

**Community Medicine Clerkship – BCC 7170**  
**Florida State University College of Medicine**  
**2006 – 2007 Course Syllabus**

**Course Director:**

Michael J Muszynski, MD, FAAP

**Clerkship Directors :**

Bruce Berg, MD (Sarasota Regional Campus)

Tallahassee Regional Campus Dean

Paul McLeod, MD (Pensacola Regional Campus)

Michael J Muszynski, MD, FAAP (Orlando Regional Campus)

Rural Track Director

**Course Description:**

The Third Year Community Medicine Clerkship is required for all students at the college of medicine regional campus sites in Tallahassee, Pensacola, Sarasota, Orlando, and the Rural Track. This is a three-week clerkship given once in the third year, which is designed to broaden students' understanding of the role played by community agencies in health promotion and disease prevention. It allows the student to work as a member of a team to assist the agency in fulfilling its goals of maintaining the health of the community. This clerkship also provides students an opportunity to share and discuss their observations with agency members, faculty, and other students. Each student is assigned to a community agency, with a contact person within that agency assigned the role of clerkship coordinator. The Regional Campus Dean or Rural Tract Director will have visited the site and determined its appropriateness for achieving course goals and objectives, and the Dean/Director is responsible for assessing the experiences provided at each site. The Campus Dean or Rural Track Director will make yearly visits to each agency during the year to assure quality and appropriateness of the experience. In the assigned community setting the student will be supervised by a clerkship coordinator, who will have been oriented by the Regional Campus Dean or Rural Track Director concerning the goals, objectives and evaluation of the rotation prior to the beginning of the clerkship. Additional student teaching and supervision will be given by the Regional Campus Deans. Michael J Muszynski, MD, FAAP, Orlando Regional Campus Dean, is the current Course Director, who is responsible for course development and course oversight.

Agencies to be used in this clerkship include, but are not limited to:

1. Local health departments
2. Social service agencies
3. Area agencies
4. Indigent care clinics
5. Visiting nurse organizations
6. Hospice organizations

**Faculty Participating in the Initial Planning Process:**

Eugene Trowers, MD, MPH  
Paul McLeod, MD  
Michael J Muszynski, MD  
Herndon Harding, MD  
Alma Littles, MD

**Faculty Participating in 2006-2007 Course Delivery:**

Bruce Berg, MD  
Tallahassee Regional Campus Dean  
Paul McLeod, MD  
Michael Muszynski, MD  
Rural Track Director  
Community Agency Clerkship Non-Faculty Coordinators at each regional campus

**Course Goals:**

This is a three-week course designed to broaden the student's understanding of the role played by community agencies in health promotion and disease prevention, and allow each student to observe and assist in that agency's role in maintaining the health of the community.

Students will be exposed to "Healthy People 2010," the federal government's goals for the health of our population. Throughout the course the core competencies of Florida State University College of Medicine will be reinforced:

- Professional attitudes, values and behavior.
- Moral reasoning and ethical judgment.
- Communicating with patients, families, and colleagues.
- Applications of basic biomedical and behavioral science to patient care.
- Essential clinical skills.
- Problem solving and critical thinking.
- Life long learning and information management.
- Social, cultural, and community context of health, illness, and care.
- Personal Awareness.
- Organization, systems, and quality improvement.

**Course Objectives:**

- Demonstrate an appreciation for the way in which community agencies contribute to the health of the community.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the global health care delivery system in the community including physicians, hospitals, outpatient centers, home health agencies and the role of community agencies in that system.
- Demonstrate an appreciation for the patient's perspective on his/her health problems and the community responses to them.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the physician in working with community agencies for the benefit of his/her patients.

- Understand a team approach to health care delivery, including cultural factors and public health issues.
- Display positive regard for patients, agency staff, and preceptors.
- More specialized exposure to Community Medicine, as well as the opportunity to participate in externships will be available at a variety of community medicine sites throughout the Florida State University College of Medicine system and its affiliates through Fourth Year Electives.

**Teaching and Learning Methods :**

This course involves both experiential and service learning. The community agency coordinator works with the student in his/her office for eight one-half day sessions each week. The student spends the remaining day of each week in the Doctoring 3 course at the Regional Campus each Wednesday afternoon, and one-half day every week in a Longitudinal care experience. During the three-week Community Medicine experiential rotation the student gains the desired objectives of service learning, geriatrics (whenever applicable), care to underserved populations, and the state and federal government goals for the health of our population. Each agency has 1 – 2 students assigned to it, so that the student works very closely with the assigned coordinator. The coordinator orients the student to his/her agency the first morning of the student’s assignment. Case loads, learning experiences, and assignments by the agency to meet course objectives will be directly managed by the on-site coordinators, ensuring an appropriate variety of exposure to common community medicine conditions and situations. The student will meet with the Regional Campus Dean (or communicate with the Rural Track Director) each week during “Dean’s Rounds” to discuss how the clerkship experience is progressing. In addition, the Regional Campus Dean or Rural Track Director communicates with the agency coordinator as needed to monitor the student experience.

**Typical Community Medicine Course Schedule:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	*	*	Longitudinal assignment	*	*
PM	*	*	Doctoring 3	*	*

- One-half day each week will be spent in the student’s longitudinal rotation, and every Wednesday afternoon will be spent in the Doctoring 3 course at the regional campus. (note: Most student Longitudinal assignments are on Wednesday mornings, but some students may have a different one-half day assignment)
- \*The remainder of each week will be spent with the community agency to which the student is assigned for the clerkship.
- Required student presentations to their class will be at the Regional Campus on the final day of the clerkship.

**2006 Schedule:**

The rotation begins November 29, 2006 and ends on December 15, 2006.

**Required Reading:**

“Executive Summary,” *Healthy People 2010* (second edition, 2000, Stock No. 017-001-00547-9).

“Actual causes of death in the United States,” *JAMA* 270:18, 2207-2212.

“Racial differences in mortality among men hospitalized in the Veterans Affairs Health Care System,” *JAMA* 285:3, 297-303.

“Epidemic increase in childhood overweight,” *JAMA* 286:22, 2845-2848.

“Rationing by any other name,” *NEJM* 336:23, 1668-1671.

“Influence of social problems on management in general practice,” *BMJ* 317: 28-32.

“Collaborative management of chronic illness,” *Ann Int Med* 127: 1097-1102.

**Require Student Presentation:**

The students will prepare and deliver a presentation of their experiences to the entire class and the Regional Campus Dean at the end of the clerkship (PowerPoint highly recommended). The Rural Track students will present at an assigned campus.

Presentations must include an analysis of the agency relatedness to *Healthy People 2010* and any associated areas covered by the clerkship required readings (see required readings above). The students are required to discuss how the agencies meet or do not meet *Healthy People 2010* objectives. A presentation template covering minimum presentation requirements is provided to the students.

**Student Evaluation and Grading:**

This is a PASS/FAIL only course. There are no examinations. The student grade is proposed by the respective Regional Campus Dean or Rural Track Director and then assigned by the course director. Evaluations will include mid-clerkship reviews with the primary preceptor and an end-of-clerkship review with the Regional Campus Dean or Rural Track Director. Faculty participating in course delivery and preceptors will provide students with qualitative assessment of their performance utilizing the College of Medicine clinical performance evaluation form for the Community Medicine Clerkship. Strengths and weaknesses will be identified to assist the student in monitoring his/her progress in attaining the course goals and objectives. Students will meet as a group and individually as needed with the Regional Campus Dean or Rural Track Director on a weekly basis at “Dean’s Rounds.” Students will be provided with feedback concerning their performance during the clerkship and remediation opportunities will be provided. To satisfactorily pass the course the student must attend and participate in all scheduled sessions with his/her community agency and prepare and deliver a presentation describing the agency with which they worked. Unexcused absences will be grounds for an unsatisfactory grade.

Grading will be based on the following components:

- Attendance
- Preceptor’s written evaluation
- Presentation evaluation

- Written evaluation by Regional Dean or Rural Track Director

The final grade for each student will be based on the above data and will be determined by the Course Director for the Community Medicine Clerkship (Dr. Michael Muszynski). Students who have difficulties meeting course requirements will be referred to the Student Evaluation and Promotions Committee.

Students who distinguish themselves by a truly outstanding performance on the clerkship will receive a *letter of distinction* that is placed in the respective student file. Minimum criteria for a *letter of distinction* are: 1) All professionalism standards for the clerkship are met 2) An indication of outstanding performance in the elevation narratives from the agency coordinator 3) A clerkship evaluation with 6 out of 7 evaluation categories rated as “Strongly Agree” 4) Complete and effective coverage of the Healthy 2010 objectives in the student’s required presentation to the class 5) An “Outstanding” rating (on a scale of unacceptable—satisfactory—above average—outstanding) as determined by the Regional Campus Dean for the required student presentation.

### **Course Evaluation:**

Thoughtful student feedback is vital to assuring a high quality curriculum and educational experience. All students will be given an opportunity to provide constructive feedback to the agency coordinators, Campus Deans, Rural Track Director and course director on the community medicine clerkship. Numerical ratings by all students will be solicited at the end of the course through the Office of Medical Education standard evaluation form for the Community Medicine Clerkship.

### **Attendance Policy:**

Students will be accountable and personally responsible for attending all clerkship activities. Attendance is mandatory for all clerkship related activities and presentation delivered at the conclusion of the clerkship. Excused absence from a scheduled examination or other scheduled learning activity requires prior notification and approval of the Clerkship Faculty member and the Regional Campus Dean and should only be requested for extenuating circumstances. Absences because of illness or family emergency will be addressed on an individual basis by the Campus Dean. Unexcused absences from any clerkship activity will be reported to the Campus Dean’s office where attendance records will be maintained for review and appropriate action. Attendance is mandatory for all community experiences, feedback sessions, and the presentation session. Absence from any of these elements requires prior notification, when possible, and approval, of the supervising clerkship coordinator and the Campus Dean.

### **Remediation Policy for Students Who Fail a Course or Clerkship:**

Remediation of courses or clerkships will be planned and implemented by a decision of the Student Evaluation and Promotions Committee, in collaboration with the course or clerkship director.

**Code of Conduct:**

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Code published in The Florida State University Bulletin and the Student Handbook. The Academic Honor System of The Florida State University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the University community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of University community.

**ADA Statement:**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should:

1. Register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) in Kellum Hall (850-644-9566); and
2. Bring a letter to the instructor from the SDRC indicating you need academic accommodations. This should be done within the first week of class. Specific arrangements should be settled with the instructor 5 working days prior to the beginning of the clerkship.