OVERALL GOALS

1. The student will acquire a foundation of knowledge regarding the biological, psychological, sociological, cultural and humanistic aspects in the practice of psychiatric medicine.

2. The student will demonstrate basic competence in the interpersonal and psychiatric skills relevant to the practice of psychiatry.

3. The student will demonstrate the ability to emulate the attitudes and values that enhance the professional roles and practice of a physician working with psychiatrically ill patients.

PSYCHIATRY CLERKSHIP OBJECTIVES

By the end of Psychiatry clerkship, students will be able to:

Altruistic

- Demonstrate attitudes and values that enhance the professional roles and practices of physicians in treating patients with medical and/or psychiatric problems.
- Conduct an interview in a manner that facilitates information gathering and formation of a therapeutic alliance.
- Demonstrate maturation in clinical skills and verbal communication with patients, colleagues and clinical teachers.
- Demonstrate respect and responsibility for patients in the care of psychiatrically ill patients.
- Demonstrate compassion and empathy for patients in the clinical setting.

Knowledge

- Acquire a fund of knowledge regarding the biological, psychological, sociological and cultural components of psychiatric illnesses and their treatments.
- Summarize the indications, basic mechanisms of action, common side effects and drug interactions of each class of psychotropic medications.
- Understand the principles and techniques of the psychosocial therapies sufficient to explain to a patient and make an appropriate referral when clinically indicated.
- Know the unique factors essential to the evaluation of children and adolescents and the ability to diagnose the common child psychiatric disorders.

Skills

- Demonstrate mastery of the basic interpersonal and psychiatric skills relevant to the management of patients with medical and/or psychiatric illnesses.
- Obtain a complete psychiatric history, recognize relevant physical findings, and perform a complete mental status examination.
- Assess and begin emergency management and referral of an individual with acute psychiatric or neuropsychiatric symptoms.
- Appropriately select and prescribe the various classes of psychotropic medications under supervision.
- Recognize the psychiatric manifestations of brain disease of known etiology or pathophysiology and state the evaluation and initial management of these neuropsychiatric disorders.
- Identify, critically evaluate, and state the comprehensive treatment plans for the various substance abuse and dependence disorders and their respective intoxication effects and withdrawal syndromes.
• Demonstrate proficiency in the recognition, evaluation, and management of persons with psychosis associated with schizophrenia, mood disorders, general medical illnesses, substances of abuse, medications and other psychotic disorders.

• Demonstrate proficiency in the recognition, evaluation, and management of persons with mood syndromes associated with the spectrum of mood disorders, including those due to general medical illnesses, substances of abuse and medications.

• Demonstrate proficiency in the recognition, evaluation, and management of persons with anxiety associated with the spectrum of anxiety disorders including those due to general medical illnesses, substances of abuse and medications.

• Demonstrate proficiency in the recognition, evaluation, and management of persons with delirium and dementia due to the broad spectrum of medical and toxic etiologies.

• Recognize, evaluate and state the treatments for patients with the following spectrum of psychiatric illnesses: somatoform disorders, factitious disorders, eating disorders and sleep disorders.

• Recognize, evaluate and state the treatments for patients with the following spectrum of childhood psychiatric illnesses: attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, the pervasive developmental disorders and childhood expressions of anxiety, mood and psychotic disorders.

• Define dissociation, state its psychological defensive role, and discuss the clinical syndromes with which it is associated.

• Recognize maladaptive traits and interpersonal patterns that typify personality disorders, and discuss strategies for caring for patients with the various personality traits and disorders.

Dutiful

• Demonstrate a foundation of knowledge regarding the biological, psychological, sociological, and humanistic aspects of the practice of psychiatric medicine.

• Identify psychopathology, formulate a broad and comprehensive differential diagnosis, establish a working diagnosis and develop an appropriate treatment plan for patients with psychiatric illness.

• Demonstrate the initiative and motivation to self-learn about relevant psychiatric disorders based upon the evidence established in the medical and psychiatric literature.

• Attend one community Alcoholics Anonymous meeting with an identified preceptor and participate in a debriefing with peers and the preceptor following the experience.

• Attend at least one treatment of a patient receiving electroconvulsive therapy with a faculty preceptor.

• Attend at least one civil commitment hearing pertaining to the involuntary admission of a patient with an acute psychiatric illness.