

Course Name: TMA/AMA Health Policy and Advocacy

Course Director: Dr. Ben Lee

Faculty Sponsor: (if non-faculty course director)

Department:

Student Liaison: Jonathan Ji, Liana Fantich, Mayuri Vaish

Requirements:

- Per course director

Rationale:

- Creating an enrichment elective focused on health advocacy for medical students is essential for fostering a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted issues impacting health beyond clinical care. This course will equip students with crucial advocacy skills, preparing them to effectively influence healthcare policies and participate in community leadership. Integrating an interdisciplinary approach, the elective will draw on insights from law, policy, sociology, and public health, enhancing students' medical education and broadening their professional skills. Moreover, the course will emphasize the ethical responsibilities of physicians, reinforcing their commitment to equity and justice in healthcare. By offering networking opportunities with leaders in health advocacy and linking with the TMA/AMA chapter at UTSW, the elective will also serve as a vital platform for collaboration and professional development. This initiative is not only a response to the evolving healthcare landscape but also a proactive step in preparing medical students to initiate and respond to changes, ensuring they become well-rounded, informed, and responsive healthcare professionals.

Objectives:

- To equip medical students with a comprehensive understanding of health advocacy, including the necessary skills to effectively influence and implement policy, address social determinants of health, and engage in ethical, community-focused medical practice. This course aims to foster interdisciplinary knowledge and enhance students' ability to advocate for patients and public health, aligning with the standards and goals of both the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Texas Medical Association (TMA). By integrating these associations' principles and frameworks, the elective prepares students to be proactive leaders in shaping health outcomes and advancing medical professionalism at both the national and state levels.

Format:

- The course will be made for the Fall semester 2024
- Virtual and In-person session every Tuesday at noon.

- Virtual sessions will have breakout room with a prompt for the interactive component
- Minimum Student Requirement: 10
- Each session will involve a different speaker that will speak about their unique experience with advocacy. Some sessions will involve students to explain the organization of TMA/AMA and how resolutions work.

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

Schedule: (generic)

Do Not Schedule Classes on Monday's during the noon hour which will conflict with STRIVE sessions.