PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT (PAST)

Courses

PAST 504. Primary Care Pediatrics. 2 Units.
Introduces common medical and surgical disorders encountered in pediatric medicine. Emphasizes primary care concepts in the care of children. Introduces rare disorders that the physician assistant may encounter in primary care. Presentation of disease processes mirrors adult medicine by discussing etiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic work-up, and management.

PAST 505. Women's Health Care. 2 Units.
Common problems encountered in caring for women; management of these problems. Etiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, and diagnostic work-up.

PAST 516. Physician Assistant Professional Issues. 2 Units.
A historical perspective of the physician assistant (PA) profession, as well as current trends and issues; the PA’s role in health-care delivery; political and legal factors that affect PA practice; intraprofessional factors and the PA’s role in relation to physicians and other providers. Importance of professional responsibility and of biomedical ethics in relation to the PA’s role as health-care provider. Content relating to PA professional organizations, program accreditation, and graduate certification and recertification; employment considerations; and professional liability.

PAST 518. Anatomy for Physician Assistants I. 2 Units.
The first of a three-course sequence. Studies the anatomical structure of the human body by organ systems, maintaining a balance between gross anatomical study and histology. Emphasizes form-function relationships. Laboratory study includes working with human skeletal collections and dissection of cadavers and preserved specimens.

PAST 519. Anatomy for Physician Assistants II. 2 Units.
Gross and microscopic anatomy of the human body. Lecture, laboratory with cadaver dissection, demonstration, and slides. Orientation to structure of various systems of the body. Continues PAST 518. Prerequisite: PAST 518.

PAST 520. Anatomy for Physician Assistants III. 2 Units.
Gross and microscopic anatomy of the human body. Lecture, laboratory with cadaver dissection, demonstration, and slides. Orientation to structure of various systems of the body. Prerequisite: PAST 519.

PAST 540. Introduction to Clinical Medicine for Physician Assistants. 2 Units.
Introduces study of common medical and/or surgical disorders encountered in general adult medicine. Sets the foundation for clinical medicine courses—evaluating typical clinical presentation, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic work-up, EKG interpretation, and management of disorders.

PAST 541. Clinical Medicine for Physician Assistants I. 5 Units.
Study of common medical and/or surgical disorders encountered in general adult medicine. Typical clinical presentation, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic work-up, EKG interpretation, and management of disorders.

PAST 542. Clinical Medicine for Physician Assistants II. 5 Units.
Part II of the three-quarter sequence introducing the student to a study of common medical and/or surgical disorders encountered in general adult medicine. Includes typical clinical presentation, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic work-up, EKG interpretation, and management of disorders. Prerequisite: PAST 541.

PAST 543. Clinical Medicine for Physician Assistants III. 3 Units.
Part III of the three-quarter sequence introducing the student to the study of common medical and/or surgical disorders encountered in general adult and pediatric medicine. Includes typical clinical presentation, etiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic work-up, and management of disorders. Prerequisite: PAST 541, PAST 542.

PAST 544. Pharmacology for Physician Assistants I. 2 Units.
Part I of a three-part course that covers basic concepts of pharmaceuticals used in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of disease. Systematic presentation of the pharmacology and therapeutic value of drugs used in medicine. Related topics—with special consideration of pediatric and geriatric pharmacology—include drug legislation, PDR, routes of administration, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, adverse effects, drug interactions, and drug toxicity.

PAST 545. Pharmacology for Physician Assistants II. 2 Units.
A continuation of basic concepts of pharmaceuticals used in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases—including a systematic presentation of pharmacology and the therapeutic value of the drugs used in medicine. Emphasizes safety, routes of administration, adverse effects, drug interactions, and drug toxicity, with special consideration given to pediatric and geriatric pharmacology. Prerequisite: PAST 544.

PAST 546. Pharmacology for Physician Assistants III. 2 Units.
An overview of the basic concepts of pharmaceuticals used in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, including a systematic presentation of pharmacology, and the therapeutic value of the drugs used in medicine. Related topics include drug legislation, routes of administration, adverse effects, drug interactions, and drug toxicity, with special consideration given to pediatric and geriatric pharmacology. Prerequisite: PAST 545.

PAST 547. Basic Medical Science. 3 Units.
Provides an overview of scientific principles as they pertain to the practice of clinical medicine. Emphasizes microorganisms commonly encountered by physician assistants in clinical practice. Provides a foundation for principles of clinical medicine and pharmacology.

PAST 551. Normal and Pathologic Physiology for Physician Assistants I. 2 Units.
Provides a foundation for clinical medicine through the evaluation of normal human physiology, followed by the pathology of diseases important to each major organ system. Addresses fundamental mechanisms of health and disease.

PAST 552. Normal and Pathologic Physiology for Physician Assistants II. 2 Units.
Provides a foundation for clinical medicine through the evaluation of normal human physiology, followed by the pathology of diseases important to each major organ system. Addresses fundamental mechanisms of health and disease. Continues PAST 551. Prerequisite: PAST 551.
PAST 553. Normal and Pathologic Physiology for Physician Assistants III. 2 Units.
Provides a foundation for clinical medicine through the evaluation of normal human physiology, followed by the pathology of diseases important to each major organ system. Addresses fundamental mechanisms of health and disease. Prerequisite: PAST 551, PAST 552.

PAST 554. Clinical Skills for Physician Assistants. 5 Units.
Introduces the basic skills and knowledge needed to evaluate and treat common illnesses and injuries. Safety, aseptic technique, BLS, ACLS, wound care, local anesthesia, suturing, casting, splinting, use of various tubes and drains, and emergency medicine; and surgery for physician assistants. Includes participation in clinical simulations for enhanced skill development.

PAST 556. Preventive Medicine and Health Promotion. 2 Units.
Selected topics dealing with aspects of disease prevention. Relevance of statistics, epidemiology, research designs, and clinical trials; as well as selected disease trends and lifestyle modification. Includes the role of physical activity, nutrition, immunization, and public health approaches to communicable diseases. Provides practical information about how to perform clinical preventive services and allows the physician assistant student to gain skills in designing a tailored health maintenance plan for the individual patient.

PAST 558. Psychiatry for Physician Assistants. 3 Units.
Focuses on diagnosis and treatment of major psychiatric and mental disorders. Topics include depression, anxiety, phobias, substance and eating disorders, somatoform, psychoses, neuroses, and personality disorders.

PAST 571. Multicultural Competencies for Physician Assistants. 3 Units.

PAST 572. Cultural Immersion for Physician Assistants. 3 Units.
Emphasizes health and medicine as PA students obtain a cross-cultural experience while interacting with non-English-speaking patients and gaining a greater understanding of their patients' culture. Requires completion of a community-based service project and immersion within the local community. Begins in Winter Quarter with culmination in the Summer Quarter. Prerequisite: PAST 571.

PAST 580. Clinical Correlation for Physician Assistants. 1 Unit.
Teaches students to apply knowledge gained throughout the didactic curriculum via an interactive learning experience. Emphasizes the critical thought process needed for diagnosis and management of clinical problems. Taught from the Fall Quarter through Summer Quarter of the didactic year.

PAST 581. Physical Diagnosis for Physician Assistants I. 2 Units.
Part one of a four-part sequence of lecture, demonstration, and practice in the art and science of obtaining a complete medical history and performing the physical examination.

PAST 582. Physical Diagnosis for Physician Assistants II. 3 Units.
Part two of a four-part sequence of lecture, demonstration, and practice in the art and science of obtaining a complete medical history and performing the physical examination. Prerequisite: PAST 581.

PAST 583. Physical Diagnosis for Physician Assistants III. 2 Units.
Part three of a four-part sequence of lecture, demonstration, and practice in the art and science of obtaining a complete medical history and performing the physical examination. Prerequisite: PAST 582.

PAST 584. Physical Diagnosis for Physician Assistants IV. 2 Units.
Part four of a four-part sequence of lecture, demonstration, and practice in the art and science of obtaining a complete medical history and performing the physical examination. Requires satisfactory completion of the comprehensive physical examination and the didactic year objective structured clinical examination (OSCE). Prerequisite: PAST 583.

PAST 601. Evidence-Based Medicine for Physician Assistants I. 2 Units.
Introduces student to evidence-based practice, emphasizing the use of medical literature to evaluate and improve the practice of clinical medicine. Teaches student to assess medically oriented information online, as well as evidence-based medicine databases.

PAST 602. Evidence-Based Medicine for Physician Assistants II. 2 Units.
Continuation of PAST 601, with discussions and application of evidence-based medicine. Student develops a topic; completes a full review of the literature; and in consultation with a faculty mentor, produces an analytic paper related to evidence-based medicine in physician assistant practice. Begins in Winter Quarter with completion in the Summer Quarter. Prepares student for the capstone project. Prerequisite: PAST 601.

PAST 603. Capstone. 2 Units.
Course commences during Fall Quarter of the clinical year and culminates in the Summer Quarter with completion of the capstone project. Project requires investigation of a topic related to an area of interest within primary care or the PA profession using an evidence-based, investigational approach; as well as completion of a personal portfolio reflective of the values of Loma Linda University. Requires satisfactory completion of the clinical year objective structured clinical examination (OSCE). Prerequisite: PAST 602.

PAST 701. Rotation I. 6 Units.
A required four-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotations through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 702. Rotation II. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 703. Rotation III. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 704. Rotation IV. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 705. Rotation V. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.
PAST 706. Rotation VI. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 707. Rotation VII. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.

PAST 708. Rotation VIII. 6 Units.
A required six-week rotation in outpatient and/or inpatient settings in any of the following areas of concentration: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general surgery, emergency medicine, psychiatry/behavioral medicine; and elective rotation through a medical or surgical service of choice.