

# Exploration of Orthopaedics: Orthopaedic Surgery

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## Course: Exploration of Orthopaedics- ORTH 2001

Department: Orthopaedic Surgery

Faculty Coordinator: Robert Weinschenk, MD ([Robert.Weinschenk@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:Robert.Weinschenk@utsouthwestern.edu))

Hospital: Parkland Health and Hospital Systems

Periods offered: All

Length: 2 weeks

Max no. of students: 10

First Day Contact: Natalie Lopez, GME Program Coordinator I

([Natalie.Lopez2@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:Natalie.Lopez2@utsouthwestern.edu))

First Day Time: 8 am

First Day Place: Contact Natalie Lopez for assignment and location to meet Jr. Resident

Prerequisites: None

### I. Course Description:

Students will be integral members of a team in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Students will participate in patient care in outpatient and inpatient settings and assist and observe in surgery. This course is essential for those students that are considering a career in Orthopaedic Surgery.

**II. Course Goals and Objectives:** (based on ACGME competencies for resident education and modified for student education)

#### *Patient Care:*

Students, together with the UTSW Orthopaedic Surgery residents and supervising faculty, must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

#### **Objectives**

Students are expected to:

- Gather essential and accurate information about their patients. *Examples:* History (including record review), physical examination and results of pertinent tests for patients with Orthopaedic complaints, including patient seen and evaluated in the emergency department.
- Assist the Orthopaedic surgery residents in determining diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based upon patient information and preference, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment. *Examples:* Emergency room management of trauma patients with fractures, dislocations, and other musculoskeletal injuries, Outpatient clinic evaluation of patients with common musculoskeletal complaints such as knee and shoulder injuries and osteoarthritis.
- Counsel and educate patients and their families. *Examples:* Importance of smoking cessation in the healing of fractures.

□ Provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health. *Examples:* Optimizing patient health in order to heal fractures by counseling on smoking cessation, glucose control in diabetics.

□ Work with health care professionals, including those from other disciplines, to provide patient focused care, develop and carry out patient management plans. *Examples:* Cooperation with Trauma Service in the management of trauma patients with complex pelvic and acetabular fractures and periarticular injuries.

### ***Medical Knowledge:***

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established biomedical and clinical sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care as it relates to Orthopaedic Surgery.

### **Objectives**

Students are expected to:

□ Demonstrate an analytical approach to clinical situations. *Examples:* Obtain a history and perform a physical exam on patients with common outpatient orthopaedic complaints, such as knee pain, and formulate a differential diagnosis and treatment plan.

□ Gain an understanding of basic Orthopaedic knowledge. *Examples:* Basic X-ray interpretation, Ability to recognize signs and symptoms of pulmonary embolus, fat embolus syndrome, compartment syndrome, infection.

□ Learn to perform basic Orthopaedic surgery procedures under the supervision of residents and faculty. *Examples:* joint arthrocentesis, fracture reduction, cast application, wound closure.

### ***Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:***

Students must be able to assimilate scientific evidence and improve their patient care practices.

### **Objectives**

Students are expected to:

□ Locate and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patient's health problem. *Examples:* Utilizing resources from the library and available online, students will research Orthopaedic injuries and common treatment practices.

□ Use information technology to manage information, access on-line medical information; and support their own education. *Examples:* Students will assist in review and documentation of patient's medical records using EMR.

### ***Interpersonal Communication Skills***

Students must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange.

## **Objectives**

Students are expected to:

- Use effective listening skills and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning, and writing skills. *Examples:* Students will assist the Orthopaedic residents in writing notes, Students will concisely present patients in the clinic to the attending staff.
- Work effectively with others as a member of the health care team.

## ***Professionalism***

Students must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities. Adherence to ethical principles and develop a sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

## **Objectives**

Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; a responsiveness to the needs of patients that supersedes self-interest.
- Accountability to patients and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and ongoing professional development. *Examples:* Willingness to seek additional patients for evaluation.
- Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care and confidentiality of patient information.
- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' culture, age, gender and disabilities.

## **III. Methods of Instruction:**

### **A) Didactic:**

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has weekly conferences on Wednesday mornings from 6 AM to 8:30 AM. Students are required to attend these lectures.

The Department also has additional monthly educational sessions including specialty didactics, anatomy, journal club, and sawbones (hands-on practical skills).

Students are invited to participate in all of these activities.

The current conference schedule is available upon request, email Natalie Lopez.

## **B) Clinical:**

Students will be assigned to two of the following Orthopedic Surgery Services for 2 week blocks:

**A – Sports Service**

**B – Adult Reconstructive Service**

**C – Spine Service**

**D – Hand Service**

**E1 – Orthopaedic Trauma Service**

**E2- Orthopaedic Trauma Service**

**F – Foot Service**

Students will work closely with the residents and the faculty on each service participating in outpatient clinics, ambulatory surgery, call, and inpatient surgery.

## **IV. Methods of evaluation of student:**

Students are evaluated by the faculty and residents on the team and service to which they are assigned. Grades are based on these evaluations. There is no examination for this course.

## **V. Attendance**

1. No provisions are made for unexcused absences.
2. Excused absences are permitted and limited to a maximum of three days and must be discussed with the course director.

- Gain an understanding of basic Orthopaedic knowledge. *Examples:* Basic X-ray interpretation, Ability to recognize signs and symptoms of pulmonary embolus, fat embolus syndrome, compartment syndrome, infection.
- Learn to perform basic Orthopaedic surgery procedures under the supervision of residents and faculty. *Examples:* joint arthrocentesis, fracture reduction, cast application, wound closure.

## **VI. Contact Information**

Please direct all questions to Natalie Lopez, GME Program Coordinator I  
(Natalie.Lopez2@utsouthwestern.edu)