

Northeast Ohio Medical University College of Medicine

Internal Medicine Clerkship (IMED 83001) 10.0 Credit Hours

Academic Year 2025-2026

Please note that material in this syllabus is subject to change. This version of the syllabus supersedes all prior versions. Please refer to CANVAS daily for the most current information.

Course Description

The Internal Medicine Clerkship is a ten-week clinical rotation designed to develop clinical competence and professional responsibility as a physician in the specialty of Internal Medicine. The emphasis will be on the internist's method and approach to the care of the patient. Students will learn through direct patient care experience in inpatient and ambulatory settings, supplemented by small group discussions, conferences, morning reports and teaching rounds. The net effect of the several avenues of learning is to provide a framework designed to help the student acquire the knowledge of selected internal medicine subjects, to appreciate the pathophysiology involved, to use the scientific method of problem solving, to develop proficiency in selected basic skill and to develop a professional attitude of responsibility and empathy toward patients.

Course Leadership

See Canvas or OASIS for the most up-to-date listing of Clerkship contacts.

Internal Medicine Chair		
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Course Enrollment Requirements

- Successful completion of M1 curriculum.
- Successful completion of M2 curriculum.

Trainings	Screenings	Immunizations
BLS (Basic Life Support)	Criminal Background	M1 Pre-Matriculation
OSHA and Biosafety	Check Toxicology Screen	Immunization: Hepatitis B,
 ACLS (Advanced Life Support) 	TB Test	MMR, Tdap, Varicella, COVID
HIPAA		Influenza
Human Subjects in Research and		
Responsible Conduct in Research		

Clerskhip Resources

Reading during the Clerkship should include both textbooks and journal literature. Students should read about specific problems encountered with their own patients, as well as subjects of general importance in psychiatry. Specific reading assignments from both text and the periodic literature may be required at the discretion of the Clerkship Site Director or other designees.

- 1. A list of resources and textbooks for each course is available here.
- 2. All other required materials will be posted on Canvas prior to the clerkship.

Clerkship Objectives

Clerkship educational program objectives are consistent across all seven Clerkships and are aligned with <u>NEOMED's College of Medicine Educational Program Objectives (COM EPO)</u>. Throughout the Clerkships, students will continue to learn and refine skills, knowledge, attitudes, and professional behavior to move towards demonstrating entrustable behaviors. These competencies form the basis for the Student Performance Evaluation (SPE) that is used to assess student performance in all Clerkships.

By the end of the Clerkship, students will:

Cle	rkship Objectives	Alignment to COM EPOs
1.	Gather patient information in a hypothesis-directed manner for those patients presenting with acute, chronic, or preventative care needs such as COPD, heart failure, infection, malignancy.	1.1
2.	Perform an accurate physical examination for those patients presenting with acute, chronic, or preventative care needs such as COPD and heart failure.	1.2
3.	Develop a differential diagnosis with appropriate prioritization and recommended diagnostic testing for patients presenting with symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath and neurologic deficits.	1.3
4.	Generate an assessment and management plan and reasoning for the plan for patients presenting with acute, chronic, or preventative care needs such as diabetes, hypertension, COPD, and congestive heart failure.	1.4
5.	Apply medical knowledge of clinical disorders to patient evaluations, specifically disorders related to thrombosis, acute coronary syndrome, and kidney injury.	2.1
6.	Apply knowledge of evidence-based medicine to answer patient care related questions.	3.1
7.	Demonstrate empathetic, honest, and bi-directional communication with patients and families.	4.2
8.	Demonstrate clear, effective, and complete communication with the interprofessional health care team in both written and verbal forms.	7.1
9.	Fulfill one's professional obligations by displaying professional behavior and demonstrating	5.1
	a commitment to ethical principles (e.g., respecting patient autonomy and responding to	5.2
	patient needs that supersede self-interest).	5.3
10.	Formulate individual learning goals based on personal strengths and limitations, respond appropriately to feedback and seek help when needed.	8.1
11.	Identify and address potential barriers to communication with patients, families, and colleagues, including linguistic, educational, and cultural diversity, the psychosocial determinants of health, and patient/family preferences.	4.1

Orientation

The Clerkship begins with orientation focusing on Clerkship goals and objectives, student responsibilities, schedules, and assessment methods. Students will be provided with information on relevant hospital policies and procedures, personnel contact information, meal allowances (if applicable) and parking. The orientation will include instructions on the risks of infection, techniques for reducing the spread of infection and site-specific hospital protocol to be followed in the event of exposure to an infectious or environment hazard or other injury.

Pre-work will be assigned the week prior to the beginning of the rotation. Please complete the assignments prior to starting the clerkship rotation.

Learning Activities

Students will have access to lectures, either live or virtual, and the opportunity to participate in case conferences, depending on the Clerkship site. Students at all sites are required to attend any lectures, conferences or Grand Rounds listed on their schedule for their site. Students will be assigned weekly learning activities and questions to ensure the high yield topics are covered within each Clerkship.

Instructional Methods/Learning Strategies

A variety of learning strategies will be used during the Clerkship to help students achieve their goals. Strategies include but are not limited to:

- Textbooks
- Patient Encounters (inpatient, private office, clinics)
- Small Group Discussions

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- Conferences, Morning Report, and Teaching Rounds
- Stanford Medicine 25
- Aguifer Internal Medicine Cases
- Low Resource Clinical Skills Materials
- Palliative Care Materials
- Core Educational Lecture Videos
- Standardized Patient Encounters
- Practice-Based Learning and Improvement Project (PBLI)
- Self-Directed Learning

Organized reading and study materials will be available to support learning about assigned subjects and problems of assigned patients, and to prepare for written examinations. This source material will include enumeration of concepts to be learned and specific details pertinent to these concepts. These materials will be supplemented by conferences, lectures, and small-group discussion sessions, and by selective patient assignments appropriate to the curriculum plan.

The net effect of the several avenues for learning is to provide a framework designed to help the student acquire the knowledge of selected obstetrics and gynecology subjects, to appreciate the pathophysiology involved, to use the scientific method of problem solving, to develop proficiency in selected basic skills, and to develop a professional attitude of responsibility and empathy toward patients.

Clinical Skill Experience Portfolio (CSEP)

The Internal Medicine Clinical Skills Experience Portfolio (CSEP) is an electronic checklist of clinical experiences developed for the Clerkship and designed for students to use to track their progress in developing knowledge and skill in the following areas:

- Diagnoses/Symptoms/Clinical Scenarios
- Physical Examinations
- Procedures/Technical Skills
- Additional Clinical Activities
- Additional Learning Activities

The CSEP list represents the minimum number and type of experiences <u>required</u> in the Clerkship. The expectation is that you will participate in a broader array of clinical experiences that become available to you during your rotation. A list of supplemental or alternative activities is also available as an Appendix and in CANVAS in the unlikely event that a student is not exposed to a particular experience. Students are required to review their CSEP with the Clerkship Site Director at both the midpoint and the end of the Clerkship to review student progress and completion of items.

Internal Medicine Clerkship Clinical Skills Experience Portfolio (CSEP) Content			
Diagnosis			
Acute Coronary Syndrome Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Acute Kidney Injury Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Anemia Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Cancer Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Chronic Kidney Disease Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Congestive Heart Failure Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)/Pulmonary Embolism (PE) Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Delirium Inpatient/Outpatient Observe	Diabetes Mellitus Type II Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Gastrointestinal Bleed Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Hypertension Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Liver Disease/Cirrhosis Inpatient/Outpatient Observe	Obstructive Sleep Apnea Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Pneumonia Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	Sepsis/Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) Inpatient/Outpatient Observe	Thyroid Disease Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate	
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)/Dysuria/Pyelonephritis			

Inpatient/Outpatient Actively Participate				
Physical Examination				
Cardiovascular Examination	CAGE Questionnaire or Similar	 Mini Mental Status (Folstein or Montreal) 		
Neurological Examination				
Additional Clinical Activities				
Submit Admission Orders	• Document Five Admission H&Ps	Document Two SOAP Notes		
Observed by Resident or attending doing a focused physical exam a least once	 Observed by Resident doing the relevant parts of a history at least once. 	Present patient in inpatient setting to Attending or Resident.		
Review Chest X-Ray with Attending or Resident	Review EKG with Attending or Resident			
Additional Learning Activities				
Actively participate in care of at least 25 patients.				
Complete mid-course feedback se	ssion with Site Director.			

Formative and Mid-Course Feedback

The Internal Medicine Clerkship places emphasis on providing students with continuous feedback on their knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Your final grade report form will reflect the feedback provided to you throughout the rotation. Midrotation and end-of-rotation communication will be scheduled during the Clerkship for you to:

- discuss your performance based on the assessment forms completed by faculty during the week of the rotation and a self-assessment of your performance,
- review clinical progress via your Clinical Skills Experience Portfolio (CSEP),
- plan activities for the week to match your learning objectives and individual learning goals,
- address any problems or concerns, and
- passport review.

Internal Medicine National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Practice Subject Examination For the Internal Medicine Clerkship, students are required to complete the practice subject examination 5 weeks into the 10-week study period. The first practice subject examination is taken via a voucher provided by email from NEOMED.

COURSE GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Assignment/ Assessment	Grade Criteria	Type of Feedback	Date Scheduled/Due
Clinical Performance			
Student Performance Evaluation (SPE)	Behavioral anchors for each rating in each competency and formula for final rating/grade	Rubric with Narrative Feedback	 Feedback is recorded throughout the Clerkship via student evaluation forms. The Clinical Grade will be generated at the conclusion of the course by the Clerkship Site Director submitted to for final review and grade assignment to the Clinical Experience Director. Documentation of fulfillment of professional responsibilities (met/not met) is completed by Course Coordinator(s).*

Clinical Skills Experience Portfolio (CSEP)	•	Satisfactory completion required	•	Checklist of required activities	•	Mid-course and end-of-rotation meeting with Site Director
Practice-Based Learning and Improvement Project (PBLI)	•	Satisfactory completion required	•	Checklist of required items	•	Completion by the last Friday of the course.
Examination(s)						
National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Subject Examination	•	See Table below	•	Numerical score and Fail, Pass, or Pass with Commendation	•	Last day of the course

^{*}Items include onboarding, CSEP completion, UWorld question completion, Aquifer cases, attendance, as well as other related administrative items. Failure to meet these responsibilities in a timely manner will result in a "Below Expectations" on the SPE.

National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Subject Examination

The National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Subject Examination is the final written examination for each Clerkship except Emergency Medicine. It will be administered at the NEOMED Rootstown Campus or at designated Prometric Center in Columbus area on the last day of each Clerkship. For additional details, see academic policy titled Administration of Examinations at Remote Sites in the Compass. Reporting time and location for each examination administered on NEOMED's campus is posted on the Outlook Calendar. Below is a summary of expected performance measurements. The Subject Examination score is an equated percent correct score that represents mastery of the content domain assessed by the examination. Cut lines are based on the most recent recommendations of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). Hofstee Compromise recommended passing score is used for minimum passing score. Minimum Pass with Commendation score is set at the 70th percentile nationally within Hofstee Compromise range of acceptable minimum honors scores. NBME content examples for each Clerkship can be accessed through this link.

Subject Examination	Failing Range	Passing Range	Pass with Commendation
Family Medicine Clerkship	<u><</u> 61	63-78	<u>></u> 79
Internal Medicine Clerkship	<u><</u> 59	60-78	<u>></u> 79
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship	<u><</u> 65	66-82	<u>></u> 83
Pediatrics Clerkship	<u><</u> 63	64-81	<u>></u> 82
Psychiatry Clerkship	<u><</u> 74	75-87	<u>></u> 88
Surgery Clerkship	<u><</u> 59	60-77	<u>></u> 78

Final Clerkship Grade Categories

Evaluation of student performance is expressed as one of the following permanent grades: Honors, High Pass, Pass or Fail. Extended Time or Incomplete are temporary grades assigned by the Clerkship Site Director, which indicate work in the course is incomplete. This grade may be the result of excused absences or academic deficiencies identified in a Clerkship or NBME assessment. If the Incomplete is not completed within the stated time frame (not to exceed one calendar year), the "Incomplete" will become a Fail grade. Students can view assessment data on OASIS. **Please refer to COM Grade Categories Policy for further detail.**

Final Clerkship Grade Category	Clinical Performance Grade	National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Grade	
only applicable to Clerkships that require a NBME subject exam	Pass with Commendations provided there are no individual ratings of "below expectations" for any of the individual objectives	Pass with Commendations	
High Pass (HP)	Pass with Commendations provided there are no individual ratings of "below expectations" for any of the individual objectives	Pass the NBME subject exam on first attempt	
	provided there are no individual ratings of "below expectations" for any of the individual objectives	Pass with Commendations	
Pass (P)	Pass	Pass	
	Pass	NBME subject exam not required	
Fail (F)	Fail	Pass	
	Pass	Fail	
	Fail	NBME subject exam not required	
Incomplete (I) or Extended Time (EX)	Temporary grade indicating that work in the course is incomplete. grade may be the result of excused absences or academic deficience identified in a Clerkship or NBME assessment.		

Clinical Performance	
Pass with Commendation	8 or more of 15 possible individual objective ratings "Exceeds Expectations"
Fail	4 or more of the 15 individual ratings "Below Expectations"
Pass	Student's performance surpasses the criteria for "Fail," but does not meet the criteria for "Pass with Commendation"
Incomplete	A student does not complete a mandatory portion of the clerkship due to illness or excused absence.

Grade Dispute

Grade Dispute guidelines are set forth in NEOMED's <u>College of Medicine Grade Dispute Policy</u>. A Grade Dispute is a formal request to change a Final Grade based on 1) arithmetic, procedural or clerical error, 2) arbitrariness and capriciousness or 3) prejudice. Only Final Grades may be disputed. If a student disagrees with his/her Final Grade for a Clerkship, the student must first discuss the matter with the Clerkship Site Director assigning the grade **within five (5) working days** of posting of the Final Grade Report Form, as well as notify, in writing <u>M3-M4GradeDispute@neomed.edu</u> regarding the intent. Please refer to the policy for additional details on grade disputes.

Course Remediation

Guidelines specified in the *Compass* will be followed. Remediation is a privilege. Students are not guaranteed the opportunity to remediate. Student professionalism, for example, or lack thereof, may be factored into the decision to offer remediation.

"Below Expectations" rating in four or more individual items on the Student Performance Evaluation Form (SPEF):

- Student must repeat clerkship in its entirety including the NBME Subject Examination. The highest grade for a repeated Clerkship is "Pass".
- Repetition of Clerkship will be scheduled by the College of Medicine /and Enrollment Services.

• Exception: Aggregate professionalism or performance concerns may result in referral to the Committee on Academic and Professional Progress (CAPP) rather than remediation.

Committee on Academic and Professional Progress (CAPP) Standards for Unsatisfactory Performance and Academic Action

CAPP standards in the Compass are not limited to but include the following for referral to CAPP:

- Aggregate performance and/or professionalism concerns.
- Failure of multiple NBME Subject Examinations.
- Failure of any remediation.
- Failure of a repeated Clerkship.

COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURE

Students are responsible for:

- Knowing where they are supposed to be at all times.
- Asking for guidance if unsure (not knowing expectations is not acceptable).
- Performing according to the articulated guidelines study them, know them and perform.
- Owning their education.
- Defining their learning agenda each day.
- Following all Hospital Institutional Policies as instructed.

University policies that are applicable throughout the College of Medicine curriculum are provided in more detail on the NEOMED Policy Portal.

Attendance and Time Off Clerkship

Attendance guidelines for all sessions are set forth in NEOMED's policy Attendance at Instructional Sessions

- Absences must be discussed with your site director and an Absence Notification Form must be submitted to NEOMED after a make-up plan is discussed.
- Request to present at a <u>professional conference</u> or fulfill a professional obligation should be completed online at least 6 weeks in advance.
- Religious Holiday Observation requests should be submitted for the first half of the year by July 1st and by November 1st for those holidays falling after January.

Blood Born Pathogen Policy

All students will receive yearly NEOMED training about Blood-Borne Pathogens and universal precautions. If an Exposure Incident occurs at a clinical site, immediately see or perform basic first aid. In accordance with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines:

- i. Wash all cuts and needlesticks with soap and water;
- ii. Flush splashes to nose, mouth, or skin with water;
- iii. Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile wash.

If the exposure occurs at a clinical education site, next notify the clinical director or preceptor and then report to the Employee Health clinic, designated medical department or facility for that institution, for treatment and/or evaluation according to the site guidelines.

After initial notification of an Exposure Incident to the appropriate site contact, students should contact the NEOMED Credentialing/Immunizations Staff at 330.325.6888 or email immunizations@neomed.edu within 24 hours of the exposure, regardless of the site at which the exposure occurred, to document the incident. The time, date, location and source of the exposure will need to be provided. They will also ask about how the exposure occurred, the status of the patient and whether or not the patient is at risk for blood-born pathogens.

The cost of treatment and/or evaluation will be billed to students' health insurance.

Curriculum Contact Hours

In compliance with guidelines established by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) and in accordance

with the NEOMED Curriculum Contact Hours Policy, students will not be required to work longer hours than residents.

Clinical Supervision and Safety

Students should be appropriately supervised in learning situations that involve patient care and the activities supervised should be within the scope of practice of the supervising health care professional.

- Follow OSHA guidelines and appropriate patient safety procedures (handwashing, mask, gloves) as directed by the clinical site.
- If you are in doubt, err on the side of caution by taking a chaperone (fellow student, attending, nurse or security).

Exposure to Environmental Hazards in the Educational Setting

The purpose of this Policy is to delineate the management of incidents of exposure to environmental hazards that occur to students while they are in the educational setting.

Learning Environment Concerns

Any issues or concerns regarding the Clerkship, house staff, personnel, patient availability, etc., should be addressed to the Clerkship Site Director. Any issues or concerns regarding the course, course faculty and staff, etc., should be addressed to the CED of Associate Dean of Experiential Education.

- Issues or concerns should be addressed as quickly as possible to foster early resolution.
- Concerns regarding misconduct also may be reported confidentially or anonymously using the Inappropriate
 Behavior Reporting Form.
- Students who feel they have been harassed or discriminated against should discuss the matter with their Associate Dean of Experiential Education, the Director of Student Wellness and Counseling, or the Chief Student Affairs Officer.

Professionalism

NEOMED students sign and are held to the Honor Code <u>Expectations of Student Conduct and Professional Behavior</u> and must abide by all student policies contained within *The Compass*. Failure to do so may result in referral and review by either CAPP or the Student Conduct Council.

 Hospitals and their academic departments reserve the right to determine appropriate attire for their sites and may impose additional requirements.

Subject Examination and Illness Protocol

If significantly ill the day of an M3 NBME Subject Examination and unable to take your examination, please reach out to the people below to notify them that you are unable to come. Notification of illness must be completed by 8:00 am the day of the examination. You do not need to wait for a reply although we will be reaching out to contact you.

- 1. The M3 Coordinator Team through the M3 Clerkships email: m3clerkships@neomed.edu
- 2. The assessments team: assessments@neomed.edu

We do not offer subject examinations during weekends or during your subsequent Clerkship. Students that do not take their examination at the originally scheduled time will need to reschedule the examination during designated breaks in your schedule. These time periods include winter break, the elective period, and after your final Clerkship is complete. All retake/remediation examinations are on the Rootstown Campus unless they fall during winter break when the campus is closed.

Safety/Clinical Supervision

1. The availability of emergency care. All NEOMED students are required to have health insurance coverage. Students who are approved for electives at an international site are also required to purchase international health insurance before the elective experience will be approved. When students participate in electives outside of a NEOMED-affiliated site, NEOMED may be asked by the site to enter into an affiliation agreement with the site to address the obligations of the student, the site, and NEOMED. NEOMED reviews all affiliation agreements to ensure that they contain a provision that requires the site to agree to provide emergency care to any NEOMED student participating in an elective at the site.

- 2. The possibility of natural disasters, political instability, and exposure to disease. Information about natural disasters, politic instability and exposure to disease is considered when approving any domestic or international elective experience. For international electives, NEOMED relies heavily on information provided by International SOS and the U.S. State Department (travel.state.gov) to guide the acceptability of and ensure the safety of students who seek electives at an international location. Students who seek to travel to a country with a U.S. Department of State-issued travel warning require approval from the International Experience Committee. Students who seek to travel to a country not under a travel warning require approval from the Office of Global Engagement (OGE). The OGE is integrally involved in clearing students to travel to a location and providing guidance about safe travel to and from the location. The decision to permit a student to travel to an area that has a U.S. Department of State-issued travel warning is student-specific and considers the student's international travel experience, particular travel history to that country/locale, and personal resources in that country/locale. The Director receives routine travel notices, and he monitors the notices for sites at which NEOMED students are rotating. The OGE also provides all NEOMED students who are traveling with a copy of the report as well as a copy of the NEOMED access card for International SOS so that the student can access up-to-date reports while on travel status. Finally, students must enroll with U.S. STEP (Smart Traveler Enrollment Program) and provide proof of enrollment to the OGE. Enrollment in STEP provides an alert to the embassy or consulate in the area in which the student will be traveling, providing information such as the name of the student, the dates of travel and where the student will be staying so that the student can be located easily in case there would be a need for evacuation.
- 3. Students in the clinical setting must be supervised by a health care professional, including physicians and non-physicians, who is acting within his/her scope of practice. Students who are entrusted to be in a clinical situation without direct supervision must be assured ready access to an appropriate in-house supervisor, i.e., an attending physician or resident. Off-site or telephone supervision is not acceptable.

Students may report concerns regarding inappropriate supervision and/or inappropriate delegation of tasks in several ways including, but not limited to, the course director, the site director, College of Medicine deans, and using the end-of-course evaluation form.

Student Accessibility Services

If you have a documented disability and wish to register with the University Student Accessibility Services Committee, you may do so by completing the Disability Registration and Accommodation Request form (linked above).