

**Course: Family Practice Preceptorship (FAM 2101)**

Department:	Family Practice and Community Medicine
Faculty Coordinator:	Dan Sepdham, M.D.
Hospital:	Dependent on preceptorship site
Periods offered:	MS 3's & MS 4's - all periods
Length:	4 weeks
Max. no. of students:	10
First Day Contact:	Arranged by preceptor with student
Prerequisites:	None

**Course Description:**

In this course, the student works one-on-one with a private family practice physician. The purpose of the experience is to provide students with a real world look at an outpatient, primary care practice, and an opportunity to further develop their clinical skills in that setting. Students work full time with the preceptor for the four weeks to gain the best exposure possible to the continuity of care experience.

**OPTION ONE:** Locate a preceptor through the [Texas Statewide Preceptorship Program](#). Preceptors are located throughout Texas; there are opportunities to work in urban, suburban or rural practices. Students wishing to stay in the Dallas area should expect some commute time, since many of the area preceptors are in nearby suburbs and not necessarily near the medical school. The TSFMPP website has been designed to meet the needs of several groups of users – students, preceptors, school administrators, and the program administrator. The primary function of the website is to enable potential preceptors and medical students interested in seeking a family practice preceptorship to learn about the program, apply for a user ID, complete an application, match their interests, and complete a survey. Students are matched by their school administrator on a first-come, first-served basis. **ONLY STUDENTS REGISTERED FOR FAM 2101 WILL BE MATCHED.**

**Instructions:** A separate application form with region choices selected **must be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the rotation**. The application process is completed online at <http://www.familymedicinepreceptorship.org>.

**OPTION TWO:** This elective is available for preceptorships completed outside the Texas Statewide Preceptorship Program. Any site outside of the Texas Statewide Preceptorship Program must be pre-approved by the department **at least four weeks** prior to the rotation period and must meet certain criteria.

**Instructions:** For approval, call our office to make an appointment with the course director. The director will need to review a description and have a contact name and phone number for the course to consider the approval.

**Course Goals:**

- To introduce medical students to the concepts of family practice.
- To provide exposure to primary care role models and ambulatory clinical experience.
- To develop medical management skills for the most frequently encountered ambulatory illnesses.

**Course Objectives:** *The student is expected to:*

- Conduct a focused, appropriate history and physical exam in the time allowed.
- Demonstrate a fund of knowledge that is appropriate for his/her level of training.
- Establish appropriate rapport with patients.
- Use appropriately the community resources available for comprehensive patient care.
- Interact courteously and professionally with members of the staff and patients.
- Understand the familial nature of family practice.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the relationship of the family practitioner to their community.

**Methods of Instruction:**

- Didactic: The student will be in a one-on-one instructional setting with a private family practice physician. He/she will also participate in medical conferences, hospital staff meetings, and teaching sessions attended by the preceptor.
- Clinical: The student is required to participate in all clinical activities of the preceptor including office practice, hospital rounds, and night calls.
- Student Responsibilities: The supervising physician will assign responsibilities to the student. In case of absence from the preceptorship for any reason, both the Department and the preceptor must be notified. Any unexcused absence will result in failure of the course.

**Method of evaluation of students:**

- Pass/fail grade; no examination.
- A written, standardized evaluation form is completed by the preceptor on the student's performance during the preceptorship. The student also completes an evaluation form on the physician.

Important Policies:

- The supervising physician cannot be a family member or relative of the student.
- Maximum excused absences: 2 days. Any unexcused absence will result in failure of the course.