

Texas Tech University HSC, Paul L Foster School of Medicine
MS4 Emergency Medicine Rotation Syllabus

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ROTATION CONTACT INFORMATION		
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WELCOME to the PLFSOM EM CLERKSHIP

We have created a rotation that takes advantage of the unique learning opportunities that the ED provides. Here you will assess undifferentiated patients, coming up with your own diagnostic and therapeutic management plan, integrating and applying much of what you have learned in years 1-3. To compliment your clinical experience we have created additional educational opportunities through hands-on exercises, simulations, lectures, assignments and readings. This syllabus contains all the information you will need to succeed during the rotation. In addition, you are expected to know and understand the Rules and Regulations in *Common Clerkship Policies* provided by the Office of Medical Education and the *Student Affairs Handbook* provided by the Office of Student Affairs. The behavioral expectations and the necessary items for this rotation are specified in General Requirement section of this syllabus. Please note that assignment results may be used for training or research purposes anonymously.

Academic Success and Accessibility Office (ASAO):

Office of Accessibility Services

TTUHSC EP is committed to providing access to learning opportunities for all students with documented learning disabilities. To ensure access to this course and your program, please contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) by calling 915-215-4398 to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting accommodations in the classroom and clinical setting. Accommodations are not provided retroactively, so students are encouraged to register with OAS as soon as possible. More information can be found on the OAS website:

<https://elpaso.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/accessibility/default.aspx>

Counseling Assistance

TTUHSC EP is committed to the well-being of our students. Students may experience a range of academic, social, and personal stressors, which can be overwhelming. If you or someone you know needs comprehensive or crisis mental health support assistance, on-campus mental health services are available Monday- Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., without an appointment. Appointments may be scheduled by calling **915-215-TALK (8255)** or emailing support.elp@ttuhsc.edu. The offices are located in MSBII, Suite 2C201. Related information can be found at <https://elpaso.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/student-support-center/get-connected/> Additionally, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached by calling or texting **988**.

Reporting Student Conduct Issues:

Campus community members who observe or become aware of potential student misconduct can use the [Student Incident Report Form](#) to file a report with the Office of Student Services and Student Engagement. Student behaviors that may violate the student code of conduct, student handbook, or other TTUHSCEP policies, regulations, or rules are considered to be student misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, academic dishonesty, harassment, drug use, or theft.

TTUHSC El Paso Campus CARE Team:

The university CARE Team is here to support students who may be feeling overwhelmed, experiencing significant stress, or facing challenges that could impact their well-being or safety. If your professor notices any signs that you or someone else might need help, they may check in with you personally and will often connect you with the CARE Team. This is not about being “in trouble”—it’s about ensuring you have access to trained professionals who can offer support and connect you to helpful resources. Additionally, if you have any concerns about your own well-being or that of a fellow student, please don’t hesitate to reach out to let your professor know. You can also make a referral to the CARE Team using [CARE Report Form](#). Your health, safety, and success are our top priorities, and we’re here to help.

ASSIGNMENT LIST AND DUE DATES

Due no later than	Required Assignments **	Location
First Rotation Tuesday 8:00am to 4:00pm	US/Task Trainer /Medical Simulation Cases(P.12)	GGHSON-TECHS, 2 nd Floor (Lobby)
Second Rotation Friday by midnight	History & Physical (P.11)	Submit via Elentra
Every Thursday	Completed Shift Assessments	Submit to: Christy Graham
Article/PowerPoint due 24 hours prior to schedule activity.	CQP Article/PowerPoint (P.13) Submit in Elentra	TBD
Last day of Rotation (optional)	NBME (P.14) ○ Bring your E-raider log-in IT requires you to bring your own testing compliant-ready laptop.	MEB Testing Lab #2150

Due (based on assigned day)	Expected Assignments	Location
Every Thursday 7:00 to noon	EM Resident Conference	Trauma – UMC ED Trauma Conf Rm (1 st and 3 rd Thursday Only)
Exact Thursday 1:00-5:00pm provided day of orientation.	SIM Shadow (P.12)	GGHSON-TECHS N, 2 nd Floor

PLFSOM EMERGENCY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP OBJECTIVES

(Corresponding Institutional Learning Objectives in parentheses.)

Patient Care

Goal: Students who are able to provide patient-centered care that is appropriate and compassionate.

Objectives: By the end of the clerkship, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate proper interviewing techniques *(PC-1.1)*
- Obtain an accurate problem-focused history and physical exam *(PC-1.1)*
- Develop a diagnostic and therapeutic patient management plan for the patient with both an undifferentiated complaint and a known disease process *(PC-1.3, PC-1.2)*
- Formulate a differential dx when evaluating an undifferentiated patient: *(PC-1.3)*
 - List worst case scenarios
 - Prioritize likelihood of diagnoses based on clinical findings
- Patient management skills *(PC-1.2, PC-1.7)*
 - Monitor the response to therapeutic intervention
 - Develop appropriate disposition and follow up plans
- Patient communication *(PC-1.6, PC-1.7)*
 - Educate patients on safety and provide anticipatory guidance as necessary
 - Educate patients to ensure comprehension of discharge plan
- Recognize immediate life-threatening conditions such as, but not limited to, STEMI, Stroke, high-acuity Trauma, etc. *(PC-1.4, PC-1.5)*
- Interpret basic diagnostic tests such as, but not limited to labs and imaging *(PC-1.3)*
- Execute accurate EMR documentation appropriate to the ED *(PC-1.1, ICS- 4.4)*
- Initiate basic resuscitation and stabilization *(PC-1.5)*
- Demonstrate proficiency in the following basic skills *(PC-1.3, PC-1.8)*
 - Basic Airway Management
 - Peripheral Intravenous Access
 - ECG/cardiac rhythm analysis
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Knowledge for Practice

Goal: Students who are able to apply their broad knowledge base to patient care in the ED clinical setting.

Objectives: During the clerkship, the student will have opportunity to:

- Apply diagnostic principles from years 1-3 to the ED clinical setting *(KP-2.2)*
- Apply evidence-based principles to patient care in the ED clinical setting *(KP-2.3)*

Practice Based Learning and Improvements

Goal: Students who are able to apply scientific evidence to patient care, accept, and apply feedback for improvement of patient care practices.

Objectives: Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Investigate a clinical question relevant to patient care through evaluation of primary research *(PBL-3.1, PBL-3.4)*
- Act on corrective feedback *(PBL-3.3)*
- Evaluate the medical literature *(PBL-3.4)*
- Use information technology to improve patient care *(PBL-3.4)*

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Goal: Students who are able to effectively communicate with patients, families, faculty, staff, residents and other students.

Objectives: Students will have opportunity to:

- Develop and demonstrate professional interactions and effective communication with ED faculty, staff and consultants (*ICS-4.2*)
- Demonstrate active listening skills (*ICS-4.3*)
- Establish a therapeutic relationship with patients and families (*ICS-4.1, ICS-4.3*)

Professionalism

Goal: Students who demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adhering to ethical principles, displaying sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

Objectives: Throughout the clerkship, students will demonstrate:

- Respect towards patients and families whose lifestyles, culture and values may be different from their own (*PRO-5.1*)
- Ethical behavior, including patient confidentiality, privacy and consent (*PRO-5.2*)
- Reliability, by arriving on time and prepared for all required activities (*PRO-5.3, PRO-5.7*)
- Honesty and integrity in patient care (*PRO-5.6*)
- Professional appearance (*PRO-5.7*)

Systems-Based Practice

Goal: Students who demonstrate an awareness of the larger context of health care and understand how to effectively utilize system resources to provide optimal care.

Objectives: By the end of the clerkship, students should be able to:

- Describe the role of emergency medicine in the US health care system (*SBP-6.1*)
- Demonstrate understanding of limitations patients' face due to lack of resources (*SBP-6.2, SBP-6.3*)
- Know when accessing social services is indicated (*SBP-6.2, SBP-6.4*)

Inter-Professional Collaboration

Goal: Students who demonstrate the ability to effectively engage as part of an inter-professional team.

Objectives: Throughout the clerkship, student should have the opportunity to:

- Develop teamwork and inter-professional communication skills during simulation activities and in the ED (*IPC-7.3*)

Personal and Professional Development

Goal: Students who demonstrate the principles required for lifelong professional growth.

Objectives: During the clerkship, students will have opportunity to:

- Develop their own clinical question, identify appropriate research to answer the question and critically appraise this research, presenting their findings to fellow students (*PBL3.1*)

- Develop proper judgment regarding when to take responsibility and when to seek assistance with patient care, based on their current level of training (*PPD-8.1*)

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Course expectations include showing up for all shifts, on time, appropriately attired (scrubs or business attire, no dangling hair, no open toe shoes), ready to work, with a stethoscope.

ED Shifts will be distributed between the following facilities:

- UMC of El Paso, 4815 Alameda, 915-521-7700
- El Paso Children's Hospital, 4815 Alameda, 915-298-5443
- THOP-Transmountain Campus, 2000 Transmountain Road, 915-877-8136 (with **completed** credentialing on file)

If an emergency arises preventing you from working your shift or you are ill, e-mail the Clerkship Coordinator and PLFClerkshipAbsence.com. Contact the Clerkship Coordinator to reschedule any shift that needs to be rescheduled. Should a student request changes to the schedule after being published, it is the student's responsibility to assist in assuring all duty hour requirements/restrictions have been met. Any shift changes should be requested a minimum of 48 hours in advance, excluding weekend hours, to ensure timely change to the schedules.

You will usually be assigned to a single ED attending for each shift when you arrive in the ED. Your attending may request you work with a Senior Resident. Typically, you are expected to act as the primary provider for the patients you see on these shifts. **You will do a focused H&P, and then present the patient to the faculty with a differential diagnosis along with a diagnostic and therapeutic management plan.** Each MS-4 will be assigned 48 clinical hours (2 week rotation) or 96 clinical hours (4 week rotation) in the emergency department in shifts varying in length, but not more than 12 hours. You will be required to work nights and weekends. You may request up to 3 dates to be off the schedule during the rotation. Requests can be given to the Clerkship Coordinator prior to the rotation starting. If you need to make additional shift changes, you may work these out with your classmates and inform the Clerkship Coordinator of any shift swaps. Shift scheduling is required to abide by the school's duty hour policy. It is also required that you are available on the first and last day of the clerkship, per school policy.

You must obtain approval from your faculty member or senior resident for each patient you plan to pick up. If a patient appears unstable (i.e. looks really sick, has respiratory distress, or has abnormal vital signs) notify your attending or resident immediately.

Do not leave the department without advising your faculty. Expect to eat your meals in the ED, although you will be allowed to leave the department to get food from the cafeteria. There is a refrigerator and microwave oven in the ED for physician/student use.

Attendance at Thursday morning resident conference is encouraged but not required.

The Clerkship Coordinator will notify you should your attendance NOT be required at the Thursday Resident Conference instead you may be scheduled an extra shift at THOP-Transmountain Campus or a night shift the day before in compliance with Duty Hours.

ED Documentation

For ED charting UMC and EPCH use Cerner. You will receive a personal login and receive training on how to use Cerner during orientation. Your note can be sent to the resident you are working with and after review they have the option to provide an attestation and addendum to your note and it will become a part of the medical record. You will be expected to do at least two notes per shift at UMC. Student documentation at other ED sites is optional.

Recommended Reading

On the first day of your rotation, each student will be provided with *EM Fundamentals*, a small pocket book that you can carry around with you and use as a quick reference during your shifts for major issues with guidance on treatment and disposition.

Grading Policy

It is expected that over the course of the block, student performance will have improved in many or all categories, based on feedback and growing familiarity with the clinical discipline and patient care. The final assessment is not an average of the student's performance over the entire rotation, but represents their final level of achievement. A detailed outline can be found in your *Common Clerkship Policies* (Clinical Grading Policy pages 4-6).

HONORS:

The NBME will be optional, but encouraged for those pursuing EM residency. If you do take the NBME you will need at least a 79 to qualify for honors, you will also need outstanding shift evaluations by ED faculty and compliance as outlined in the Common Clerkship Policies. If you do not take the NBME you will be honors eligible as long as all other criteria below are met.

In addition to the above, the following will be required for honors:

- All course assignments submitted on time (as listed in Assignment Schedule and Due Dates)
- Clinical question presentation grading sheet with at least a High Pass grade
- A model of professional behavior
 - Never late, always ready to start on time
 - Actively involved in educational activities (no social media, texting, etc., during educational activities)

PASS:

- Complete all assignments to the satisfaction of the course director.
- Any assignments that are not completed or are completed poorly must be completed to the satisfaction of the course director before a PASS can be issued.
- The student must make up excused absences beyond 16 hours.
- All absences that are not excused must be made up.
- Attend all mandatory educational activities for which you don't have an excused absence.
- Clinical evaluations must meet a minimum standard of the following:
 - Professional behavior
 - Patient evaluation skills
 - Patient management skills
- Any remedial requirements given during the course must be completed to the satisfaction of the course director.

FAIL:

- Unprofessional behavior
- Failure to complete required remedial work in the allotted time.

- Failure to complete course requirements to a satisfactory level.

Documentation

Documentation is an important part of clinical practice. We require you to turn in one completed chart for Dr. Parsa to review, due on Friday of the second week of the rotation. This should be your own documentation (not part of the permanent medical record). It should be submitted in a standard typewritten format and uploaded into PLF approved on-line system. It must include the following mandatory items:

- History and physical (not exhaustive, but focused; appropriate for ED)
- ED course-Testing results with interpretation (i.e. K- 2.9-low). Differential diagnosis. Therapeutic interventions with indications and reassessment, i.e.
 - 17:30- Ondansetron given for nausea. 18:00- no nausea, abdomen non-tender, P90 BP 120/80
- Final Diagnosis
- Disposition (with treatment and follow up plan if discharged)

Your note should include what a proper ED physician's note would include, such as one that would be dictated into a real medical record. Feedback will be provided in PLF approved on-line system on this assignment noting your documentation strengths and weaknesses. If your documentation has significant weaknesses you will be required to repeat the assignment until adequate documentation is demonstrated.

Simulation Activities

To assist in the preparation for clinical practice, each MS-4 will practice their skills in a safe, controlled educational environment in the Training and Educational Center for Healthcare Simulation (TECHS), a state-of-the art venue for teaching and testing clinical skills such as:

Ultrasound Training:

- Discuss indications for point of care ED ultrasound
- Obtain and interpret basic point of care ED ultrasound images

Task Trainers:

- Basic Airway Management
- Bag Valve Mask
- Basic Endotracheal Intubation
- Intra-Osseous Line Placement
- Lumbar Puncture
- Tube Thoracostomy
- Central Venous Catheterization

Medical Simulation Cases:

Three cases will be addressed: (1) Adult Syncope; (2) Chest Pain; and (3) Pediatric Trauma.

All MS-4's will be scheduled to attend both sessions. A minimum of one session must be attended. Should both sessions be missed, one session must be completed at a later date without interruption of the MS's academic schedule or one of the following Make-Up Assignments should be completed:

- Task Trainers - Read Appendix B from Maradevan Garmel – *Common Emergency Procedures* and write detailed steps of one emergency procedure of your choice.

SIM EM Resident Shadow:

Each MS-4 will be required to attend one Thursday Resident SIM Case as assigned during their Emergency Medicine rotation. This shadowing experience allows the MS-4 to evaluate the day-to-day care in a structured, educational setting broadening their clinical exposure in both common and rare scenarios.

Journal Club

EM Resident Journal Club is held monthly, you will be notified of the date and time. Journal Club is optional but encouraged for those interested in EM. If you wish to attend, ask the Clerkship Coordinator to arrange the schedule accordingly.

Clinical Question Presentation (CQP)

Towards the end of your rotation, each MS-4 is required to attend the assigned CQP date and briefly present to the other students and at least one faculty. This round table style presentation should be based on a clinical question of interest to you that has arisen during the clerkship. Once you have decided on something to investigate, find a primary research article that investigates this problem. You will probably need to review several studies before finding the one you wish to present. Do NOT choose a review article to present. You should discuss the methods and results pointing out strengths and weaknesses of the study and its applicability to patient care. Please identify how you located the article, (PubMed, Google, etc.) why you chose it and why the question the article addresses is important to answer. Print and complete the top portion of your CQP assessment (found in PLF approved on-line system) and present to your faculty for their completion.

For example, if you are curious about the management of children with bronchiolitis, you could discuss an article relevant to the diagnosis of the illness (e.g. a study looking at the utility of CXR in diagnosis) or treatment (e.g. a study looking at outcomes comparing nebulized epinephrine to albuterol). These should be significant studies that are relevant to the clinical practice of emergency medicine. For the study that you will be discussing please upload into PLF approved on-line system at least **24 hours** beforehand. PLF approved on-line system access will be provided to the student in your round table for review and discussion. If you have questions or wish to discuss your ideas beforehand, contact Dr. Parsa. Please review the provided presentation evaluation form for further details on what will be expected. Scores of 4-5 in each category and a final grade of High Pass will be required to be eligible for honors in the course. Each MS-4 will be allotted 15-20 minutes and question/discussion time will be encouraged after each presentation. A brief PowerPoint is required to highlight key article discussion points.

Clinical Evaluations

Clinical evaluations will be based on the form that you will provide to each faculty 30-60 minutes before the end of your shift. The faculty will fill it out and give it back to you to turn in. We require that you turn in all forms. This is our best way of documenting you were present in the ED for your shift. If you are missing a form we will consider that an absence that will require an explanation. If your presence at a shift cannot be confirmed this will be considered a **'no-show'** for the shift. We have asked all faculty members to discuss their evaluation remarks with you personally at the end of each shift. Please bring completed forms each Thursday morning, when you come to morning didactics, and give to the Clerkship

Coordinator.

Final Exam

A final exam is optional and will be taken on the last day of the rotation. It is an NBME shelf examination with 100 multiple choice items recently retired from USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and items developed by the emergency medicine NBME task force. Most item types are 'single-best-answer.' The exam also contains several items in a new format; - i.e., item sets that unfold and challenge you to use your clinical knowledge in problem-solving and managing patients over time. Total time for the exam is 2 hours and 45 minutes; 15 minutes for the tutorial and 2 hours 30 minutes for the exam.

Check-Out Procedures

The *EM Fundamentals* and *An Introduction to Clinical Emergency Medicine* will be returned to **the Clerkship Coordinator's Office** immediately before or after the final exam. Grades will not be submitted if items are not returned.

A rotation Evaluation and at least one Faculty Evaluation will be sent to you by the Office of Curriculum, Evaluation, and Assessment, and must be completed immediately following the final exam. Below are the links which you will receive:

Rotation evaluation: <https://hscsurveys.ttuhsc.edu/inq/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?idx=86UK6F>

Faculty Evaluation: <https://hscsurveys.ttuhsc.edu/inq/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?idx=K7JCK>