

# PSYCHIATRY (PSYC)

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## Courses

### **PSYC 3005. Psychiatry Clerkship. 6 Credit Hours.**

The psychiatric clinical clerkship is designed to familiarize the student with the personality traits, illnesses, and emotional disturbances that affect health and productivity. It is an opportunity for the student to develop and strengthen clinical skills in interviewing patients, formulating treatment plans, and carrying out treatment with patients who have psychiatric illness. The clerkship is arranged so the student may select the assignment area on the basis of particular interest, i.e., an inpatient/outpatient setting. The student's role in the clerkship is arranged to allow for considerable experience in the working relationship between patient and "physician" in the treatment process. Seminars have been developed to allow the student an in-depth appreciation of the various psychiatric states and emotional problems that affect the general practice of medicine. The student-staff ratio allows for small groups of students to meet with faculty, thereby enhancing learning. The clerkship is an opportunity for the students to look at their personal feelings and values and understand how they influence patient care, to learn how to deal with psychiatric disease, and to become more comfortable in dealing with the personalities of patients with organic disease. Prerequisites: Successful completion of all required preclinical courses is prerequisite to enrollment in any of the clinical clerkships.

### **PSYC 4000. Special Topic. 4 Credit Hours.**

This is a self-designed course created by both the student and the department to cover a specific topic. A Course Approval Form must be completed along with documentation of the designed course description.

### **PSYC 4001. Clinical Psychiatry. 4 Credit Hours.**

The fourth-year medical student inpatient rotation is designed as a bridge between the role of third-year clerk and the very active, responsible role of the intern. The fourth-year medical student will act as the primary psychiatrist under the supervision of a full-time attending. The student will be an integral member of the team, and will participate in all team activities. All activities for this experience will be on an inpatient psychiatric service at the University Hospital, Veterans' Administration Hospital, in San Antonio. These are busy units with brief lengths of stay. The student will have the opportunity to gain considerable experience with crisis management of serious mental illness as well as an understanding of acute exacerbations of chronic mental illness.

### **PSYC 4015. Geriatric Psychiatry UT/VA. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course teaches student how to manage the developmental, psychological, and neurodegenerative changes associated with aging. Students rotate through academic geriatric psychiatry clinics that treat elders with mood, anxiety, thought, and cognitive disorders. Students rotate through VA memory clinics where they learn how to administer, score, and interpret psychometric assessments and how to treat and prevent cognitive decline.

### **PSYC 4020. Consultation-Liaison. 4 Credit Hours.**

The course includes participation in the evaluation and management of medical and surgical inpatients with psychiatric conditions at the University Hospital or the VA. Students commonly treat patients diagnosed with delirium, depression following severe suicide attempts, illness anxiety disorder, and abuse. Student learn the interface between medicine and psychiatry and how to assess decisional capacity.

### **PSYC 4023. Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. 4 Credit Hours.**

To gain clinical experience in both inpatient and outpatient child/adolescent psychiatry, the student will attend the Clarity Child Guidance Center outpatient psychiatry clinics. Inpatient experience will be at the Clarity Child Guidance Hospital. The student may also rotate one half-day a week at selected sites including the Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center, the Cyndi Taylor Krier Secure Juvenile residential treatment center, the Roy Maas Youth Alternatives outpatient clinic, and attend seminars with the child and adolescent psychiatry residents. Experiences may be adjusted to fit students' individual interests.

### **PSYC 4024. Telepsychiatry. 4 Credit Hours.**

The rotation introduces the medical student to some of the technical, legal, and patient care issues arising from the use of telehealth technologies. Telehealth is defined as providing services remotely through technology including phone contact and videoconferencing. This technology is being used increasingly to provide needed psychiatric services for underserved rural areas. Studies have demonstrated non-inferiority of services provided through telehealth services. Medical students will participate in a 1:1 supervised experience with a faculty member providing telepsychiatry for mental health evaluation and treatment using a Tandberg unit from the remote site in San Antonio to an originating clinical site in VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Healthcare System (VATVCBHCS). There are no in-person patient contacts during this rotation as all services are provided through videoconferencing to the originating VA clinics. This educational experience will be provided under the supervision of the telehealth psychiatrist located on site in San Antonio with the medical student. Notes and orders will be documented through the VA's Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS). Patients will be asked to complete clinical rating scales at the time of the appointment and a satisfaction survey following each clinical encounter, which are tracked for quality improvement purposes. The rotation will include 1/2 hour weekly didactic sessions for the students. Material will include information on clinical skills such as interviewing, mental status exam, and diagnostics as they are performed using the videoconferencing equipment.

### **PSYC 7000. Off Campus. 4 Credit Hours.**

All off campus rotations must be approved by the designated faculty member prior to the beginning of the rotation (at least one week before the course begins). Credit will not be given for any rotation that has not been approved in advance. Required paperwork includes: "Course Approval" form, a written letter or email for acceptance from the physician preceptor with the start and end dates of the course/rotation, and a course description of your learning objectives and responsibilities during the rotation. Forms must include a complete address and telephone number for the off campus location or residence address for the student while at the off campus site. Forms will not be approved after the rotation has already begun. Contact the department for assistance with enrolling in this course.