

**Title of Clerkship:** Mastering the Biomedical Literature: Skill Sets for the Virtual Environment

**Elective Type:** Fourth-Year Elective

**Department:** Mulford Health Science Library

**Clerkship Site:** Mulford Health Science Library, University of Toledo Health Science Campus

**Course Number:** COMP 702

**Blocks available:** 20A (February 3-16), 21B (March 17-28), and 22B (April 21-May 4)

**Number of students per block:** 10 or permission of course director

**Faculty:** Bridget Faricy-Beredo, RN, MLS; Jodi Jameson, MLIS; Jolene Miller, MLS; Gerald Natal, MLIS; Marlene Porter, MLn

**Elective Description/ Requirements:** Because of the increasing volume of available information and increasingly busy schedules, practitioners requires a high degree of skill in identifying and obtaining relevant information for clinical practice, research, and life-long learning. This elective is designed to equip students with core information management skills in support of clinical decision-making and evidence-based health care. The elective meets for two weeks, with approximately 10-12 contact hours each week, with an additional 2-4 hours of work required outside of scheduled class time.

Students are expected (1) to participate fully in class discussion and activities; (2) to raise questions about issues which are confusing to them; (3) complete in-class assignments and present search strategies and findings for feedback; (4) to make use of time outside of class to practice the skills learned in class; and (5) to demonstrate knowledge and skills through the completion of in-class assignments and a final oral presentation.

**Length of Clerkship:** 2 weeks

**Links to EPOs:**

P3	<b>Educational Course Objectives (ECOs):</b> 1. Analyze an information need by identifying the current level of knowledge, the desired level of knowledge, and the type of information needed to reach the desired level of knowledge, including finding information for patients and their families.
S11	2. Compare and contrast the type of information found in each class of resources and to select sources based on the information need.
S11	3. Develop and execute search strategies in a variety of online resources (PubMed, Internet, etc.) that will effectively and efficiently produce precise search results.
S1	4. Identify and use resources in support of presentation and publication, such as Instructions to Authors, bibliographic management software (EndNote), journal impact factors, and presentation software (PowerPoint).
S11	5. Describe the process of evidence-based medicine and why some types of articles provide stronger evidence than others, and to use EBM resources such as the Cochrane Library and the PubMed's Clinical Queries feature.
S11	6. Describe issues influencing information retrieval and use, including the structure of the scientific literature, legal and ethical issues (copyright), quality filtering, and open-access publishing.
S11	7. Develop a personal information management plan to keep on top of the literature in a specialty using web tools such as emailed table of contents, My NCBI, RSS feeds, Google Readers, etc.

S1

8. Demonstrate personal understanding of issues and application of skills through a final oral presentation.

**Professionalism:** UT/COM students will meet or exceed the institutional standards for professionalism as stated in the current Educational Program Objectives, particularly with respect to professionalism in interactions with instructors and classmates, as well as punctuality and attentiveness.

**Instructional Methods:**

- Lecture
- Demonstration
- Group discussion
- Hands-on practice

**Evaluation methods employed:**

- In-class assignments
- Quiz
- Final oral presentation
- Participation in class activities and discussions
- Attendance
- Professionalism assessment

**Prerequisites:** None  
**Clerkship Director:** Bridget Faricy-Beredo, RN, MLS  
**Clerkship Coordinator:** Bridget Faricy-Beredo, RN, MLS  
**Phone Number:** 419.383.4212  
**Email:** [bridget.faricy-beredo@utoledo.edu](mailto:bridget.faricy-beredo@utoledo.edu)  
**Special Requirements:** none  
**AAMC Hot Topics Addressed in this Elective Clerkship:**

- Evidence-based medicine
- Patient health information
- Research methods
- Medical informatics