

Your Opinion Matters 2010

Student feedback about courses and clerkships continues to be important to the medical school. Course and clerkship directors use this feedback to evaluate and revise their curricula and learning experiences. The Office of Medical Education shares the results of student evaluations with the members of the Educational Policy Committee (EPC), which is responsible for evaluating all courses and clerkships. The EPC reviews this student feedback as part of its evaluation process.

Here are some examples of course and clerkship changes planned or implemented for 2010-2011 in response to student feedback during the 2009-2010 academic year:

FIRST AND SECOND YEAR COURSES

Biochemistry

- A primer on using the Blackboard wiki will be created.
- Blackboard organization will be improved.
- Lecture notes will be streamlined and made more user friendly.

Gross Anatomy

- The Department is conducting a search for additional faculty; these new faculty members will help provide additional assistance in dissection to students.
- The Gross Anatomy lab has new monitors.

History of Medicine

- The course will be moved to Block 3 of the first year.
- Quizzes will be added as a supplemental evaluation tool.

Medical Neurosciences

- Faculty will reassess their lecture notes and test questions.
- The course has rearranged and rescheduled lecture content, changing 2 fifty minute lectures into 3 thirty minute lectures, to make lecture material immediately precede the relevant laboratory experiences.

Physiology

- TBL questions will be reviewed by experts in the field and will be formally reviewed by the Course Director.
- Quiz structure will be formalized to have only a limited number of scenario type questions along with factual-type questions.
- Faculty will be trained in using the computer generated mouse for Tegrity recording and Overflow Room illustration.

ICC 1 & 2

- Additional faculty will be recruited and current faculty will be provided with feedback on teaching.

ICM 1 & 2

- Scheduling of ICM 1 as ICM Weeks in the spring semester is being considered.

Clinical Neurosciences

- Study guides will be better organized.
- There will be a printed course packet in addition to material posted on Blackboard.

Genetics

- Materials for formal lectures will be included in the instructional packet.
- Example questions from previous exams will be included in the instructional packet.
- A study guide will be provided at least one week before each block exam and a review session will be conducted before each block exam.

Microbiology

- Lecture handouts will be revised.

Pathology and Pathophysiology

- Pathophysiology will be incorporated into the Pathology course, using a TBL format.

- Course has been extended into Block 5 to give students more time to become familiar with the material.
- The course director will continue to meet regularly with course liaisons.

Pharmacology

- Student evaluations of teaching have been sent to individual instructors in an effort to improve lectures.

THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR CLERKSHIPS

Acting Internships

- There are acting internships available in the fourth year in three departments this year: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics.

Family Medicine

- More materials will be provided for shelf exam preparation.
- The clerkship learning objectives have been modified from the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Clerkship Objectives to provide a better guide for students to study from.
- Lectures on common problems in family medicine will be available on Tegrity.
- The clerkship will begin using fmCases, online cases from family medicine educators, as a learning tool.
- The SP testing will now occur on the final Wednesday of the clerkship and Thursday will be the official study day. There will also be more instruction before testing begins.
- The Blackboard discussion board on health literacy will be changed to a short reflective paper.

Junior Medicine

- First Exposure books are no longer required.
- Online quizzes will be replaced by Simulated Internal Medicine Patient Learning Experience (SIMPLE) virtual on line cases.
- Jewish Hospital Cardiology will be added as an additional site for students to experience cardiology.

Junior Surgery

- A mid-term exam with clinical vignettes that resembles the shelf exam is planned.

Neurology

- Neurology didactic lectures and the neurologic exam demonstration will be given the first two days of the clerkship,

Obstetrics and Gynecology

- The OB/GYN clerkship is now six weeks' in length.
- The number of students on each rotation has been reduced to 20.
- The amount of hands-on experiences for students has been significantly increased.
- The didactic portion of the course occurs on Wednesday afternoons, from 12-5 pm.
- The midterm exam is designed in format like the shelf exam.

Pediatrics

- A summary sheet of all requisites for the clerkship will be provided.
- New criteria have been established to earn honors in the course.
- The pediatric lecture series have been amended to include gaps in the curriculum not previously addressed.

Psychiatry

- The clerkship has been redesigned so that all students will have two different clinical experiences during the rotation.
- Emergency psychiatry (EPS) has been dropped as a primary clinical site.
- The clerkship seminar series is being revised.

Senior Surgery

- The fourth year surgery requirement has been changed to a surgery selective which will allow students options in several different surgical disciplines.