

Careers in Medicine

Careers in Medicine (CiM) is a career planning program designed to help you choose a medical specialty and select and apply to a residency program. This four-step process will guide you through the elements of career planning, including self-understanding, exploring a variety of medical careers, and finally choosing a specialty to meet your career objectives. This course is **required** for all medical students.

Course Co-Directors and Administration Coordinator

The Course Co-Directors and Administrative Coordinator will be available to assist the students for administrative questions, comments, or suggestions about the course. Questions concerning specific course content can be directed to the particular lecturer or to the co-directors.

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There are four steps to the curriculum:

1. Understanding Yourself - Conducting an honest self-assessment is the foundation for the whole process and critical to making good career decisions. You need to understand who you are (your interests, values, skills, and personality) and what is important to you. The more you understand yourself, the better prepared you will be to successfully navigate this process, make a good decision, and be satisfied and successful in your career as a physician. The resources and exercises provided in the "Understanding Yourself" section will help you accomplish these goals.
2. Exploring Options - Learning more about specialties and other career options will help you figure out where you fit into medicine. The goal of exploring options is to learn about opportunities and specialties that may match your personal characteristics. We've compiled information on the best ways to research specialties and created a comprehensive set of Specialty Pages that contain career-related information for 112 medical specialties and subspecialties. Use this section as a starting point to explore medical careers.

Steps (cont.)

3. **Choosing a Specialty** - It is important to be able to make healthy decisions about your medical career. This involves finding a good fit between the information you have learned about yourself and about specialties. It also involves considering what is important to you about the residency programs you are interested in pursuing and possible future practice settings. This phase will provide an objective framework to make these decisions.

4. **Getting into Residency** - Writing a Curriculum Vitae ("CV") and residency application, interviewing for residency, and going through the Match are integral components to implementing your decision. This is where you put your decisions into action.

Upon completion of the four-year CIM course, the student will:

1. Understand the importance of inherent individual characteristics that should guide the selection of a medical specialty
2. Be able to create a personal profile
3. Effectively narrow down specialty choices
4. Be exposed to a variety of medical practice environments
5. Be familiar with resources available for reviewing and comparing residency programs
6. Develop effective interpersonal and communication skills
7. Develop a professional rapport with his/her faculty advisor
8. Know how to successfully interview for a residency position
9. Know how to write a curriculum vitae
10. Know how to develop a personal statement
11. Understand the match program
12. Be familiar with financial issues during residency
13. Be exposed to the issues of medical malpractice

MUSC Careers in Medicine Course Curriculum

1st year

Fall Semester - Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Self Assessment I

MDCOR 801

1st Session – Introduce CiM, Myers Briggs Type Inventory

2nd Session – Discuss Myers Briggs Type Inventory and CiM in detail

Requirements: Attendance at all workshops

Grading: Pass/No Pass

Spring Semester - Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Self Assessment II

MDCOR 802

Specialty Seminars – Residency program directors will give a presentation of their specialty including competitiveness, salary, training required, etc.

Requirements: Attendance at first and last sessions and 5 others of the students choosing.

Grading: Pass/No Pass

Curriculum (cont.)

2nd Year

Fall Semester - Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Career Exploration MDCOR 803

Subspecialty Seminars-a continuation from the first year seminars with an emphasis on the subspecialties. Seminars will be scheduled to coincide with pertinent curricular topics.

Requirements: Attendance at all 4 seminars.

Grading: Pass/No Pass

Spring Semester - Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Clinical Visits MDCOR 804

Clinical Visits to (2) Specialties for at least (1) hour each

Requirements: Completion of Clinical Experience Log and Informational Interview Questions Sheet on WebCT. Must complete both for each visit.

Grading: Pass/No Pass

Spring Semester – Course Name: Careers in Medicine - Board Review Study MED-985

Requirements: Attend Board Review introductory meeting (February)

Take USMLE Step 1 Diagnostic Examination (March-April)

Participate in Test-taking skills workshop in the Center for Academic Excellence (March-April)

Participate in structured board review preparation (May-June)*

Pass USMLE Step 1

*Students identified as “at-risk” by the Diagnostic Examination

3rd Year

Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Clinical Advising MDCOR-805 (One each – fall and spring)

Clinical Advising – 1 visit with advisor per semester

Requirements: Completion and certification of visits in E*Value

Grade: Pass/No Pass

4th Year

Course Name: Careers in Medicine – Preparing for the Future

Informational Meetings – fall semester - optional

Interviewing Do’s and Don’ts – Dr. Wong and Panel Members

Informational Meetings – spring semester during Match Week –mandatory beginning 07-08

MDCOR-806

- Planning Your Financial Future – Loan Repayment, Financial Planning and Insurance Issues
- What Happens After I’ve Matched – Licensing requirements and paperwork, resident panel to give “real life” advice on intern year, residency expectations, etc.

4-Year Summary

Year 1

Fall 1: Self Assessment
Fall 2: Self Assessment continued
Spring 1: Specialty Seminars

Year 2

Fall: Career Exploration and/or Special Interest Group participation
Spring 1: Two 1-hour clinical visits
Spring 2: Board Review and Board Examination with passing score

Year 3

Fall: Visit with clinical advisor
Spring: Visit with clinical advisor

Year 4

Fall: Interviewing workshop with Dr. Wong and Residency Program Directors
Spring 1: “Financial and Legal Issues During Residency” seminar
Spring 2: “What Happens After I’ve Matched ” seminar

Grading

Careers in Medicine is a **required** part of the MUSC College of Medicine. Attendance to sessions and participation in exercises and activities is mandatory for a grade of Pass. Successful completion of Careers in Medicine curriculum is required for graduation. Remediation is available for students who, in extreme circumstances, cannot complete the required components of the curriculum. These include research papers, additional research into career options, etc. All absences must be discussed with and approved by Dr. Kim Collins *prior to being absent*.

Recommended Learning Resources

Several resources exist for the medical student and are highly recommended:

- MUSC Careers in Medicine website
- www.AAMC.org/careersinmedicine
- www.ama-assn.org/go/freida
- www.aafp.org/x20259.xml
- www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/7247.html
- Freeman, B. The Ultimate Guide to Choosing a Medical Specialty. New York: Lange Medical Books/McGraw Hill. 2004
- Taylor, AD. How to Choose a Medical Specialty, 4th ed. Philadelphia, PA: W.B. Saunders Company. 2003.
- Iserson, KV. Getting Into a Residency. 7th ed. Tucson: Galen Press, Ltd. 2006.

Other Resources

- Individual faculty advisors

Other Resources (cont.)

- Student Interests Groups (SIGs)

Emergency Medicine Interest Group

President	Luke Baxley	baxleylu
Vice President	Lauren Tober	tober
	Ashley Kuklentz	kuklent
Secretary/Treasurer	Martin Avery	averym
Webmaster	Daniel Schwerin	schwerdl
4 th Year Rep.	Ginger Culyer	culyer
3 rd Year Rep.	Kristina Mrowca	mrowca
2 nd Year Rep.	Amanda Barnhorst	barnhors
1 st Year Rep.	TBA	
Philanthropy	Sarkis Dardarian	derderi
Fundraising	TBA	
Advisor	Dr. Jeff Bush	bushjs

Family Medicine Interest Group

Co-Presidents	TBA	
Vice President		
Secretary		
Treasurer		
Comm. Service Chairs		
Advisor	Peter Carek	carekpi

Internal Medicine Interest Group

President	Brandi Eastman	eastman
Vice President	James Kuhlen	kuhlen
Treasurer	Alicia Shute	shuteac
Secretary	Ellen Chapin	chapin
Faculty Advisor	Dr. Caroline Powell	powellck

Medical Students for Choice

President	Frances Cate	cate
VP/Sec/Treasurer	Sydney Cummings	cumminsy
Fundraising	Lauren Angotti	angotti
Advisor	Laura Cousineau	cousinel

Medical Student Ophthalmology Society

President	Margaret- Lewis Prescott	lewismr
Vice President	Brice Williams	willibj
Secretary/Treasurer	Monica Kim	kimmo
Chief of Fundraising	Peter Hao Tang	tanghao
Chief of Clinical Operations	Nick Holdgak	holdgat
	Rakesh Patel	patelrak
Resident Advisor	Dr. Jay Biber	biber

Other Resources (cont.)

Ob/Gyn Interest Group

President	Sarah Sandberg	sandber
Vice President	Caroline Billingsly	billings
Underclassmen Reps	Audrey Barry	barry
	Sydney Cummings	cumminsy

Radiology Interest Group

President	Tim MacFall	macfalta
Vice President	Kevin Blackmon	blackmok
Secretary	Andre Uflacker	uflacke
Treasurer	Ryan Owen	owenr
Advisor	Leonie Gordon	gordonl

Sawbones

President	Zeke Walton	waltonz
	Evan Baird	bairde
Vice President	TBA	
Secretary	Peter White	whitepet
Treasurer	Justin Jones	jonesju
Advisor:	Dr. Harry Demos	demosha

Student Interest Group in Neurology

President	Alistair Aaronson	aaronso
Vice President	Elizabeth Norman	normane
Secretary	George Magrath	magrath
Treasurer	Wei-Ting Chen (Annie)	chenwe
Advisor	Dr. David A. Griesemer	grieseda

Students Interested in Pediatrics

3 rd year President	Ian Kane	kanei
2 nd year President	Tamara Johnson	johnstam
Volunteer Coordinators	Ana Arias-Pandey	ariaspa
Secretary/Treasurer	Sarah Karpel	karpel

Student Psychiatry Interest Group

Co-Presidents	Zach Stroud	stroudz
	Ross Michels	michelsr
Vice Presidents	Lauren Yarrow	yarrow
	Maggie Pierson	pierson
Treasurer	Brandi Eastman	eastman
COMSC Representatives	Raviv Berlin	berlin
	Meg White	whitemeg
Public Relations	Jon Snipes	snipes

Other Resources (cont.)

Surgical Training Awareness & Residency

Co-Presidents	Ileana Strauch	strauch
	Abbie Husman	husman
2nd Year Rep	Patrick Ryan	ryanpc
Treasurer	Jake Gillen	gillen
Secretary	Clayton Crantford	crantfo
Faculty Advisor	Dr. Thomas Brothers	brothete

- **CiM Student Committee Members**

4th Year Members

Tara Ahlberg	ahlbertl
Peter King	kingpj
Guy McClary	mcclary
Meredith Northam	northam
Mark Schweppe	schweppe
MaryShell Zaffino	brosche

3rd Year Members

Matthew Crumpler	crumple
Brian Thompson	thompsb

2nd Year Members

Stephen Cross	crosss
Elizabeth Norman	normane

Resident Member

Courtney Bailey	stewarte
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