

Early Summer Rural Externship Syllabus

I. General Description

- A. **Course Title:** Early Summer Rural Externship
Course Length: Three Weeks
Course Format: Rural Community Clinical Experience/Interdisciplinary Experience/Community Service
- B. **Student Level:** 1st Year Osteopathic Medical Students
Course Coordinator: William Pettit, D.O.
Course Co-coordinator: AHEC staff.
- C. The Early Summer Rural Externship is a **three-week rotation** designed to reinforce student interest in rural practice and to prepare the students for their rural clerkships. The clerkship is comprised of clinical office experience in a small community, community service and interdisciplinary shadowing.
- D. The clinical experience occurs in a family physician's office in a rural community. . As an integral portion of this program, these clinical experiences may also include such out-of-office experiences such as:
 - 1. hospital staff and committee meetings
 - 2. house calls
 - 3. hospital emergency room calls
 - 4. community and public health functions
 - 5. fraternal and social functions
- E. Community Service includes participating in a community activity that benefits the health of that community.
- F. All students participate in two 2 hour interdisciplinary experiences.

II. Student Responsibilities

A. Pre-Arrival

- 1. Students are **required** to contact their assigned preceptor **at least 1 week prior** to the beginning of the rotation to coordinate the daily schedule and other pertinent aspects of the rotation.
- 2. **Appropriate Dress:** All students must wear College approved identification and a clean, pressed white clinical jacket. Dress business casual unless directed otherwise by your preceptor.
- 3. Students are required to bring identification passwords for library resources (i.e. MD Consult), and current references for Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Obstetrics/Gynecology.

B. During the Clerkship

1. First Week of Rotation:

- a. First weekday of the rotation meet with your preceptor for an office orientation.
- b. Be prepared to discuss your clinical strengths and weakness relative to the rotation objectives.
- c. Attend two orientations: One with the OKAHEC program office and another with the local AHEC coordinator before

the rotation begins.

2. During the Rotation:

A. Complete all requirements and [rotation objectives](#).

1. Each student is required to fill out an application including requests for dates and places/preceptors (if known), and a one page essay of why they wish to participate.
2. Participate in a community activity such as a health careers exploration project, health fair, fund raising for health related issues, free clinic, health department activity, etc
3. Participate in two (at least two hours each) interdisciplinary shadowing experiences. (Students spend time with health care professionals other than physicians in order to gain a better understanding of the role of those disciplines in the care of patients and gain experience in working with other disciplines.)
4. Each student will write a 6 to 10 page double spaced report of their experience (paper requirements are included in course descriptions and expectations)

B. Meet with your preceptor at the end of the rotation to review your clinical performance.

You are responsible for scheduling this meeting.

1. Complete the site evaluation and submit it to the AHEC Clinical Coordinator,
2. All paperwork is **due within 14 days** of the end of the rotation.
3. Once all requirements and paper work is turned in, the student will be reimbursed
4. \$750.00 for expenses incurred (meals, hotel, gas, and misc.). If forms are not received within 7 days of the end of the rotation, the student's reimbursement will be delayed.

III. Clerkship Calendar

The specific scheduling of days and hours shall be made by the preceptor, with approval by the OSU-COM Course Coordinator, and shall generally conform to the following:

1. **Working Day:** A typical working day is considered to be 10 hours in length; however, there may be instances when the working period may exceed 10 hours especially when accompanying the physician on "out of office" professional duties.
2. **Holidays:** Students receive one day off for the Memorial Day holiday and one day off for the Independence day holiday. Students are to request approval for specific days off other than Memorial Day and Independence Day from their preceptor.
3. **Travel Time:** Travel time may be taken for rotations requiring travel as specified in the [student clerkship handbook](#).
4. **Attendance:** One hundred percent (100%) attendance is required on all clinical rotations. Please contact the supervising preceptor **and** Morgan Farquharson at 918-584-4609 (leave voice mail if no answer). Fax: 918-584-4396.
Email: morganf@okstate.edu

IV. Student Performance Evaluation Procedures

- G. The student's overall performance (grade) is weighed using the following criteria:
1. 15% = Attendance and living in community
 2. 50% = Student Performance Evaluation of Clerkship in Physician's office by Physician
 3. 10% = Interdisciplinary observation
 4. 10% = Community project
 5. 15% = End of experience essay

- H. Each course requirement **must** be passed with a required 80 percent to pass this course. A Pass or Fail will be assigned according to [procedures outlined in the student handbook](#).
- I. **Attendance:** 15 week days in rural community required. Students are required to live in rural community unless special permission is granted. Students are encouraged to stay in community over week-ends in order to gain a complete appreciation of rural community life.

V. **Rotation Objectives**

Subject/Method	Learning Objectives	Resources/Assignments
Clerkship Local physician's office	Apply observational and clinical skills in physician's offices in rural community	AHEC staff will assist in finding and contacting preceptor and housing
Observation of 2 different health professions	Gain understanding and appreciation of the role of other health professionals in the care of patients and families.	AHEC staff will assist in finding other professions to observe – 2 hour each
Community Project	Gain understanding and appreciation of the role of health professionals in the health and viability of the community	AHEC staff will assist in identifying community project and assist with contacts
End of experience essay	Gain understanding and appreciation of the total rural observational experience	6 page minimum discussion of above assignments. Discuss how experience impacts understanding of primary care and rural medicine/practice.