YEARS 1 & 2 ELECTIVE COURSE

TITLE: Casos en Español

COURSE NO.: SOMN 726

DEPARTMENT: Medical Microbiology and Immunology

DURATION: 1 semester

DIRECTOR: Isabel Novella

SEMESTERS AVAILABLE: Fall and Spring

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 12/group

LOCATION: Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology

FACULTY: Isabel Novella and Viviana Ferreira

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Language skills are lost if not used. This course aims at providing students with sufficient knowledge of Spanish (see requirements) with an opportunity to keep and improve language and communications skills. The course will include a variety of simulated case presentations with particular emphasis on diseases, environmental factors or cultural components that are more likely to be found in patients of Hispanic origin.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

- Introductory presentation
- Patient simulations

The course will include eight sessions of 1.5 hours/session that will take place every two weeks. The first session is mandatory and will include an introductory lecture. The remaining time, faculty will engage in role-playing with the students.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the manner in which people of diverse cultures and belief systems perceive health and illness and respond to symptoms, diseases and treatments (EPO K12).
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the important non-biological determinants of poor health and of the economic, psychological, social and cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of disease (EPO K13).
3. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients, patients’ families, colleagues, and others with whom physicians must exchange information in carrying out their responsibilities. (EPO S1)
4. Demonstrate ethical, responsible, reliable, and dependable behavior in all aspects of their professional lives and a commitment to patients, society and the profession. (EPO P1)
5. Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, patients’ families, colleagues, and others with whom students interact in their professional lives. (EPO P2)
6. Demonstrate awareness of the physician’s role in providing health care for members of traditionally underserved populations and of their responsibility to provide care to patients who are unable to pay. (EPO P6)
7. Demonstrate knowledge of, and respect for, the roles of other health-care professionals, and of the need to collaborate with others in caring for individual patients and in promoting the health of defined populations. (EPO P7)

METHODS OF TEACHING:
Students will be requested to interview and pretend to examine faculty presenting with simulated diseases.

METHODS OF EVALUATION AND STUDENT FEEDBACK:
Students’ evaluations will be satisfactory/unsatisfactory and include two components: (1) Participation: Attendance to seven of the eight sessions, including the introductory class, will be required for a satisfactory grade. To ensure sufficient participation from each student, the students will take turns during each interview. (2) Exam: Students will be provided on the first day with a take-home exam that they need to turn in by the end of the last class. A minimum of 50% correct answers will be required for a satisfactory grade.

Students will be provided with course feedback forms requesting comments and suggestions for the course.

PREREQUISITES: A PASS in Medical Spanish (SOMN 610) or previous college-level Spanish.