FCM-434: Family and Community Medicine: Casa de Salud Ambulatory Clinic

Course Type: Direct Patient Care (DPE)
Elective type: SLUSOM Elective

Special course instructions: Casa de Salud provides basic medical services to medically underserved patients in the St. Louis region with a focus on newly arrived Spanish speaking immigrants. Because of Casa's multiple educational programs and internships, students must receive prior approval to participate in the elective from Dr. Katherine Mathews (kmathews@casadesaludstl.org), Director of Clinical Services, to make sure that the student can be accommodated during their preferred rotation block.

Almost all patients speak Spanish only. Therefore, proficiency in medical and conversational Spanish is preferred. Students planning to use Spanish without interpreter support must pass a Spanish proficiency test. Contact Dan Richter, richter@casadesaludstl.org at Casa De Salud no later than one month prior to the desired start date of the rotation after receiving prior approval from Dr. Mathews

Course contact: Kate Koch
kkoch@casadesaludstl.org.
314-977-1261

Course director: Dr. F. David Schneider
Professor
Family and Community Medicine
O'Donnell Hall, 2nd Floor
1320 South Grand Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104
(314) 977-8480
dschne13@slu.edu

Course co-director

Course description: This clerkship involves extensive first contact with patients in an ambulatory environment. The type of patient will vary greatly and will depend on the type of doctor working on a given day. Students will work under direct attending supervision. Doctors provide guidance/teaching on a one-on-one basis tailored appropriately to the individual student.

Students will have the opportunity to work with Primary Care Physicians and Specialists as well as Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Physical Therapists.

Objectives: To improve clinical and Interprofessional management skills in primary care and select medical specialties through evaluation and management of ambulatory patients in a busy community clinic. To improve/practice medical and conversational Spanish in a direct patient care setting. To gain insight and appreciation for the healthcare needs of the Spanish speaking communities in and around St. Louis.

Student responsibilities: Students assume significant responsibility for the patients' care during on-site visits. They will be responsible for the initial patient contact, appropriate history and physical examination, the initial differential diagnosis, and diagnostic and evidence-based therapeutic planning. They are required to record their findings and plans in the patient's permanent medical record.

Educational methods: Direct one on one instruction from Casas volunteer provider team. Students interested in reading on particular topics relevant to this community and public health may set individualized goals with the Special Projects Coordinator, Dr. Katherine Mathews or Kate Koch.

Evaluation methods: Feedback from volunteer providers may include other assignments, which would depend on student's goals.
Student Experiences
Health promotion and disease prevention; diagnosis and management of common primary care complaints; illnesses common to an urban setting with emphasis on health care access, barriers to care, and promotion of successful patient self-management skills (management and treatment).
Percent Inpatient 0%
Percent Outpatient 100%
Percent Consultation 0%
Approximate number of patients evaluated during rotation per student 200
Average number of patients during rotation on service 300
Night call: No

Course Sites
Casa de Salud
3200 Chouteau Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63103

Course Duration
3 Weeks

Credits (count toward graduation requirements)
3

Availability for SLU students
Number accepted: 1
Available M3 in periods 303-316
Available to M4 in periods 303-310,312-316

Availability for Visiting students
This elective is not available for visiting students.

To Add/Drop after restriction days
The Phase 3 Schedule Change form can be obtained in the Academic Records Office (LRC 101). You must complete the form, obtain the necessary departmental signatures, and return the form to the Academic Records Office at least 30 days before the course you are dropping or adding begins. This may seem like a long time, but it is very important for departments to have accurate knowledge of the students in their courses so that faculty and resources are ready. Contact Therese Heidemann (slumeded@slu.edu) or Jennifer Greathouse (slumeded@slu.edu) in the Office of Curricular Affairs for more information.