

Medical School Information



Class of 2021

- The first phase of our integrated curriculum is pass/fail.
- The first year of the curriculum for this class included the following courses: Genetics and Health (4 credits); Introduction to Clinical Medicine 1 (8 credits); Foundations of Medicine (6 credits); Discovery, Research, and Health (1 credit); Introduction to Clinical Practice-Primary Care Preceptorship (3 credits); Fundamentals of Microbiology and Immunology (4 credits); Introduction to Clinical Medicine 2 (8 credits); Introduction to Cancer Biology and Clinical Oncology (2 credits); Nutrition and Health (1 credit); Health Outcomes and Policy (1 credit); Respiratory System (5 credits); Cardiovascular System (5 credits); Kidney and Urinary Tract (4 credits); Introduction to Clinical Practice-Specialty Preceptorship (3 credits); and the elective Discovery Pathways and Medical Student Summer Research Program (2 credits).
- The second year curriculum included the following courses: Introduction to Clinical Medicine 3 (16 credits); Clinical Neuroscience (7 credits); Pain and Addiction (1 credit); Gastroenterology and Hepatology (5 credits); Introduction to Clinical Practice — Preceptorship (3 credits); Dermatology and the Musculoskeletal System (4 credits); Introduction to Clinical Medicine 4 (8 credits); Endocrinology and Reproduction (4 credits); Hematology (4 credits); and Preparation for USMLE Step 1 (1 credit).
- Throughout the first and second year, students met for 3 hours each week in their Collaborative Learning Groups to reinforce concepts taught in the basic science courses. Each group consisted of 8 students, and the group sessions were led by a clinical faculty member chosen for his/her skill in teaching, advising, and mentoring students.
- The third-year curriculum was composed of the core clinical clerkships: Internal Medicine (8 weeks), Surgery (8 weeks: 6 weeks—General Surgery and 2 weeks—subspecialty surgery), Pediatrics (8 weeks), Psychiatry (6 weeks), Obstetrics and Gynecology (6 weeks), Family Medicine/Ambulatory Care (8 weeks), and Geriatrics (4 weeks). Students received letter grades (A, B+, B, C+, C, D, E) in the third year clerkships.
- The fourth-year curriculum for this class consists of 13 four-week blocks. Five courses are required in the senior year: a four-week Sub-Internship in Medicine, Family Medicine, Surgery, or Pediatrics; a four-week clerkship in Anesthesia and Critical Care; a four-week clerkship in Geriatrics; a four-week clerkship in Emergency Medicine; and the three-week capstone course – Internship 101. Students have a four-week block to prepare for both parts of the USMLE Step 2 examination and another four-week block to complete their residency interviews. The remaining periods are for electives. The required courses, except for Geriatrics and Internship 101, are graded (A, B+, B, C+, C, D, E). Geriatrics, Internship 101, and the remaining electives are pass/fail.
- Ninety-six percent of students complete the required curriculum in four years. The overall rate of graduation is 99%.
- In each of the basic science courses and the clinical clerkships, students are assessed in accordance with the ACGME “clinical competencies.”
 - Professionalism
 - Patient Care
 - Medical Knowledge
 - Practice-Based Learning
 - Interpersonal and Communication Skills
 - System-Based Practice

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- Students are graded in the competencies as “exemplary,” “very good,” “acceptable,” and “needs remediation.”
- On the basis of the third-year letter grades, students are grouped into categories.
- The College of Medicine has a local chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society. Students in the top 25% of the class are eligible for election to AOA. One-sixth of the class ultimately is selected for membership on the basis of scholarship, service to the university and community, and character.
- The College of Medicine also has a local chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society — the Chapman Honor Society. This organization inducts 20 to 25 students in each graduating class in recognition of their excellence in humanism and professionalism. Selections for the Society are based on peer evaluations and assessments by faculty members and clerkship directors.
- Students must pass USMLE Step 1 to be promoted to the third year. They must pass USMLE Step 2-CK in order to graduate.
- Students must complete a Clinical Skills Examination (CSE) utilizing standardized patients at the conclusion of the first and second year. Successful completion of these CSEs is required before students can progress to the clinical clerkships. Students also must successfully complete two additional CSEs during their third year. They cannot proceed to the senior year until they have achieved a passing grade on the examinations.
- The narrative comments contained in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) are edited for grammar, syntax, punctuation, and redundancy.
- The College of Medicine is *substantially* in compliance with the AAMC “Guidelines for Medical Schools Regarding Academic Transcripts.” Our institution does not list individual academic honors during medical school on the transcript. A designation of “Graduation with Honors for Academic Excellence, Research, or Special Achievement” is noted for selected students at the completion of training. Voluntary withdrawals or academic suspensions are not specifically noted on the transcript. However, the grades for repeat courses are listed, and the MSPE includes a detailed explanation of adverse academic actions and interruptions in schooling.
- During this academic year, approximately 100% of the MSPEs were written by the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. The remainder were written by the Assistant Dean for Medical Education. The MSPE is based upon the student’s academic record and a personal interview. In addition, both the Associate Dean and the Assistant Dean have extensive contact with students during their basic science courses and during their third-year clerkships in the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pediatrics, respectively.
- Students are permitted to review the MSPE for factual accuracy.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Shelley Collins'.

Shelley Collins, M.D.
Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology