Title of Clerkship: Law and Medicine: Intercollegiate Seminar

Elective Type: Fourth Year Elective

Department: Family Medicine

Clerkship Site: College of Law (COL), UT Main Campus; College of Medicine (COM), UT Health Science Campus

Course Number: FMMD 726

Blocks available: 20

Number of students per block: 12 or permission of instructor

Faculty: Daniel P. Hickey, JD, MBA (COM); Professor Susan R. Martyn (COL)

Elective Description/Requirements: Law and Medicine: Intercollegiate Seminar is an interdisciplinary case-based elective that will provide medical students the opportunity to join with law students to review, analyze, and discuss legal cases, statutes, and articles applying statutory and common law and their affect on healthcare provider behavior. Medical students will learn how to read and interpret legal cases and will develop an understanding of the academic and practice perspective differences of the medical and legal disciplines. Sample seminar topics: informed consent and death, dying, and decisionmaking. 

NOTE – February 2013 seminar topics are: 1) introduction to medical malpractice, including a demonstration of physician expert testimony and cross examination; and, 2) in-depth study of informed consent, including legal cases, state statutes, and law journal and medical journal commentary.

Students will be required to 1) attend and actively participate in class sessions at the COL and clinical/instructional experiences on the Health Science Campus; and, 2) complete oral and written assignments (e.g., case briefs, reflective papers, presentations).

Length of Clerkship: 4 weeks

Links to EPOs

Educational Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this elective, students should be able to:

K10, K15 1. Discuss the historical development of a specific topic of law.
K10, K15 2. Review, analyze, and discuss legal cases, statutes, and articles focused on a specific topic of law.
K10, K15, S1 3. Brief a legal case addressing a specific topic of law.

Professionalism: UT/COM students will meet or exceed the institutional standards for professionalism as stated in the current Educational Program Objectives and the current Educational Course Objectives for the Department of Family Medicine.

Instructional Methods:

1. Lecture
2. Case studies
3. Case presentations/discussions
4. Case write-ups
5. Independent study

Evaluation methods employed: (please make selection from CurrMIT list)

1. Case presentation
2. Case write-up
3. Reflective paper
4. Narrative
5. Professionalism assessments
6. Attendance

Prerequisites: Completion of required clerkships

Clerkship Director: Daniel P. Hickey, JD, MBA

Clerkship Coordinator: Maggie Lienhardt

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Special Requirements: None


(please make selection from attached Hot Topic list)