



School of Medicine  
Physician Assistant Program

## **Course Descriptions – PA Program Phoenix Health Sciences Campus**

### **DIDACTIC PHASE**

#### **Fall Semester**

##### **IPE 500 Introduction to Collaborative Care (0 credit hours)**

This course is an online, self-paced course for health professions students that provides a basic introduction to the concepts interprofessional education and interprofessional collaborative practice. Students will be introduced to the Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice, roles and responsibilities of health care providers on the team, and health care team development and dynamics. The course is integrated with cases for application and knowledge growth.

##### **PAS 640 Clinical Anatomy (5 credit hours)**

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge of the anatomy of the human body and relevant embryological development in a lecture and lab format. Students will participate in dissection of the human body, which will provide foundational information for conducting the physical examination, performing clinical procedures, and understanding the anatomical mechanisms of structural injury and disease. Instruction in this course will be focused on anatomy as it relates to clinical medicine.

##### **PAS 642 Foundational Sciences I (3 credit hours)**

This course introduces students to the knowledge, concepts, and principles that are essential to understanding the fundamental mechanisms of immunology, microbiology, pharmacology, physiology, pathology, genetics, and evidence-based medicine. This course provides the necessary framework for the study of clinical medicine.

##### **PAS 644 Foundational Sciences II (1 credit hour)**

This is the second course in a four-course series; concepts taught in this course will build upon the introductory knowledge acquired in PAS 642, providing the necessary framework for the study of clinical medicine. Students will study basic science principles as they apply to concepts concurrently delivered in clinical medicine courses.

##### **PAS 646 Patient Evaluation I (4 credit hours)**

This is the first semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that provide students with instruction and practice in medical history-taking, physical examination skills, and basic procedural and technical skills. Medical documentation, preventive medicine

assessments, and interpersonal communication skills necessary for effective clinical practice will also be emphasized. Content in this course will be relevant to the aligned clinical medicine topics.

**PAS 648      Special Topics in Medicine I (1 credit hour)**

This is the first semester of a three-semester series of courses that is designed to introduce the student to concepts related to the following four topics: 1) medical humanities, 2) medical ethics, 3) the PA profession and professionalism, and 4) the healthcare delivery system. When relevant, content in this course will be aligned with material in the clinical medicine, foundational sciences, and clinical applications courses.

**PAS 650      Clinical Medicine: Musculoskeletal / Rheumatology (3 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study musculoskeletal and rheumatologic diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 644 and content being taught in PAS 646 and PAS 654.

**PAS 652      Clinical Medicine: HEENT / Dermatology (4 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study head and neck, ear, eye, nose, throat, and dermatologic diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 644 and content being taught in PAS 646 and PAS 654.

**PAS 654      Clinical Applications I (1 credit hour)**

This is the first semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that will focus on applying the knowledge and skills acquired in all concurrently enrolled courses. The course will emphasize instruction and practice in procedural and technical skills that will be utilized throughout the clinical year. Additionally, students will be provided opportunities to apply acquired knowledge to patient care with team-based learning, case-based learning, and other active learning experiences.

**Spring Semester**

**PAS 656      Foundational Sciences III (3 credit hours)**

This is the third course in a four-course series; concepts taught in this course will build upon the knowledge acquired in PAS 642 and PAS 644, providing the necessary framework for the study of clinical medicine. Students will study basic science principles as they apply to concepts concurrently delivered in clinical medicine courses.

**PAS 658      Patient Evaluation II (3 credit hours)**

This is the second semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that provide students with instruction and practice in medical history-taking, physical examination skills, and basic procedural and technical skills. Medical documentation, preventive medicine assessments, and interpersonal communication skills necessary for effective clinical practice will also be emphasized. This course builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in PAS 646. Content in this course will be relevant to aligned clinical medicine topics.

**PAS 660      Special Topics in Medicine II (1 credit hour)**

This is the second semester of a three-semester series of courses that is designed to introduce the student to concepts related to the following four topics: 1) medical humanities, 2) medical ethics, 3) the PA profession and professionalism, and 4) the healthcare delivery system. When relevant, content in this course will be aligned with material in the clinical medicine, foundational sciences, and clinical applications courses.

**PAS 662      Clinical Medicine: Cardiology /Pulmonology (7 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 656 and content being taught in PAS 658 and PAS 668.

**PAS 664      Clinical Medicine: Gastrointestinal / Nutrition (3 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study gastrointestinal and nutrition related diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 656 and content being taught in PAS 658 and PAS 668.

**PAS 666      Clinical Medicine: Neurology / Psychiatry (5 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study neurological and psychiatric diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting this system. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 656 and content being taught in PAS 658 and PAS 668.

**PAS 668      Clinical Applications II (2 credit hour)**

This is the second semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that will focus on applying the knowledge and skills acquired in all concurrently enrolled courses. The course will emphasize instruction and practice in procedural and technical skills that will be utilized throughout the clinical year. Additionally, students will be provided opportunities to apply acquired knowledge to patient care with team-based learning, case-based learning, and other active learning experiences.

**Summer Semester**

**PAS 670      Foundational Sciences IV (2 credit hours)**

This is the final course in a four-course series; concepts taught in this course will build upon the knowledge acquired in PAS 642, PAS 644, and PAS 656, providing the necessary framework for the study of clinical medicine. Students will study basic science principles as they apply to concepts concurrently delivered in clinical medicine courses

**PAS 672      Patient Evaluation III (2 credit hours)**

This is the final semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that provide students with instruction and practice in medical history-taking, physical examination skills, and basic procedural and technical skills. Medical documentation, preventive medicine assessments, and interpersonal communication skills necessary for effective clinical practice will also be emphasized. This course builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in PAS 646 and PAS 658. Content in this course will be relevant to aligned clinical medicine topics.

**PAS 674      Special Topics in Medicine III (1 credit hour)**

This is the final semester of a three-semester series of courses that is designed to introduce the student to concepts related to the following four topics: 1) medical humanities, 2) medical ethics, 3) the PA profession and professionalism, and 4) the healthcare delivery system. When relevant, content in this course will be aligned with material in the clinical medicine, foundational sciences, and clinical applications courses.

**PAS 676      Clinical Medicine: Endocrinology / Reproductive (5 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study endocrine and reproductive diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 670 and content being taught in PAS 672 and PAS 682.

**PAS 678      Clinical Medicine: Nephrology / Urology & Hematology / Oncology (4 credit hours)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to study renal, urologic, hematologic, and oncologic diseases across the life span. Students will study clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical presentation, evaluation, diagnosis, and the medical management of common conditions affecting these systems. The content presented in this course will be integrated with basic science concepts taught in PAS 670 and content being taught in PAS 672 and PAS 682.

**PAS 682      Clinical Applications III (1 credit hour)**

This is the final semester of a three-semester series of lecture/laboratory-based courses that will focus on applying the knowledge and skills acquired in all concurrently enrolled courses. The course will emphasize instruction and practice in procedural and technical skills that will be utilized throughout the clinical year. Additionally, students will be provided opportunities to apply acquired knowledge to patient care with team-based learning, case-based learning, and other active learning experiences.

**PAS 684      Preparation for Clinical Phase (1 credit hour)**

The Preparation for Clinical Phase (PCP) course is designed to prepare the student for a successful transition into the clinical phase of the program. Students will be provided an overview of administrative tasks and expectations required during the clinical phase. Additionally, students will be provided instruction on the advanced application of select didactic curricular elements.

**CLINICAL PHASE**

**Core (Required) Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences**

**PAS 700      Family Practice Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The family medicine rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which a student will have learning opportunities in a variety of outpatient settings (e.g., private practice, community health center, rural clinic, etc.) under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in preventive medicine, management of acute and chronic diseases, procedures, and other aspects unique to care of the patient and family. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 701      Internal Medicine Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The internal medicine rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which a student will have learning opportunities in the outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in preventive medicine, management of acute and chronic diseases in adult and geriatrics patients, procedures, and other aspects unique to internal medicine practice. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 702      Pediatrics Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The pediatric medicine rotation is a six-week clinical experience in which a student will have learning opportunities with patients younger than 18 years of age in the outpatient clinic setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in preventive medicine, management of acute and chronic diseases in pediatric patients, patient and family education, procedures, and other aspects unique to pediatric medicine. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 703      Women's Health Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The women's health rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which a student will have learning opportunities in the outpatient setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in preventive medicine, management of acute and chronic diseases in women, preconception care, prenatal and gynecologic care, procedures, and other aspects unique to women's health. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 704      Psych / Behavioral Health Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The psychiatry/behavioral health rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which the student will have learning opportunities in the outpatient clinic and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in psychiatric evaluation, assessment of mental status, management of acute and chronic psychiatric disease, and other aspects unique to behavioral and mental health. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 705      Emergency Medicine Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The emergency medicine rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which a student will have learning opportunities in the emergency department setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in management of medical emergencies across the lifespan, procedures, and other aspects unique to emergency medicine practice. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 706      Surgery Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The surgery rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which the student will have learning opportunities in an outpatient setting and operating room (inpatient or ambulatory surgery center) under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in perioperative care, surgical procedures, and other aspects unique to surgery. This rotation also provides the student the opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**Selective Rotation**

**PAS 707      Selective Rotation (6 credit hours)**

The selective rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which the student will have learning opportunities in the hospital inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinician. The student will select from a variety of disciplines that will allow them to gain experience in the evaluation and management of patients admitted to the hospital briefly, or for an extended period of time. The student will gain experience in admission orders, daily progress notes, and discharge planning. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**Elective Rotations**

**PAS 708      Elective Rotation I (6 credit hours)**

The elective rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which the student will have learning opportunities in one of several medical disciplines under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in an area of medicine (primary care, specialty, or subspecialty) they wish to explore in more depth, or in which their knowledge or skills may be enhanced. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**PAS 709      Elective Rotation II (6 credit hours)**

The elective rotation is a six-week clinical practice experience during which the student will have learning opportunities in one of several medical disciplines under the supervision of a clinician. The student will gain experience in an area of medicine (primary care, specialty, or subspecialty) they wish to explore in more depth, or in which their knowledge or skills may be enhanced. This rotation also provides the student an opportunity to participate in the team practice concept of health care.

**Clinical Phase Seminar Series**

**PAS 710      Clinical Phase Seminar I (1 credit hour)**

The Clinical Phase Seminar I is a blended delivery course designed to provide formative assessments, instruction in advanced clinical skills, professional development, and the integration and application of evidence-based medicine in the clinical phase of the curriculum.

**PAS 711      Clinical Phase Seminar II (1 credit hour)**

The Clinical Phase Seminar II is a blended delivery course designed to provide formative assessments, instruction in advanced clinical skills, professional development, and the integration and application of evidence-based medicine in the clinical phase of the curriculum.

**PAS 712      Clinical Phase Seminar III (1 credit hour)**

The Clinical Phase Seminar III is a blended delivery course designed to provide instruction in advanced clinical skills, the opportunity for integration and application of evidence-based medicine, professional development, and the program's summative evaluation of students.

**PAS 713      Clinical Phase Seminar IV (1 credit hour)**

The Clinical Phase Seminar IV is a blended delivery course designed to provide instruction in advanced clinical skills, the opportunity for integration and application of evidence-based medicine, professional development, and assistance in transitioning from academia to clinical practice.