



Master Course Syllabus

Clinical Observation – DMS 2080

Purpose of Document

This document contains important information for transfer. It may be helpful for you to retain a copy for your records, along with the class specific syllabus. This document will be especially helpful if you decide to later change your course of study.

Pikes Peak State College and the Colorado Department of Higher Education have determined that graduates should have a broad range of learning skills as well as discipline related skills. Both types of skills are detailed below.

Course Description

Prepares the beginning ultrasound student for clinical internship under the direct supervision of a registered sonographer with a focus on introductory skills necessary for clinical internship to include instrumentation, scanning techniques and image evaluation. The student will spend seven hours per week at the clinical site for training in patient care and work efficiency in the clinical setting.

Credit Hours: 2.5

Contact Hours: 7.5 hours per week at the clinical site

Required Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate professional behavior and communication skills appropriate for a clinical healthcare environment.
2. Observe and describe the roles and responsibilities of a registered sonographer in a clinical setting.
3. Identify and explain the use of basic ultrasound instrumentation and controls observed during clinical exams.
4. Apply basic patient care techniques, including patient identification, privacy (HIPAA), and safety protocols.
5. Observe and document various scanning techniques and image evaluation processes for different sonographic examinations.
6. Demonstrate work efficiency and time management skills within the clinical workflow.

Topical Outline

- I. Introduction to the Clinical Environment
 - a. Clinical site orientation and safety protocols
 - b. Professionalism, dress code, and attendance expectations
 - c. Understanding the chain of command and supervision
- II. Patient Care and Communication
 - a. Patient identification and verification procedures
 - b. Maintaining patient privacy and confidentiality (HIPAA)

- c. Effective communication with patients, families, and the healthcare team
- III. Observation of Sonographic Practice
 - a. Role of the sonographer in different exam types
 - b. Observation of patient positioning and ergonomics
 - c. Introduction to clinical documentation and reporting
- IV. Instrumentation and Image Evaluation
 - a. Observation of system controls and optimization techniques
 - b. Introduction to image labeling and archival systems
 - c. Basic image evaluation and recognition of normal anatomy
- V. Clinical Workflow and Efficiency
 - a. Time management in a busy clinical setting
 - b. Room preparation and turnover procedures
 - c. Integrating into the clinical team and assisting as appropriate