SENIOR MEDICAL STUDENT ELECTIVES

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences offers a number of core electives to fourth year students. In addition to these highly rated elective experiences, students may choose to add an enhancement module to their core experience. These modules are meant to give students greater exposure to a specialized area in psychiatry. In general, an enhancement module will comprise about 10-25% of the clerkship experience.

We have designed our senior medical student electives with the expectation that participating students will take on the challenge of acting intern responsibilities. Exceptions can be made depending on the needs of the individual student and the assessment of the site director. The elective experience is available to senior medical students who have successfully completed a third-year core psychiatry clerkship.

NOTE: Students are solely responsible for any transportation and/or parking fees associated with a clerkship.

PSY 412: Psychiatry Grand Rounds
Primary Instructor: Hendry Ton, M.D.
Course Duration: Variable
Quarters: II, III, IV
Units: One non-clinical unit
Location: UCDMC
Distribution of Student's Time: Conferences/lectures: 100%
Course Description: One-hour weekly conference at UCDMC for presentation of selected clinical cases, presentation of lecture and research reports.
Enhancement Modules: None
Objectives: Varies by topic
Commonly seen Conditions: Varies by topic

PSY 413: Outpatient Psychiatry Clerkship
Primary Instructor: Alan Koike, M.D.
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: Adult Psychiatric Support Services
Distribution of Student's Time: Outpatient care: 90%, Conferences/lectures: 10%
Course Description: Interested students will gain experience in the clinical management and treatment of adult outpatients with psychiatric and substance abuse disorders including crisis assessment and intervention, comprehensive outpatient evaluation and development of a differential diagnosis and treatment plan. The latter includes an emphasis on the principles of outpatient psychopharmacology and brief psychotherapy, observation of group psychotherapy, individual supervision by experienced clinicians and participation in clinic conferences. All experiences are within the Department of Psychiatry in Sacramento. This is a valuable elective for students who anticipate careers in primary care specialties, where the management of psychiatric disorders presents a daily challenge to the non-psychiatric physician. Students pursuing careers in psychiatry have an opportunity to learn about outpatient psychiatric practice.
Enhancement Modules: Any
Clerkship Objectives
1. Improve ability to take a psychiatric history, perform a mental status exam, and generate a DSM-IV differential diagnosis.
3. Improve ability to care for patients from various cultural groups.
4. Improve knowledge and use of psychotropic medications.
Commonly Seen Conditions
Major Depressive Disorder
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Panic Disorder
Personality Disorders
Substance Abuse/Dependence
Bipolar II Disorder
PSY 414: Psychosomatic Medicine Clerkship
Instructor: James Bourgeois, M.D.
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: UCDMC
Distribution of Student's Time: Inpatient care: 80%, Clinical rounds: 10%, Conferences/lectures: 10%
Prerequisites: Psychiatry core clerkship and/or consent of clerkship director
Course Description: A large university hospital service in which the student functions as a member of the team in evaluation, management and psychiatric liaison with other medical specialties. Intensive supervision from senior staff and psychiatric residents.
Enhancement Modules Available: A
Clerkship Objectives
1. Gain proficiency in interviewing and treating medically ill patients using the biopsychosocial model.
2. Effectively interact with referring services, including refining the consultation question and education of referring teams.
3. Appreciate the psychiatric components of medical illness.
Commonly Seen Conditions
Delirium
Mood Disorders
Psychotic Disorders
Suicide Assessment
Capacity Evaluation
Substance Abuse/Dependence/Withdrawal
PSY 417: Forensic Psychiatry Clerkship
Primary Instructor: Gregory Sokolov, M.D.
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: Sacramento County Jail (acute psychiatric inpatient unit and general population medication clinics)
Distribution of Student's Time: Inpatient care: 70%, clinical rounds: 20%, conferences/lectures: 10%
Prerequisites: Psychiatry core clerkship and/or consent of clerkship director
Course Description: Under supervision, student assesses acute and chronic mentally ill inmates in both inpatient and clinic settings.
Enhancement Modules: A, C, D and E
Clerkship Objectives
1. Improve ability to evaluate and treat mentally ill patients in a correctional setting.
2. Improve on documentation skills.
3. Understand the clinical, legal, and ethical issues at the interface between psychiatry and the criminal justice system, including insanity defense, risk assessment for suicide and violence and assessment of malingered mental illness.

Commonly Seen Conditions
Depressive & Anxiety Disorders
Bipolar Disorder
Adjustment Disorders
Psychotic Disorders
Substance-Induced Disorders
Personality Disorders
Malingering

PSY 418: Unspecified Off-Campus Clinical Elective
Primary Instructor: Varies
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: Off-campus medical school/ mental-health setting
Distribution of Student's Time: Variable
Enhancement Modules: Varies
Course Description: Clinical or research elective arranged with instructor and individual in charge of the off-campus setting.
Clerkship Objectives: Varies
Commonly Seen Conditions: Varies
PSY 419: Group Psychotherapy
Primary Instructor: Alan Koike, M.D.
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: Adult Psychiatric Support Services
Distribution of Student's Time: Outpatient care: 90%, Conferences/lectures: 10%
Prerequisites: Psychiatry core clerkship and/or consent of clerkship director
Course Description: Group psychotherapy has become a well accepted modality for providing care to psychiatric patients. For many patients, this context has significant advantages over individual therapy. Senior medical students will rotate through a community mental health clinic with an extensive group psychotherapy program. Students will have opportunity to see patients individually, but the main emphasis will be to participate in cutting-edge group therapies in the following contexts:
1. Medication Support
2. Culture-specific groups for Hmong and Spanish-speaking communities
3. Dialectical Behavior Therapy
4. Cognitive Behavior Therapy targeting Panic Disorder
5. Psychoeducational groups for depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, and bipolar spectrum disorders
Enhancement Modules: Any
Clerkship Objectives
1. Become familiar with basic principles of group therapy.
3. Learn basic skills of co-facilitating in groups.
Commonly Seen Conditions
Major Depressive Disorder
Panic Disorder
Personality Disorders
Bipolar II Disorder

PSY 420: Inpatient Psychiatry
Primary Instructor: Martin Leamon, M.D.
Course Duration: 4-8 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6-12
Location: Sacramento County Mental Health Treatment Center
Distribution of Student's Time: Inpatient care: 100%
Course Description: Acting intern position on a progressive and dynamic inpatient unit. Emphasis on biological psychiatry, psychopharmacology and psychodynamic aspects appropriate to diagnosis and management of patients with recurrent depression, bipolar disorder, substance disorders, and schizophrenia chronically mentally ill patients. General adult county and forensic sites are available.
Enhancement Modules: A,E,F
Clerkship Objectives
1. Improve on psychiatric history-taking and mental status exam.
2. Improve on ability to treat acutely mentally ill patients.
3. Learn to efficiently manage patients in a psychiatric inpatient unit.
4. Effectively interact within a multidisciplinary treatment team
Commonly Seen Conditions
Schizophrenia
Severe Major Depressive Disorder
Bipolar I Disorder
Suicidality
PSY 421: Combined Medicine-Psychiatry Clerkship
Primary Instructor(s): John Onate, M.D., Robert McCarron, M.D., Jaesu Han, M.D., Hendry Ton, M.D.
Course Duration: 4 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 6
Location: Sacramento Primary Care Clinic
Distribution of Student's Time: Clinical: 80%, Discussion: 20%
Course Description: Students will rotate through the county Primary Care Clinic under the supervision of dual-boarded psychiatry and internal medicine-family practice faculty to provide medical care of indigent and uninsured patients as well as primary care for psychiatry patients.
Enhancement Modules: B, C, D and E
Clerkship Objectives
1. Improve on psychiatric history-taking and mental status exam.
2. Improve on ability to treat acutely mentally ill patients.
3. Learn to efficiently manage patients in a psychiatric inpatient unit.
4. Effectively interact within a multidisciplinary treatment team.
5. Gain exposure and understanding of the diagnosis and management of psychiatric disorders in a primary care setting and in the indigent population.
Commonly Seen Conditions
Diabetes Mellitus
Mood Disorders
Co-morbid substance abuse disorders
Anxiety Disorders

PSY 422: Readings in Psychiatry
Primary Instructor: Varies
Course Duration: 2, 4 or 6 weeks
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 1,2 or 3 non-clinical units
Location: Varies
Distribution of Student's Time: Independent reading: 80%, Discussion: 20%
Enhancement Modules: None
Course Description: This is a special elective for students of the UC Davis School of Medicine who wish to work with a specific faculty member on mutually determined subjects. This elective may help the student to pursue more specific topics in psychiatry in greater depth than during their first clerkship. It may also help the student to decide upon a career in psychiatry. In addition to directed discussions with the faculty preceptor, a paper summarizing the student’s work and findings is required. Note: this elective will not count for clinical experience.
Objectives: Varies
Commonly Seen Conditions: Varies

PSY 499: Research
Primary Instructor: Varies
Course Duration: Varies
Quarters: I, II, III, IV
Units: 1-12 non-clinical units
Location: Varies
Distribution of Student's Time: Varies
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Enhancement Module: Varies
Course Description: Students are invited to participate with experienced investigators currently involved in work over abroad range of clinical, pharmacological and brain imaging studies. Note: this elective will not count for clinical experience.
Objectives: Varies
Commonly Seen Conditions: Varies
Enhancement Modules

A. Combined Medicine/Psychiatry

Students will spend half days in one or more of the following sites:

1. Primary Care Clinic: Provide integrated medical and psychiatric care to county patients under supervision of a dually-trained family medicine-psychiatry attending.
2. Crisis Center: Provide acute care in an acute setting with particular emphasis on distinguishing medical and psychiatric etiologies of distress. Students will be supervised by a dually-trained internal medicine-psychiatry attending.

B. Group Psychotherapy

Students will participate in two or more of the following psychotherapy groups:

1. Medication Support
2. Culture-specific groups for Hmong and Spanish-speaking communities
3. Dialectical Behavior Therapy
4. Cognitive Behavior Therapy targeting Panic Disorder
5. Psychoeducational groups for depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, and bipolar spectrum disorders

C. Child Psychiatry

Students will spend at least one half day providing mental health care to children at one or more of the following sites:

1. M.I.N.D. Institute: State-of-the-art clinic in which a multidisciplinary team of psychologists, psychiatrists, neurologists, and pediatricians specialize in the evaluation and treatment of children with pervasive developmental disorders.

D. Cultural Psychiatry

In addition to gaining experience working with Sacramento’s diverse community through the core elective experiences, students may elect to learn how to effectively utilize the DSM-IV cultural formulation and participate in an innovative Hmong Medication Support Group with faculty who have expertise in cross-cultural issues.

E. Emergency Psychiatry

Students will work with a multidisciplinary team at Sacramento County’s Mental Health Crisis Unit on at least one half day. The experience emphasizes psychiatric assessment, management of psychiatric emergencies, and psychiatric triage.