Psychiatry

Through participation of the Department of Psychiatry in the interdisciplinary clinical process course, first-year students are introduced via formal presentations and follow-up small-group discussions to the following relevant topics: the medical interview; the disturbed family; death, dying and loss; childhood growth and development; human sexuality; aging; addiction; anxiety; depression; and psychosis. Clinical training includes supervised experience in the treatment of hospitalized patients and clinic outpatients, using chemotherapy, other somatic treatments, interview techniques demonstrated in regularly held seminars using videotaped case material, and in weekly case conferences. The clerkship offers a thorough didactic review of such topics as psychopharmacology, child development and psychopathology, all major psychiatric syndromes, drug abuse and alcoholism, human sexuality and sexual dysfunction, and consultative psychiatric services.

PYCH 911. Child Psychiatry. 4 Hours.
Normal and abnormal growth and development. Clinical assessment of children and early adolescents. Interview and play therapy. Family counseling. Group work with parents. Offered in modules I-XII. Prerequisite: PYCH 955. FLD.

PYCH 912. Emergency Psychiatry. 4 Hours.
Exposure to patients with acute psychiatric disturbances. Students will learn how to assess psychiatric emergencies and provide initial treatment. The course involves exposure to community resources, multidisciplinary treatment and interaction with law enforcement and the court system. Clinical experience working with physicians caring for patients in the Emergency Department. Readings in emergency patient care and discussions with the attending physician are part of the course. Patient contact with patients in the Crisis Stabilization Center of the Emergency Department. Prerequisite: PYCH 955. LEC.

PYCH 914. Psychiatry in Medicine and Surgery. 4 Hours.
Experience with psychiatric consultations to the medicine and surgery services. Evaluation of psychiatric problems in medical and surgical inpatients. Students will demonstrate effective interview technique and explain the basis for diagnosis and management. Supervisors will evaluate clinical skills. Offered in modules I-XII. Prerequisite: PYCH 955. FLD.

PYCH 916. Introduction to Psychotherapy. 4 Hours.
The focus is to provide medical students an introduction to the fields of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology. The goal is to strengthen foundational medical knowledge with complimentary education in the behavioral sciences as they relate to psychiatric practice. The student will engage in the following activities: individual and group psychotherapy sessions in outpatient and inpatient settings (e.g., outpatient psychotherapy clinic, inpatient psychiatry, consultation-liaison). These psychotherapy experiences will include cognitive-behavioral (and related) treatments for a range of psychiatric disorders (e.g., mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, substance use disorders, schizophrenia-spectrum disorders) in patients across a continuum of functional strata and comorbidity (e.g., psychiatric and medical comorbidities). The student will deliver counseling and psychotherapy interventions (under supervision) in these contexts to address treatment goals (e.g., suicide prevention/safety planning, substance abuse counseling, development of coping skills, treatment planning) while working with a multidisciplinary team. The student will receive exposure and practice to psychometric assessment (e.g., cognitive assessment, psychodiagnostic assessment) in the context of psychiatric practice. At completion, the student will have received a broad comprehensive introduction to the more commonly used approaches to psychological assessment, and clinical health psychology. Prerequisite: PYCH 900. LEC.

PYCH 918. Inpatient Psychiatry. 4 Hours.
Advanced full-time experience in hospital treatment. Includes training in individual and milieu therapy, chemotherapy, etc. The student will function as a first-year resident insofar as the student is able to assume the required responsibilities of that position. Students electing this module will be evaluated by faculty supervisors on the basis of their clinical performance and the growth of their fund of psychiatric knowledge during the module. Offered in modules I-XII. Prerequisite: PYCH 955. FLD.

PYCH 920. Research in Psychiatry. 4 Hours.
An approved psychiatric research project in an area of special interest to the student may be undertaken with the individual supervision of a faculty member within the sphere of whose own professional interests the student's topic of study lies. This elective experience will include the writing of a paper or presentation of a seminar reporting on the student's investigation and findings. Offered in modules I-XII. Prerequisite: PYCH 900. IND.