

Upstate Medical University offers more than 200 electives designed to supplement our required curriculum; allowing students to explore their interests while gaining valuable knowledge.

Students are not required to take any electives during the pre-clerkship curriculum; there is ample time to complete all elective requirements otherwise. A maximum of 6 elective credits taken during the pre-clerkship curriculum may be applied to graduation requirements.

Fall Semester Electives available to MS2 Students						
Course Name	CRN	Elective Director	Email	Time and Dates	Course Description	Additional Information
Basic Medical Spanish Terminology	NTD941	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Mondays 4:30 to 7:00pm starts August 14, 2023	Basic Spanish is a foundation course that gives students a strong base to be able to learn medical terminology in Spanish. Students learn parts of the human body, organs, systems symptoms of common illnesses along with basic communication such as greetings, numbers, dates, specific vocabulary for visits to a doctor and much more. They are able to have a basic dialog and develop sentences grammatically correct using regular and irregular verbs in conjunction with other parts of a sentence in concordance with gender and number.	Medical terminology in Spanish is a skill that all medical students need to have to effectively communicate with patients.
Introduction to Medical Spanish	INTD942	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:30 pm starts August 16, 2023	The introduction to Medical Spanish course builds on the strong foundation of the Basic Spanish level and expands knowledge of medical terminology to continue learning correct sentence construction for effective communication. Students do role play with classroom imitating situations at a doctor's office, hospital or emergency rooms. Students learn communication at a higher level with patients and the public in general. They are able to have dialogues asking more relevant questions related to the patient's complaint in grammatically correct sentences using regular and irregular verbs in the present, past tense and future tenses.	
Intermediate Medical Spanish	NTD943	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Wednesdays 4:00 - 6:00 pm starts August 16, 2023	Intermediate Medical Spanish is a conversational level. It builds on knowledge acquired on previous levels and prepares medical students to communicate effectively with patients with limited English proficiency. Students at this level speak only Spanish in class and are able to volunteer at a local clinic, shadow a health care provider and assist him/her in communicating to the patient the nature of the problem/condition, necessary tests required, the results, as well as treatment and prognosis. They are able to inform the patient about follow up appointments and convey any other information.	
Hospice Volunteer Elective	NTD9425	Julie King MD Contact: Michele Devlin	mdelin@hospiceony.org	7 Consecutive Thursdays 6-7pm: 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26	Hospice volunteers are trained to help patients / families cope with issues at the end of life. Volunteers will learn how to assist with the physical, emotional, and spiritual struggles of this unique time. Once trained, volunteers will be matched with families based on interests, experience, and availability. Typical activities would be: Visit, watch TV, read to patients, grocery shopping, mowing lawns, childcare, sitting with patient's so family can run errands, driving patients or families to appointments or to visit loved ones. This is a rich opportunity to assist those in your community who are living with dying, and to learn about the psych-social-spiritual aspects of the journey towards the end of life.	Located at Hospice of CNV at 990 7th N. Street, Liverpool, NY
Physicians and Social Responsibility II	CBHX2410	Rachel Fabi	fabir@upstate.edu	1:15-3:15pm on the following dates: 8/16, 9/6, 10/18, 11/29, 12/13	Physicians and Social Responsibility II is the second part of an elective sequence that establishes a critical, analytic component in conjunction with selected health-related advocacy activities to provide a robust learning experience for medical students to develop their understanding of and commitment to physicians' social responsibility. Students will critically analyze their advocacy experiences in light of the fundamental concepts discussed in PSR. Students will learn how responsibilities as physicians extend from caring for individual patients to caring about institutional, social, and global contexts. This course will teach the skills necessary to bring about meaningful change at each of these levels. A substantial portion of the seminar time will be spent with students presenting their critical analyses of their advocacy experiences.	
Rural Medicine Clinical Training through Journey Mapping	FAMP1657	Lauren Meyer	meyerl@upstate.edu	October 5, November 30 - All Thursday evenings, 6-8:30 pm	For this elective second-year medical students delve into patient care through interactions with their patient educator and community preceptor. A small town physician-patient team, alongside a fourth-year medical student, are matched with small groups of second-year students. Through guided sessions from August to January, the medical students come to know their patient and the patient's condition, ultimately presenting their "case" at a university wide forum. Students practice skills related to: patient interviewing, notetaking, case review and discussion, physical exam and presentation.	
Literature and Medicine: Examining Issues in Primary Care	FAMP1642	Ruth Hart	hartir@upstate.edu	Wednesdays 6-9pm	This elective will examine health issues in primary care, using the perspectives afforded by literature, film and theater. Hands-on literature and drama experiences will be part of the elective with attendance expected at live theater performances and at a local author lecture series. Topics to be included are: professionalism, resource allocation, physician-patient communication, quality of life, cultural diversity and research ethics. Class participation and discussion are the basis for assessment. The class meets late August to early December on Wednesday evenings, 6-9 pm, with occasional events on other weekday evenings. Cost for performances: \$35.00 total.	
Food as Medicine	MDCN230	Barbara Feinstein	feustbr@upstate.edu	Select Wednesdays* 5 pm 8/21, 8/28, 9/5*, 9/25, 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, 11/6, 11/27, 12/4, 12/13	Lifestyle modification, including eating healthy food, is an important component in the quest to prevent and treat many of the medical problems that are challenging our country. The goals of this elective are to teach students about the practical implications of nutrition, how to cook tasty, nutritious, and affordable meals, and how to better counsel patients on their eating habits. The course consists of a combination of online modules that provide foundational information about nutrition and how it pertains to certain diseases (e.g. diabetes and heart disease) and social issues (food insecurity), as well as hands-on activities such as cooking classes and practicing motivational interviewing skills. The course runs from September through December. There are 9 online modules ranging from 30-60 minutes in length. The modules can be completed on your own time during the elective block. There are also five scheduled group activities that are about 90 minutes in length and one required volunteer/shadowing experience: many fun options! There is a final project to design a recipe that will be compiled into a course cookbook. The first thirty student who sign up are the lucky ones! The course is only offered in the fall semester.	
Service Learning and Community Health	PRVM6423	Simone Seward	sewardr@upstate.edu	Mondays from 3-5pm, 8/14, 8/28, 9/11, 10/16, 11/13, 12/4	This 2-credit service learning elective course integrates meaningful community service with instruction on basic principles of public health to improve the health status of the community. This course allows second year medical students to serve as Service Learning Leaders at specific service learning sites and develop skills in community engagement while affording community partners an avenue to address significant needs within their organization or programs. The course utilizes a reflective process to enrich the students' learning experience and explore civic responsibilities. The course meets once a month for 2 hours and runs from August through March. The course can accommodate a maximum of 30 MSII students. NOTE: Service learning application is required prior to enrolling in this elective.	

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Spring Semester Electives available to MS2 Students						
Course Name	CRN	Elective Director	Email	Time and Dates	Course Description	Additional Information
Introduction to Medical Spanish	INTD942	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:30 pm	The introduction to Medical Spanish course builds on the strong foundation of the Basic Spanish level and expands knowledge of medical terminology to continue learning correct sentence construction for effective communication. Students do role play with classroom imitating situations at a doctor's office, hospital or emergency rooms. Students learn communication at a higher level with patients and the public in general. They are able to have dialogues asking more relevant questions related to the patient's complaint in grammatically correct sentences using regular and irregular verbs in the present, past tense and future tenses.	These electives are held only if there is adequate enrollment. Contact: goodenpa@upstate.edu for more information
Intermediate Medical Spanish	NTD943	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Wednesdays 4:00 - 6:00 pm	Intermediate Medical Spanish is a conversational level. It builds on knowledge acquired on previous levels and prepares medical students to communicate effectively with patients with limited English proficiency. Students at this level speak only Spanish in class and are able to volunteer at a local clinic, shadow a health care provider and assist him/her in communicating to the patient the nature of the problem/condition, necessary tests required, the results, as well as treatment and prognosis. They are able to inform the patient about follow up appointments and convey any other information.	These electives are held only if there is adequate enrollment. Contact: goodenpa@upstate.edu for more information
Advanced Medical Spanish	NTD944	Maria Lourdes Fallace	falacem@upstate.edu	Mondays 5:00 - 7:30 pm	Advanced Medical Spanish is service learning elective that prepares medical students to communicate effectively with patients with limited English proficiency. Students at this level are able to shadow a health care provider and assist him/her in obtaining accurate history of the patient, performing a physical examination and communicating to the patient the condition, necessary tests and results, as well as treatment and prognosis at a proficiency level.	These electives are held only if there is adequate enrollment. Contact: goodenpa@upstate.edu for more information
Physicians and Social Responsibility II	CBHX2410	Rachel Fabi	fabir@upstate.edu	1:15-3:15pm on the following dates: 1/24, 2/13, 3/6	Physicians and Social Responsibility II is the second part of an elective sequence that establishes a critical, analytic component in conjunction with selected health-related advocacy activities to provide a robust learning experience for medical students to develop their understanding of and commitment to physicians' social responsibility. Students will critically analyze their advocacy experiences in light of the fundamental concepts discussed in PSR. Students will learn how responsibilities as physicians extend from caring for individual patients to caring about institutional, social, and global contexts. This course will teach the skills necessary to bring about meaningful change at each of these levels. A substantial portion of the seminar time will be spent with students presenting their critical analyses of their advocacy experiences.	
Rural Medicine Clinical Training through Journey Mapping	FAMP1657	Lauren Meyer	meyerl@upstate.edu	January 25, February 22 - All Thursday evenings, 6-8:30 pm	For this elective second-year medical students delve into patient care through interactions with their patient educator and community preceptor. A small town physician-patient team, alongside a fourth-year medical student, are matched with small groups of second-year students. Through guided sessions from August to January, the medical students come to know their patient and the patient's condition, ultimately presenting their "case" at a university wide forum. Students practice skills related to: patient interviewing, notetaking, case review and discussion, physical exam and presentation.	
Service Learning and Community Health	PRVM6423	Simone Seward	sewardr@upstate.edu	Monday, 1/15/2024 - Health Justice Conference Attendance Wednesday, 2/14/2024 - 11:15 PM - 3:15 PM Joint class with PSR 2 Monday, 3/4/2024 - 3 PM - 5 PM Monday, 3/11/2024 - 5 PM - 7 PM	This 2-credit service learning elective course integrates meaningful community service with instruction on basic principles of public health to improve the health status of the community. This course allows second year medical students to serve as Service Learning Leaders at specific service learning sites and develop skills in community engagement while affording community partners an avenue to address significant needs within their organization or programs. The course utilizes a reflective process to enrich the students' learning experience and explore civic responsibilities. The course meets once a month for 2 hours and runs from August through March. The course can accommodate a maximum of 30 MSII students. NOTE: Service learning application is required prior to enrolling in this elective.	