

ENRICHMENT ELECTIVE (ELEC)

Courses

ELEC 4077. Wilderness Medicine Enrichment Elective. Credit Hours.

The curriculum consists of lectures, hands-on scenarios and case-based learning. Students will work as a team to care for patients in the backcountry. All scenarios will conclude with a debriefing by the faculty. Lecture content will include an introduction to Wilderness Medicine and medical content topics including tick bites, hyperthermia, hypothermia and infectious diarrhea, splinting, envenomations, lightning injuries and animal bites. Other educational activities will include safe water procurement, map utilization, patient extrication from the wilderness and basic camping skills. The scenarios will consist of role playing by participating faculty and will include different cases encountered in the wilderness. The medical students will work together as a team to find, care for and extricate the patient as necessary. During the three-day trip we will spontaneously role play during other wilderness activities such as hiking, building a fire or even during a lecture. Patients become ill at any point and we try to maintain some element of surprise with the scenarios. Students will be evaluated on their participation in group-based scenarios and a short quiz administered at the conclusion of the course. This is an enrichment elective and "credit" will be given to the students who showed active participation in the learning sessions.

ELEC 5004. Surgical Oncology Service. Credit Hours.

Purpose and objective of this elective is to expose the student to the current and multi-modal approach in the diagnosis and management of cancer. Students will observe and monitor all activities directed to the workup, treatment, and follow-up of patients with cancer. Students will have the chance to observe and participate in the different surgical procedures, specifically those related to the treatment of cancer. He or she will be introduced to and familiarized with the principles and concepts of adjuvant chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and hormonal therapy before and after surgical treatment of different diseases. They will also have the opportunity to observe and partake in the different activities in the conduct of clinical trials as sponsored by the different national cooperative groups, i.e. the Southwest Oncology Group and the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Program. The students will learn the necessity for establishing different protocols in the quest for a greater understanding and improvement in the management of malignant diseases and will participate in the discussion of problems related to cancer patient care during rounds and more didactic teachings during Grand Rounds and the regular conferences of the service. Upon completion of this elective, students will have a fairly significant introduction and familiarization into clinical surgical oncology.

ELEC 5006. Beginning Medical Spanish. Credit Hours.

This is not a Spanish language course, per se, but is designed to teach medical students how to perform specific tasks in Spanish. As such, there is no specific Spanish prerequisite to enroll in this course. Students who are interested in acquiring Spanish language in general are invited to enroll in a traditional Spanish course.

ELEC 5022. History Of Anatomy. Credit Hours.

This course is designed to acquaint medical, dental and graduate students with the history of medicine and especially with the physicians and scientists who made essential discoveries in human anatomy. Using a biographical approach, the course is presented as a seminar with lectures, assigned readings and student presentations.

ELEC 5023. Sports Medicine Perspectives. Credit Hours.

Course will expose students to the clinical practice of orthopaedic sports medicine. This includes exposure to high school, collegiate and professional sports. Emphasis will be on injury evaluation, prevention and treatment. Sports may include football, basketball, track and field, baseball, soccer, gymnastics and water sports.

ELEC 5027. Family Violence Education. Credit Hours.

The course will analyze the dynamics of family violence, including the statistics, myths, types of abuse, characteristics of battered persons, the effect of violence on children, characteristics of batterers, treatment programs, the skills needed for intervention and the responsibilities of the medical profession, the legal profession and law enforcement in family violence.

ELEC 5029. Environmental Medicine/Border Health. Credit Hours.

The South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) program gives participants the opportunity to learn about environmental and public health using an in vivo approach "Show, don't tell". During this month-long elective, participants learn about indoor and outdoor air quality, wastewater treatment, food sanitation, heavy metals, pesticides, international health programs, risk management, epidemiology, and zoonosis control, focusing on border health concerns. Participants will learn from local experts about water pollution, tuberculosis, dengue fever, rabies and traditional health practices such as consulting folk healers. This elective is taught in Laredo, Texas. Participants receive free housing and free transportation to and from activities. This opportunity is open to medical students, residents, nursing students, public health students and health care professionals.

ELEC 5030. Advanced Neuroanatomy. Credit Hours.

This enrichment selective is intended to reinforce basic principles learned in Medical Neuroscience and to explore in greater depth current research and thought in neuroanatomy. Clinical relevance will also be stressed whenever applicable. The instructor will meet with the student(s) 2-3 hours per week for 4 weeks. A 20-page library research paper is also required. The course will be subdivided into the following components - 1) Essential Concepts - Cell Biology of Neurons & Glia, Electrochemical Basis of Neuronal Integration, Development of the Nervous System & Its Disorders; 2) Regional Neuroanatomy- Ventricles and Meninges, Cerebrovascular System, Spinal Cord, and Brainstem Anatomy; 3) Systems Neurobiology - Somatosensory System Chemosenses, Special Senses, Motor System, Extrapyramidal System, Cerebellum, Limbic System; and 4) Homeostatic Mechanisms.

ELEC 5031. Introduction To Emergency Medicine. Credit Hours.

Students will be exposed to clinical emergency medicine in an extracurricular setting by working with assigned preceptors in the University Hospital Emergency Department (with the possible addition of BAMC ED or a community ED experience, including toxicology experience). Students will learn about the specialty of Emergency Medicine and its subspecialties. Students will also receive lectures on core emergency medicine topics and attend case presentations.

ELEC 5032. Interdisciplinary Issues & Approaches to Death & Dying. Credit Hours.

The course provides an opportunity to explore issues and interdisciplinary approaches related to death and dying at both the personal and professional levels. Emphasis is placed on the positive and necessary values of compassion, listening and tolerance for varied beliefs. The course encourages participants to engage in constructive critical analysis through self-discovery about death and dying. Areas for discussion include: values clarification, definitions of death, stages of dying, emotions surrounding loss, survivorship, ethical and legal components of death, and transcultural aspects related to death and dying. Communication will be presented as a primary intervention method in dealing with death related issues. Critical analysis of a variety of situations will be stressed as an integral part of the interdisciplinary approach in determining appropriate therapeutic interventions.

ELEC 5036. Let Your Life Speak: Authentic Decision-Making For Your Medical School Career. Credit Hours.

This course is designed to give students in their first or second year of medical school a unique opportunity to evaluate their personal decision-making process. The course will provide a forum for learning and dialoguing with other students about the various factors from a student's history and present circumstances that impact how the student makes decisions. Questions like, "How will I choose a specialty?" and "How will I maintain my passion for medicine?" will be addressed as the anatomy of the decision-making process is considered. Class will be held in a guided group discussion format with each student also receiving a one-hour personal coaching session with the instructor during the semester.

ELEC 5038. Literature and Medicine 1. Credit Hours.

An elective for second- and fourth-year students, the purpose of the course is for students to use their readings as a tool to prepare for and process their clinical experiences, and to approach their development as people and as physicians. The course also will allow students to interact with other second- and fourth-year students and faculty in a venue that is open and informal. Most of the course will take place on the Web via Blackboard. After each reading block, there will an evening meeting to discuss the story and/or poem. Students will be expected to read the assignments and attend as many of the evening meetings as possible. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available Basis.

ELEC 5039. Literature and Medicine 2. Credit Hours.

An elective for second- and fourth-year students, the purpose of the course is for students to use their readings as a tool to prepare for and process their clinical experiences, and to approach their development as people and as physicians. The course also will allow students to interact with other second- and fourth-year students and faculty in a venue that is open and informal. Most of the course will take place on the Web via Blackboard. After each reading block, there will an evening meeting to discuss the novel and/or poem. Students will be expected to read the assignments and attend as many of the evening meetings as possible.

ELEC 5040. Trauma Enrichment Elective. Credit Hours.

This course is designed to give first- and second-year medical students an introduction to the exciting field of trauma and trauma surgery. It will offer students the opportunity to observe how attendings, medical residents, medical students, and hospital staff work towards caring for patients who suffer from traumatic injury. Students may also have the opportunity to observe the surgeries if approved by the attending on duty.

ELEC 5041. Homelessness, Addiction, & How To Better Care For Patients. Credit Hours.

The goals and objectives of this course are to increase awareness about homelessness and addiction and how they relate to healthcare; to prepare first- and second-year students for working at student-run clinics; and encourage student teaching within all four years of medical school. This a student-run courses, led by MS4 students in the Humanism fellowship, for MS1 and MS2 students with a special interest in learning about issues of homelessness and addiction, and how these relate to the provision of healthcare.

ELEC 5042. Enrichment Elective In Ethics. Credit Hours.

In this longitudinal course, students will be required to undertake an independent study into a specific issue in medical ethics or medical humanities. Students will be required to read on research methods in medical ethics as well as literature in their issue of interest, and then to propose and conduct an original study project, a literature review, a position paper, or an ethical analysis of a particular topic or case. Students will be expected to write an academically rigorous final research report of 10 to 15 pages. Students will be encouraged to produce a final paper that can be submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed bioethics or medical humanities journal. Students will be required to meet with the instructor and/or chosen faculty advisor over the course for assistance, guidance, and discussion.

ELEC 5043. Public Health And The Physician. Credit Hours.

The purpose of this course is to provide a basic understanding of some of the important health issues faced by modern physicians. Each hour of this survey course covers a different public health topic. Half of the class hours will be discussion and education on reading assignments of public health topics. Guest speakers from the university and San Antonio will complement lecture and discussion.

ELEC 5044. Enrichment Elective In Interprofessional Community Service Learning. Credit Hours.

This innovative inter-professional community service learning (CSL) course, offered in partnership with the UT School of Pharmacy, PHR 270S, to allow medical students to integrate meaningful community service with instruction, preparation, and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Students will have the opportunity to examine social justice and social determinant of health issues and apply these principles in a structured service learning practicum. The student-led service learning project will address the social and health needs of a community partner and will be conducted with a partner agency in a culturally competent manner. Through online learning modules, readings and discussion; monthly class sessions; a group service learning project; and a structured service learning practicum, this course combines community service with preparation and reflection to help foster civic responsibility in the health professions. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available Basis.

ELEC 5047. Global Health Enrichment Elective. Credit Hours.

The course is a longitudinal enrichment elective for first- and second-year medical students who are planning to pursue global health experiences during winter, spring, or summer breaks. This elective will utilize a community-service learning module, in which preparation, mentorship, evaluation, reflection, and reporting are essential in meeting the expressed need of a particular community. The elective will provide an opportunity to learn a foundation of practical knowledge in global health and to optimize the students' overseas experiences, maximize the safety of their travel, facilitate their adaptation to working in different cultural settings, and maximize their impact in communities where they serve. Course material will be presented through a variety of approaches, including lectures, small-group case discussions, laboratory sessions, practical workshops, and online learning modules. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available Basis.

ELEC 5048. Enrichment Elective in Art. Credit Hours.

This is an interactive, interprofessional course that takes students to the McNay Art Museum to learn physical observation skills. Studies demonstrate that increased observational skills translate to improved physical examination skills. Using artwork as patients, students will have the opportunity to learn how to observe details and how to interpret images based on available evidence. Taught jointly by Health Science Center faculty and McNay museum educators, students will have the opportunity to develop and hone their observation, problem solving, and assessment skills. They will also observe, interpret, and give case reports on the original works of art to teach them the skill of verbalizing descriptions of what is seen, and not to accept assumptions made with a first impression. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available Basis.

ELEC 5049. Health, Human Rights and the Physician. Credit Hours.

This is a survey course in which each hour covers a different Health and Human Rights topic. The course is designed to present an understanding of what are human rights and what human rights issues are relevant to the practice of medicine and delivery of appropriate healthcare. Students will have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the ever increasingly apparent global problems that exist. This course aims to better equip students to address these relevant health and human rights issues as future physicians.

ELEC 5051. Applied Neuroanatomy. Credit Hours.

This course is aimed at students and faculty who are interested in understanding applied neurosensory pathways. The purpose of the course is to reinforce the neurosensory material in the MSI Neuroanatomy course by applying the material to real world situations via interactive activities and clinical vignettes. Additionally, this course would allow students to use different types of art media to express themselves as they learn the material through different types of art media. The course content and schedule is constructed to correspond with the material and schedule of the MSI Neuroanatomy course. This elective will explore four neurosensory modalities: proprioception/balance, vision, auditory and taste/olfaction. Each modality will be covered in one two-hour class session that will be comprised of a lecture component and its corresponding laboratory component. The course will be open to 15 students.

ELEC 5052. Healthcare Practice and The Business Of Medicine. Credit Hours.

This elective will complement the spring Health Care Reform Forum, which focuses in-depth on issues related to the cost of care and healthcare forum, primary care and access, and graduate medical education.

ELEC 5053. Healthcare Reform Forum. Credit Hours.

The Healthcare Reform Forum is a springtime introductory-level elective on topics related to healthcare reform. The elective consists of a series of scheduled discussions on current topics in healthcare policy.

ELEC 5054. Introduction to Culinary Nutrition. Credit Hours.

Introduction to Culinary Nutrition is a medical student enrichment elective that provides the foundation for learning the principles of culinary nutrition and its role in optimizing health and wellness for the physician as a healer as well as encouraging physicians to serve as role models and educators of their patients. Intro to Culinary Nutrition is an enrichment elective, set in a state of the art kitchen theater in a downtown Culinary Academy and is taught by chefs trained in culinary nutrition and facilitated by your peers who have successfully completed the course and faculty dedicated to the practical application of nutrition in physician and patient wellness. The culinary medicine elective is a series of eight dynamic hands-on cooking experiences and will meet on various afternoons throughout each semester. Patterned after Tulane University School of Medicine's groundbreaking course, the elective aims to teach medical students about nutrition in a new way through one-on-one coaching and interactive cooking so that they can embrace a healthy lifestyle themselves while helping their patients and peers to do the same.

ELEC 5055. Issues in Women's Healthcare. Credit Hours.

A comprehensive introduction to Women's Health, with an emphasis on topics that are not covered in preclinical curriculum. This course is an enriching supplement to medical school education. It will empower future doctors in any specialty to consider female patients in the context of their unique body processes, and potentially catch symptoms of various health problems early. Lectures will be given throughout the semester. Faculty and local experts in the fields under discussion will be our guest lecturers.

ELEC 5057. Global Health Longitudinal Elective. Credit Hours.

Student demand to learn about global health and participate in global health service learning at the School of Medicine continues to grow every year. To date, the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics has met this demand successfully. However, students who complete the Longitudinal Global Health elective (ELEC 5047) in their first year are now requesting the opportunity to continue their education in global health and engagement with global health service learning. These experienced students play an important role on subsequent trips as they serve as peer mentors and trip coordinators, improving the overall quality of the services our teams provide abroad. As a result, we are requesting the creation of a new Global Health Longitudinal Elective, specifically for second year medical students who have previously completed ELEC 5047. The Center has set a precedent for offering another elective course for students wishing to participate in the Literature in Medicine course a second time, by offering the course to both second year (ELEC 5038 - ELEC 5039) and fourth year (INTD 7004) medical students. This proposed elective will utilize a community service learning model, in which preparation, mentorship, evaluation, reflection and reporting are essential in meeting the expressed need of a particular community. The elective will also provide a foundation of practical knowledge in global health and will optimize the students' overseas experiences, maximize the safety of their travel, facilitate their adaptation to working in different cultural settings, and maximize their impact in the communities where they serve. The course material will be presented through a variety of approaches, including lectures, small group case discussions, optional laboratory sessions, practical workshops, and online learning modules. Prerequisites: ELEC 5047.

ELEC 5106. Intermediate Medical Spanish. Credit Hours.

This course is designed to offer first- and second-year medical students the opportunity to acquire important skills to communicate with Spanish-speaking only patients in a culturally sensitive environment. This class is restricted to students who have an intermediate level of written and conversational Spanish and/or have reached at least a Beginner level.

ELEC 5206. Advanced Medical Spanish. Credit Hours.

This course is designed to provide students with the specific medical vocabulary and terminology necessary to communicate with and help treat Latino patients with limited English proficiency. This class is restricted to students who have a previous knowledge of the Spanish language and have reached at least a conversational level. The course will include specific vocabulary groups relating to assessment and care of patients, vocabulary to establish rapport, and discussions leading to cultural competencies. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide answers in common medical situations in Spanish, conduct patient interviews, write medical histories, learn how to conduct physical exams in Spanish, and discuss readings related to the field.

ELEC 6067. Fundamentals of Neuroethics. Credit Hours.

Recent advances in neuroscience have considerably improved our understanding of brain function. However, the fascinating examination of brain's mysteries often intersects with the concerns of ethics and public policy. This course aims at presenting and discussing philosophical and scientific perspectives on major bioethical issues pertinent to neuroscience research. Several subjects will be covered in the course, including the effects of pharmacological and surgical interventions on the brain/min binomial, therapy versus enhancement, brain imaging and mental privacy, neurobiology of decision making, consciousness, unconsciousness, and death.