

BIOL 395 Medical Observations and Evaluation Spring 2008

Instructor: Dr. Joseph J. Provost
Telephone: 477-5085 / 477-4323

Office: 407 Hagen Hall / 208 Science Lab
email: provost@mnstate.edu

Description: This course is designed specifically for students interested in pursuing a career as a physician. It consists of a series of 3-hour observations of physicians or other health professionals at clinics, hospitals or at Villa Maria. Accompanying the observations are a series of 3-hour class sessions dedicated to the discussion of people's observational experiences and deepening the understanding of the health professions and the application process. This class session will also be used to discuss selected readings pertaining to health care and ethics. Participants will maintain an observation/experience journal throughout the semester. Depending on scheduling, you may need to meet for additional periods outside of class. There will be 5-7 observations throughout the semester. You are responsible for attending each of the observation and communicating with your instructor. If you miss one observation, a replacement assignment will NOT be given. We will be meeting Thursdays when you are not in an observation. These meetings will start at 8:00 in Hagen Hall Chemistry Seminar Room.

Class Goals: The main purpose of the MSUM sessions is to increase your understanding of the medical profession, to develop your maturity in your presentations and to defend your opinions. The goal of the observation is to gain a more mature understanding of the health professional field and to earn an important shadowing component required for medical school and other health professional school application.

Textbooks: There are two REQUIRED textbooks: *Writing About Me*. Barbra Huntington and Linda Masse AND *Get Into Medical School, A Guide for the Perplexed*, Kenneth Iserson. 2nd Ed.

Grades:

Observation Reports: You will be responsible for turning in a short report for each of your observations. The form and format will be available from Dr. Provost's web site. The form will be due each Friday following your observation by 4:00. Each report will be worth 10 points. Missing a report will result in a one-half letter grade reduction for the semester. EACH REPORT MUST BE TYPED. You should keep a copy for your journal/records when applying to school. **Missing an observation without permission or a strong approved reason may result in a loss of a letter grade or failure. Poor or unprofessional behavior at the observations (defined in class) may result in a failing grade.**

Reading Assignment: You will select a book from the list on the class web site. A report will be due **14 April**. The report will be worth 50 points.

Writing Assignments:

- 14 Jan - Self-assessment step #1 pp.5 *Writing About Me*. *Recreate table on MS Word*. (10 pts)
- 14 Jan – Self assessment med school advisor handout (10 pts)
- 17 Jan – 2-3 sentence on why I want to be a Physician/Physician's Assistant (10 pts)
- 31 Jan - Two Paragraphs Why I want to be a Physician/Physician's Assistant and what makes me a good Physician/Physician's Assistant. (20 pts)
- 31 Jan - Self-assessment step #5 pp. 24, *Writing About Me*. (10 pts)
- 7 Feb -1st draft of your personal statement. Turn-in at beginning of class time. (20 pts)
- 21 Feb – 1st draft of your biography, resume (20 pts)
- 29 March – 2nd draft of personal statement (20 pts)
- 7 April – Summary of ALL medical ethics and morals discussions held in class. (50 pts)
- 14 April – Book Report (50 pts)
- 3 April – Final version of your personal statement (100 pts)
- 3 April – Final version of your autobiography and resume (50 pts)
- 21 March - WIT Handout (20 pts)
- (Friday after watching the movie) TMD Handout

Participation: A total of 50 points will be awarded based on group participation. EVERYONE MUST BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT. This is expected of you as a med student and as a physician and you will practice active participation in the class.

Any student not following the Class policy for dress or behavior (which includes being late or missing without prior approved notification) will be subject to failure for the course grade. Any late reports or assignments will result in a deduction of 25% of the total points for EACH day the assignment is late

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity/Assignment</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Jan 10	Introduction/ Orientation Question – Why do I want to be a Dr.? Studying for MCAT/GRE - Preparing for Applications (what do they look for?). - Self Assessment	See Web for readings Self Assessments
Jan 17	Villa Maria Orientation	Meet at north door of SL
Jan 24	Observation	See Web for Assignment
Jan 31	Observation	See Web for Assignment
Feb 7	- Personal Statement Preparation Turn in statement draft. Use Writing about me to create statement.	See Web for readings
Feb 14	Observation	See Web for Assignment
Feb 21	Applying to Med School - Costs, where, how, chances, MSUM - Resume, Autobiography & Secondary Statements Observation	See Web for readings
Feb 28	Observation	See Web for Assignment
March 6	Spring Break	
March 13	Observation	See Web for Assignment
March 20	Interview Skills & Preparation Alternative Options – What you do? Wit (in-class movie)	In-Class Discussion See Web for Readings
March 27	Observation	See Web for Assignment
April 3	Morals & Ethics	Student Presentations (Web)
April 10	Observation	See Web for Assignment
April 17	Medical Specialties	Student Presentation (Web)
April 24	Observation	See Web for Assignment
April 30 (WED)	Practice Interview	Dress Accordingly

Deadlines/Due Dates(see web for specifics): ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE TYPED AND TURNED IN TO THE CHEMISTRY OFFICE. NO OTHER FORM OR SUBMISSION SITE WILL BE ACCEPTED. THIS INCLUDES EMAILING DR PROVOST!

	Jan 24	Jan 31	Feb 14	Feb 28	March 13	March 27	April 10	April 24
Failing C	Altru	VM	RC	Altru	TMD	RC	VM	RC
Fetzer D	Altru	VM	RC	TMD	Altru	RC		RC
Gracyk T	Altru	TMD	RC	VM	Altru	RC		RC
Hammes D	RC	Altru	TMD	RC	Altru	RC	VM	
Haverland N	RC	Altru	VM	RC	TMD	Altru	RC	
Light N	RC	Altru	VM	RC	VM	Altru	RC	Altru
Mensah-Woode J	RC	RC	Altru	RC	VM	Altru	RC	VM
Mohamed B	TMD	RC	Altru	VM	RC	VM	Altru	
Nicholis P	VM	RC	Altru	TMD	RC		Altru	VM
Roeber E	VM	RC	TMD	Altru	RC		Altru	RC
Yunusova R	TMD		RC	Altru	RC	VM	RC	Altru

On open dates – focus on in class assignments and readings.

- **Altru Observations** – ALL students will meet Dr. Provost at the Science Lab at 6:00 AM for check in and then will drive to Grand Forks on their own. Get the web for a link to get directions to the hospital.
- **Villa Maria Observations** – Start at 8:00 be there 10 min early.
- **TMD – The Making of a Doctor** – This will be a video shown in the biochem lab. The movie starts at 8:00. Bring the homework/handout with you to class.
IF you do NOT have a slot with TMD, then you check out the movie from Dr. Provost, watch the movie and report on your own.
- **WIT** – This will be a video shown in the biochem lab. The movie starts at 8:00. Bring the homework/handout with you to class.