Pathology

PALO 976. Introduction to Clinical Pathology - St. Joseph. 4-6 Hours.
This elective serves to enhance the student's awareness of the role of the clinical laboratory in patient management. At the end of the elective, the student will be able to: 1) Describe the general methodology, interpretation and clinical implication of commonly ordered laboratory tests, 2) Suggest a planned approach to laboratory test, when given a patient's problem. An effort will be made to tailor the elective experience to the needs and interests of the individual student. If no specific interests are identified, a general elective will be arranged consisting of short rotations in the several clinical laboratory sections under the tutelage of supervisors, instructors, and pathologists. In each section, the student will observe testing procedures and may perform selected analyses at the discretion of the supervisor. Details of methodology will not be stressed, rather the emphasis will be on general principles, sampling, and interpretation. The student will attend daily departmental gross anatomic pathology conferences and didactic presentations in both anatomic and clinical pathology. The student will be encouraged, but not required to attend extra departmental conferences, such as the daily family practice noon conference. (Observation and participation in autopsies is also optional, but encouraged. The student may choose to spend time in surgical pathology or cytopathology.) The student will be required to make a formal presentation during the last week of the elective. This may consist of a case presentation with discussion of pertinent laboratory findings or the student may elect to present an analysis of a particular laboratory testing procedure, theory, or problem. Evaluation will be based upon the student's knowledge, acquisition, interest, and participation.
Prerequisite: Medical Basic Sciences. CLN.

PALO 980. Introduction to Forensic Pathology. 2-4 Hours.
The student will understand and be able to describe orally, the basic principles of the medicolegal autopsy through observation of postmortem dissections and assisting the forensic pathologist. The student will learn the principles of death scene investigation. The student will appreciate the importance of toxicology in the correct determination of cause and manner of death through the interpretation of toxicology reports and consultations with the chief forensic toxicologist. The student will understand the role of physical evidence collected at the scene and autopsy as it pertains to the determination of cause and manner of death. The student will be assigned to the autopsy suite and will be supervised by the on-duty designated forensic pathologist. As time permits the student will accompany the coroner or deputy coroner to court to observe trial testimony. Students will be evaluated according to the objectives listed above. Prerequisite: Medical Basic sciences. CLN.