

Course Description: Medical Etymology ENRH-189

Course Director: Dr. Bret Evers

Department: Pathology / Ophthalmology

Requirements:

- Minimum participants for course to be conducted: 10
- Maximum number of students per course (if applicable): 30

Rationale: *The purpose of the elective will be to trace all the long fancy words we learn in school to their origins. This will not be a simple medical terminology class; rather, the purpose is to learn the stories and myths behind each prefix, suffix, and root word. This elective will be particularly useful for understanding anatomical terms (pes anserinus?), histology (remember, lepidic does NOT mean butterflies on a stick), and of course, pathology (all the food words!).*

Objectives: *The objectives of this course are: 1) develop a fundamental understanding of where medical terms come from, 2) translate and recognize medical terms based on their prefixes, roots, and suffixes, and 3) synthesize new terms to precisely describe novel findings, diseases, and anatomical abnormalities.*

Format: *The course will be held in person, weekly (skipping some weeks depending on holidays), with a different topic each week. We will recruit subject experts for each topic, who are familiar and interested with the etymology of their field's medical terms. The topics will follow the general pattern of MS1 curriculum, covering gross pathology, histology, embryology, and eventually the IM blocks. The sessions will last one hour each, and will consist of a learning portion followed by an interactive challenge (which team can explain new terms fastest, who can come up with novel terms based on the information presented in class, etc).*

Student Evaluation:

Students are required to complete an online REDCap Evaluation.

Course Evaluation:

Grading will be pass/fail. To receive transcript acknowledgment, students must:

- attend 10 of 12 participant hours
- complete the online REDCap course evaluation form