

INTRODUCTION

The first and second years of medical education at the Ohio University College of Medicine (OU-COM) are designed to build a foundation of biomedical, social sciences, and osteopathic practices and principles. The six-week Family Medicine Clerkship (OCOM 819) in an ambulatory care setting is designed to ease students' transition to hospital-based training in preparation for Years 3 and 4.

The final phase in OU-COM's pre-doctoral osteopathic medical education consists of 73 weeks of required clinical experience - 53 weeks at the Centers for Osteopathic Research and Education (CORE) and 20 weeks at clinical training sites of a student's choice. Under the supervision of CORE clinical faculty, each assigned service will be based on the learning objectives and curricular guidelines established by the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM).

To optimize the educational experience in Year 3 and 4, students will need to be assertive as well as cooperative in every learning environment. Students are encouraged to be candid and maintain an open exchange of questions, ideas, opinions, and feelings with preceptors, facilitators, peers, CORE staff, and college administration. Student should be able to critically assess their own progress to meet current and future learning needs. In other words, students continue to be responsible for their own learning.

The material presented in the Year 3 and 4 curriculum characterizes the distinctiveness of osteopathic medicine. It emphasizes the osteopathic profession's commitment to the practice of holistic medicine and the basic skills future osteopathic physicians will need to care for patients of all ages. During Years 3 and 4 students should to:

- 1) possess an intrinsic drive to learn independently;
- 2) collaborate with peers and health care professionals in the clinical setting;
- 3) refine the ability to solve clinical problems; and
- 4) actively access and utilize medical informatics.

All of these elements are essential for acquiring the life-long learning skills necessary for practicing osteopathic medicine in the 21st century.

This manual serves as curriculum documentation for the Class of 2007 academic years 2005-2007. It remains the governing document for all students who begin Year 3 in October 2005. Students are responsible for reading and understanding all information contained in the manual and should refer to it as needed throughout Years 3 and 4.

This manual is available on the OU-COM website at <http://www.oucom.ohiou.edu/AcademicAffairs/Yr3-4Manual/2005-2007/index.htm>. Additions or corrections to this website will occur on an ongoing basis, so refer to it whenever appropriate.

Direct all questions pertaining to the Years 3 and 4 clinical education program to the CORE assistant dean, CORE administrator for the base hospital, or contact Judith Edinger, Director of Pre-doctoral Education.