

FLEXIBLE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE COURSE (FCE)

Updated April 2022

This course embodies the spirit of the LInC curriculum, by expanding the opportunity for individual exploration in a variety of clinical and translational science fields, early in the students' career. The course curriculum allows for self-directed learning by allowing students to either choose from a diverse offering of [pre-designed electives](#) or to [design their own](#) week-long experience. The advantages of early exposure to a medical specialty include the opportunity to foster mentorships, to nurture and develop interest in the specialty and to provide intrinsic motivation to pursue further learning in the chosen field(s). These experiences may also help to explore a career choice.

In this multidisciplinary learning program, following a broad set of guidelines, students learn in a variety of methods depending on the experience they choose. Experiences emphasize one-on-one interaction between student and teacher. Criteria for granting credit are experience-specific minimum standards of performance as laid down by sponsoring departments.

By the completion of the Flexible Clinical Experience course, the learner will be able to:

- allow for **career exploration** and or development
- allow **exposure to evolving and cutting-edge** branches of medicine
- provide an **opportunity to work with recognized experts** in different fields of medicine and allied sciences
- provide **exposure to novel concepts or systems of care** not normally available within the core clinical experience
- allow for **student designed innovative experiences** within the guidelines for this elective

The methods employed include working in the inpatient and outpatient settings under supervision of physicians, oral and written case presentations, and education in specialized testing procedures used in the specialty. Attendance of lectures and seminars specific to the experience is required. Non-clinical experiences involve practical hands-on learning under the supervision of the sponsoring expert, based on the objectives and competencies as outlined in the specific selective description. Conference attendance requires the student to submit a copy of the paper or oral presentation along with a conference schedule and attendance at conference sessions to qualify for credit. Self-directed learning is an integral aspect of this course. For student designed experiences, the sponsor is required to identify the objectives of the experiences with a brief description of how these will be met along with the competencies addressed by the experience. Other methods employed include journal keeping for international experiences, community health and service experiences, or project reports for research experiences.

Student assessment methods are appropriate to specific experiences to determine credit or no credit, with optional narrative on Medical School Performance Evaluation (MSPE). Criteria for granting credit are attendance, effort, and achievement of minimum standards of performance as laid down by the sponsoring department. Summative evaluation will be provided to each student by the sponsoring faculty or person. Formative feedback by all members of the sponsoring team and the student is required.