Physician Assistant Studies

Chair and Program Director: Papa, J.

Associate Directors: Phelps (Pocatello Campus), Sparrell (Caldwell Campus)

Medical Directors: Anstett, D'Souza, McClusky

Professor: Phelps

Associate Professor: Sierra

Clinical Associate Professor: Martin, Papa

Clinical Assistant Professors: Bunde, Bunnage, Forbes, Hall, Johnson, Smith, Talford, Whitaker

Director of Clinical Site Development: Allen

Program Description | Type | Degree
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Master of Physician Assistant Studies (http://coursecat.isu.edu/graduate/college-of-health/physicianassistantstudies/mpas/) | Degree | MPAS

Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS)

Physician Assistants (PAs) are highly skilled health practitioners who work alongside collaborating physicians to provide patient care services. PAs take complete medical histories, perform physical examinations, order and interpret diagnostic studies, such as laboratory tests and x-rays, and diagnose and treat patients. Physician Assistants improve the accessibility of health care of under-served individuals in both urban and rural settings. The Physician Assistant Program at Idaho State University is the only PA Program in the State of Idaho.

isu.edu/pa

The Program

The Physician Assistant (PA) Program at Idaho State University awards the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) degree and a PA certificate upon completion of its 24 month graduate curriculum. A class of 72 students is enrolled each fall semester with 24 seats located at the Pocatello campus, 36 seats located at the Meridian campus, and 12 seats located at the College of Idaho campus in Caldwell.

Learning Outcomes (https://isu.edu/pa/curriculum/) for didactic and clinical coursework may be found at isu.edu/pa/curriculum/ (https://isu.edu/pa/curriculum/)

The program maintains continued accreditation by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc., (ARC-PA). Graduates of the program are eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination (PANCE), which is administered by the National Commission for Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).

Vision & Mission

Idaho State University Department of Physician Assistant Studies strives to create a culture conducive to optimal teaching and learning that is responsive to emerging healthcare challenges and inspires leadership in the profession.

The mission of the Idaho State Physician Assistant Program is to cultivate caring, collaborative physician assistants with a passion to serve and improve the health and well-being of patients and their communities.

Training medical professionals who care.

Courses

PAS 5589 Individual Problems in PAS: 1-3 semester hours.
Assigned on the basis of interest, preparation, and faculty availability. Participation in this course in no way influences opportunity to be accepted into the PA Program. May be repeated for up to 3 credits. PREREQ: Approval of PA Director.

PAS 5599 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.
The content of this course is not described in the catalog. Title and number of credits are announced in the Class Schedule. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times with the same title and content. May be repeated.

PAS 6601 Introduction to Physician Assistant: 7 semester hours.
Provides an introduction to the physician assistant profession, health promotion/disease prevention, medical ethics, medical imaging, laboratory medicine, and medical decision-making.

PAS 6602 Evidence-Based Medicine and Biostatistics: 3 semester hours.
Emphasizes use of current research evidence in medical decision-making, a practice known as evidence-based medicine. Topics include critical analysis of the medical literature, biostatistics, and application of EBM to patient care.

PAS 6603 Clinical Assessment: 6 semester hours.
Provides an introduction to medical interviewing and techniques for performing and recording a complete medical history and physical examination.

PAS 6604 Pharmacology: 2 semester hours.
An introduction to foundational concepts of therapeutic pharmacology, with emphasis on pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

PAS 6629 Allergy/Immunology, Head/Ear/Nose/Throat, Ophthalmology: 4 semester hours.
This course, along with others, has been integrated by the program as a whole in order to present a comprehensive medical education to the PA student with the goal of presenting all NCCPA blueprint material in addition to other information we feel is important. This integration helps students achieve a broad competence so that they graduate with the ability to provide a wide range of care to patients. This approach is in keeping with our mission of preparing competent and ethical PAs who provide high quality primary care to underserved populations. Additionally, it accomplishes the mission of ISU as a designated educator of health professions in Idaho. This module's scope encompasses Allergy/Immunology, Head/Eye/Ear/Nose/Throat (HEENT), and Ophthalmology. It covers allergies and immunodeficiency and autoimmune disorders (in general terms) as well as transplantation. It goes over laboratory and allergy testing concepts and the pathophysiology of allergy. It delves into ENT medical conditions that may be faced by a physician assistant in general practice or in the emergency room. It deals with physical exam skills specific to the head, ears, eyes, nose, throat and neck. It addresses ophthalmologic conditions specific to the eye as well as systemic conditions affecting the eye along with emergent problems and the appropriate care. Anatomy, physiology of the HEENT and neck will be covered. Therapeutics of the HEENT system are also covered along with allergy/immunology.

PAS 6631 Infectious Disease Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.
PAS 6632 Hematology and Oncology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6633 Endocrinology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6634 Renal Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6635 Pulmonary Module: 3 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6636 Cardiology Module: 4 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6637 Gastroenterology Module: 4 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6638 Dermatology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6639 Neuroradiology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6640 Rheumatology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6641 Orthopedics Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6642 Psychiatry Module: 3 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6643 Genitourinary Module: 4 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

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PAS 6638 Dermatology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

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PAS 6640 Rheumatology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6641 Orthopedics Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6642 Psychiatry Module: 3 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6643 Genitourinary Module: 4 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6646 Neurology Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6647 Human Sexuality Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6648 Womens Health Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6649 Men's Health and Urology Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6650 Obstetrics and Perinatology Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6651 Pediatrics Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6652 Geriatrics Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6653 Surgery Module: 2 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6654 Emergency Medicine Module: 8 semester hours.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6656 Alternative and Occupational Medicine Module: 1 semester hour.
Lectures, laboratory practicum, problem-based learning, small group discussions, research methods, evidence-based medicine, and service learning are integrated to provide an immersion experience in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases commonly encountered in primary care medicine. May be graded S/U.

PAS 6657 Comprehensive Evaluation: 1 semester hour.
An end-of-didactic-year comprehensive evaluation of the physician assistant student's knowledge, skills, abilities, and professional behavior. The student must receive a grade of satisfactory in order to progress to the clinical year of the program.
PAS 6660 Clinical Rotation I: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in medical practice settings. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6661 Clinical Rotation II: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6662 Clinical Rotation III: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6663 Clinical Rotation IV: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6664 Clinical Rotation V: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6665 Clinical Rotation VI: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6666 Clinical Rotation VII: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6667 Clinical Rotation VIII: 4 semester hours.
Supervised clinical practicum in primary care or specialty care in medical practice settings. May also include assignments and objective examinations. Graded by letter grades. PREREQ: Successful completion of all PAS didactic year requirements.

PAS 6671 Capstone Assessment I: 2 semester hours.
There are three Capstone Assessment courses in the second year of the PA program. Together they represent a comprehensive assessment of the students. Capstone Assessment I course is the first one in the series and may include assignments and/or objective examinations. Additionally, students are required to complete a project under the direction of the PA program faculty. This project will consist of the development of an evidence-based case concept vignette presentation, development of a public health-based education, primary research or other project under direction of their graduate advisor. PREREQ: PAS 6657.

PAS 6672 Capstone Assessment II: 1 semester hour.
Capstone Assessment II is the second course in the Capstone series. Under the guidance of PA program faculty, students develop an evidence-based case presentation, public health education project or original research in health care. Evaluating and integrating input from fellow students and PA faculty, they refine the presentation initially created in Capstone I. Students present their project to a graduate faculty committee, followed by an oral examination.

PAS 6673 Capstone Assessment III: 1 semester hour.
There are three Capstone Assessment courses in the second year of the PA program. Together they represent a comprehensive assessment of the students. The Capstone Assessment III course is the third one in the series and students are required to study for and pass multiple objective examinations.

PAS 6689 Graduate Special Topics: 1-4 semester hours.
Special topics in specific areas of physician assistant studies which may include didactic and/or clinical studies. May be repeated up to 14 credits.

PAS 6699 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.
The content of this course is not described in the catalog. Title and number of credits are announced in the Class Schedule. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times with the same title and content. May be repeated.