurred in the practice setting.

EVALUATION:

Satisfactory completion of the oral report and a satisfactory evaluation by the community-based preceptor will be required. The preceptor's evaluation of the student will include knowledge, skill, and professionalism.

**INTERNATIONAL HEALTH
CMP.M08 CROSS LISTED WITH
FAM.M12**

DURATION: 1 – 4 weeks
ENROLLMENT: Maximum 3 students per campus, 6 students total
VISITING STUDENTS: No
PCR MAJORITY: Yes

PREREQUISITE: Prior approval by one of the course faculty is required. Contact with faculty should normally be made by at least three months prior to the beginning of the rotation.

FACULTY: Dr. William Bina (Community Medicine), Dr. Robert B. Hash (International Programs), Dr. J. Paul Seale (Family Medicine)

REPORT: Japan, Venezuela, and Korea, other sites may be added

CONTACT: Dr. Robert B. Hash (Japan; Korea), 478-301-5425; J. Paul Seale, M.D. (Venezuela), 478-633-5550;
Dr. William F. Bina, 478-301-2804

DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this elective is to provide exposure to general health care practices and issues in a foreign country. Experiences include activities involved in patient care under supervision at ambulatory care clinics, hospitals, and public health programs depending on student interests.

OBJECTIVES:

- To observe and experience the general health system of a foreign institution and to describe similarities and differences with the U.S. system
- To promote mutual understanding and respect
- To enhance medical skills, to appreciate an inside view of their culture, and to describe how cultural differences impact health care.

EVALUATION:

An evaluation on each student will be performed at the end of the experience. This will be based on how well he/she met the above objectives. A report describing the experiences will be required and is due one week after the visit.

RESEARCH IN POPULATION HEALTH

CMP.M10

DURATION:	4 weeks
ENROLLMENT:	Maximum 1 student
VISITING STUDENTS:	No
PCR Majority:	No

PREREQUISITE:	Successful completion of Year Two Community Medicine Requirements
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FACULTY:	Selected Faculty in Community Medicine
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CONTACT:	Dr. M. Marie Dent, 301-4081 E-mail: dent_mm@mercer.edu
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DESCRIPTION:

This elective enables the student to work closely with a faculty preceptor to investigate an issue related to population health. Activities will be directed towards publishing a paper or making a significant presentation. The exact content will be negotiated and is dependent upon the needs and abilities of the student.

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide the student with experience in developing and investigating an appropriate research question in population health
- To develop skills in designing a research protocol, conducting research, analyzing data, and preparing manuscripts for publication or presentation
- To enhance the student's ability to critically review current medical literature
- Prepare a first draft of an article intended for publication or presentation.

EVALUATION:

Student will meet periodically with faculty preceptor to review learning issues, assess progress of the research, and make future plans regarding the research. Final evaluation will be based on the satisfactory completion of the first draft of an article intended for publication or presentation. Student's knowledge, skill, and professionalism will also be evaluated.