
AY 2026-2027 Interession Syllabus

Interession Description

The Interession is a 4-week course with one week at the beginning of fall semester, one week at the end of fall semester and two weeks at the end of spring semester. The entire class will participate in the activities. Content will introduce the third year students to their clinical activities and requirements, provide an opportunity to explore new topics, integrate the experiences in the clinical rotations during Year 3 with concepts from the Year 1 & 2 coursework and assess attainment of competencies required for graduation.

This is a 4-credit course required for graduation – two credits in the fall semester and 2 credits in the spring. Students should plan to be in class from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily from Monday to Friday unless otherwise specified on their schedule. The dates for the 2026-2027 academic year are:

- May
- November
- May

All sessions will be held on the main campus in the MEB, MSB II, AEC and TECHS Center. Please check Elentra for specific group assignments

Interession Objectives

- Explore clinical overlap across specialties of medicine (PGO 7.2)
- Document clinical encounters accurately in the medical record. (PGO 1.1, 4.4)
- Demonstrate the ability to gather essential information about patients and their conditions through history taking, physical examination, and the use of data from diagnostic tests. (PGO 1.1)
- Demonstrate the ability to use clinical information and diagnostic reasoning to develop a reasonable list of differential diagnoses and to begin treatment, including writing appropriate prescriptions and inpatient orders in low to moderate complexity cases (PGO 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)
- Counsel and educate patients to enable them to participate in their care and promote health. (PGO 1.6, 1.7)
- Communicate effectively with patients of all ages and across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. (PGO 4.1)

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- g. Demonstrate competency in the general procedures of a physician – IV line placement, venipuncture, and airway management (PGO 1.8)
- h. Analyze and solve system-level problems using quality improvement and patient safety principles and tools (PGO 3.2, 6.3)
- i. Apply knowledge of evidence-based medicine to provide high value care for patients (2.3)
- j. Identify social determinants of health in clinical cases and reflect on how this affected patient care (PGO 2.5)
- k. Demonstrate professionalism and adherence to ethical principles in all activities (PGO 5.1, 5.5- 5.7)
- l. Recognize potential conflict of interest and ethical dilemmas related to health care business practices and administration. (PGO 5.5)
- m. Demonstrate the ability to apply medical knowledge related to normal variation and pathologic states in diagnostic and therapeutic decision-making and clinical problem solving. (PGO 2.1- 2.3)
- n. Understand the basics of informed consent, including special situations such as children and patients who do not speak English (PGO 5.2, 4.1)
- o. Apply evidence-based medicine to improve the treatment of pain. (PGO 2.3)
- p. Understand and reflect on implicit bias and how it affects our behavior.(PGO 3.1, 5.1)
- q. Understand the relationship between implicit bias in providers and the perpetuation of racial disparities in healthcare and in society.(PGO 3.1, 5.1)
- r. Reflect on the professional identity formation during medical school as plans are made for entering residency (PGO 8.2- 8.4)

Integration Threads

Integration threads covered in the intersessions will include:

	Geriatrics	X	Basic Science	X	Ethics
X	Professionalism	X	EBM	X	Patient safety
X	Pain Management		Chronic Illness Care		Palliative care
X	Quality Improvement	X	Communication Skills	X	Diagnostic Imaging
X	Clinical Pathology	X	Clinical and/or Translational Research		

Intersession Assessments & Professionalism

Student performance objectives

- Students must pass the EOY 3 OSCE
- Students must demonstrate competency in the general procedures of a physician in the Procedure Workshop
- Students must take the CCSE examination. They must demonstrate an active effort in completing the examination. For example, a student who leaves after a short time and does not attempt to complete the exam or a student who answers all “c”s will not fulfill this requirement. However, there is no target score that must be achieved.
- Students must attend and make an effort to participate in all sessions.
- Students must complete all assignments in a timely manner by designated deadline.

Patient Op Log expectations:

There are no Op Log entries required for the intersessions.

Readings:

Short material for preparation may be required before individual sessions. This will be posted on Elentra before the session.

Assessments:

- EOY 3 OSCE
- Procedure workshop
 - Pre-test and post-test completion with achievement of 70% score on the post-test.
 - Successful completion of checklist at each station by the supervising faculty member.
 - Adult and Pediatric Bag-valve-mask ventilation
 - Adult and Pediatric CPR
 - Venipuncture
 - Peripheral IV placement
- Professionalism
 - See expectations below.
- Participation
 - Students are expected to participate with their small groups and in open discussion in class. They are expected to pay attention and refrain from unauthorized use of electronic devices and to be respectful of their peers and presenters.
 - Satisfactory completion of all assignments

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Grading policy – in addition to common clerkship policies

Students will receive a grade of Pass or Fail based on the following:

- Attendance
- Participation
- Satisfactory completion of the procedure workshop with demonstration of competent performance in the simulation lab. Student must achieve a passing score at each station and at least 70% on the post-test.
- EOY 3 OSCE –must pass on the first or second attempt
 - EOY 3 OSCE scoring and final grading is described in the Common Clerkship Policies that can be found on the Office of Medical Education website at <https://ttuhscep.edu/som/ome/CEPC/policies.aspx>
 - EOY 3 OSCE remediation: Students who do not receive a passing grade (as outlined in the Common Clerkship Policies) on the first attempt will retake the examination a second time.
 - Please note that you must take the remediation if needed on the assigned date. Be cautious with planning travel until you are notified that you passed the EOY 3 OSCE.
 - Failure on the second attempt will result in a referral to the Grading and Promotions Committee.
- Satisfactory effort in the CCSE
- Completion of all class assignments by posted deadlines. Failure to complete remediation assignments in a timely manner will result in a fail and referral to Grading and Promotions Committee.

Professionalism

As a student, it is important to be professional at all times. Your professionalism is formally evaluated by the Course Director and Coordinator. Failure to receive a satisfactory rating on any aspect of professionalism may result in failure of the course regardless of performance in other areas.

Professionalism includes, but is not limited to:

- Being on time
- Being honest
- Being respectful of everyone
- Admitting mistakes
- Being prepared to learn
- Checking your email daily
- Timely completion of all assignments by the posted due date
- Dress code

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- Scrubs are acceptable for the procedure workshop.

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- Students are expected to be in professional attire and white coats with their ID badges clearly visible for all other sessions.

Intersession Attendance

Attendance and participation in all intersession activities is mandatory. Attendance will be taken for all sessions using the electronic badge system. Students must be responsible to bring their ID badge each day. Completion of all assignments is mandatory by the deadline posted.

Missed Events & Absences- in addition to common clerkship policies:

All students are required to attend all intersession activities.

- If a student will be absent for any activity, they must obtain approval from the Course Director. *If the Course Director determines that a student's absence(s) compromises the student's ability to attain the necessary competencies, they may require the student to complete alternate assignments, even if the absence is excused.*
- Unexcused absences will result in remediation assignments based on the missed activity and a notation of a professionalism concern, including the possibility of receiving a grade of "fail" for the intersession.
- If a student is required to make-up assignments, this must be completed during unscheduled time and the hours worked must comply with the duty hour policy.
- In the *event of an emergency or illness* that results in an absence from intersession activities, the student must notify the Intersession Coordinator and the Office of Student Affairs as soon as possible.

Academic Success & Accessibility Office:

TTUHSC EP is committed to providing equal access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities. To ensure access to the educational opportunities in the clinical setting, please contact the Associate Director of Academic Success and Accessibility Office (ASAO) to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting accommodations in the classroom and clinical setting. Accommodations are not provided retroactively so students are encouraged to register with ASAO as soon as possible. More information can be found on the ASAO website:

<https://el Paso.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/office-of-academic-and-disability-support-services/default.aspx>

STATEMENT OF ACCOMMODATION FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

To support the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso offers reasonable modifications based on the student's particular needs. Any student who is pregnant or parenting a child up to age 18 or has conditions related to pregnancy are encouraged to communicate their needs with their faculty and/or program for academic support. Students may also contact Norma Fuentes, the Manager of Accessibility and Student Advocacy, to discuss support options. She will work with the institution's designated Pregnancy and Parenting Liaison to ensure equal access to the University's education program or activity. Please email norma.fuentes@ttuhsc.edu or call 915.215.4398. Students may also

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submit a [Pregnancy & Parenting Support form](#) to request assistance.

For more information, please refer to [Texas Tech University System Regulation 07.15 – Pregnancy and Parental Status](#).

Contact Information

Maureen Francis, MD Interim Course Director	Office: 915-215-4333	Maureen.francis@ttep.edu	MEB 3 rd Floor Room 3200
Lourdes Janssen Interim Course Coordinator	Office: 915-215-4396	Lourdes.davis@ttep.edu	Clinical Sciences Building Rm 3100

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Appendix 1: 1 Minute Paper Assignment

Intersession 1 Minute Paper		Date:
<i>Please list 2-3 core ideas that have emerged for you as important today or during the program thus far.</i>		
1.		
2.		
3.		
<i>List 2-3 questions that have arisen from you relevant to content presented or ideas that remain unclear.</i>		
1.		
2.		
3.		
<i>(adapted from work by K. Patricia Cross and Elizabeth Armstrong)</i>		

Appendix 2: Professionalism Assessment

	No concern/slight concern/serious concern
1. Student is reliable and attended all sessions. (PGO 5.3, 5.7)	
2. Student demonstrates respect for all people. (PGO 5.1)	
3. Student's dress and grooming are appropriate for the setting. (PGO 5.7)	
4. Student came to the sessions prepared to learn. (PGO 5.3, 5.7)	
5. Student demonstrates honesty in all professional matters. (PGO 5.6)	
6. Student completed assignments in a timely manner. (PGO 5.7)	
Comments:	