

A photograph of the Gerald L. Francis Center, a large brick building with a white portico supported by columns. The building has a triangular pediment with a circular vent. The entrance features a large arched window with the number 762 above it. The foreground is a green lawn with some trees and shrubs.

GERALD L. FRANCIS CENTER

ELON PA

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

ACADEMIC CATALOG **2015**



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Leo M. Lambert

Elon University offers outstanding graduate programs that combine the best of the liberal arts and sciences with nationally recognized engaged learning opportunities that provide excellent preparation for a career. Elon is one of only seven private universities in the nation with accredited schools of law, business, communications and education along with a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, which recognizes excellence in the arts and sciences.

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business, which offers the MBA, is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. Less than 5 percent of the world's business schools have earned this marker of excellence. Bloomberg Businessweek has named Elon's MBA the #1 part-time program in the South and #5 in the nation. In addition, Bloomberg Businessweek ranks the Love School one of the nation's top-50 business schools.

The M.Ed. is offered through Elon's School of Education, which is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Elon offers the Master of Arts in Interactive Media through the School of Communications. The Interactive Media program and school are both accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC). Elon's Interactive Media, M.Ed. and MBA programs feature a study abroad component that offers students valuable professional experience. The Elon University School of Law is accredited by the American Bar Association and combines outstanding legal education with a distinctive focus on engaged learning and leadership training.

Elon's newest school is the School of Health Sciences, which offers the Doctor of Physical Therapy program and a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. DPT has earned accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Elon enrolled its first class of PA students in January 2013. The DPT and PA programs immerse students in rigorous science and research experiences and feature excellent clinical practicums to reinforce classroom learning. Having the DPT and PA programs together in the School of Health Sciences provides powerful synergies for students, faculty and staff, further enhancing the student experience.

Each of our graduate programs is stamped with Elon's distinctive approach to learning. Small classes, creative, dedicated faculty scholars and opportunities to gain practical experience through our exceptional engaged learning programs make the Elon graduate experience personal, challenging and exciting. I welcome your interest in graduate education at Elon and hope you will give serious consideration to joining our community of scholars.

Sincerely,
Leo M. Lambert
President, Elon University

Graduate Education at Elon

Located in the beautiful Piedmont section of North Carolina, Elon University has earned a regional and national reputation for excellence both in undergraduate and graduate programs. Academic innovation is the hallmark of an Elon education, and the Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Education (M.Ed.), Master of Arts in Interactive Media (M.A.), Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT), Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.P.A.S.) programs exemplify Elon's commitment to combining a stimulating classroom environment with opportunities to apply knowledge in a practical setting.

MBA

The Elon MBA offers a rigorous curriculum featuring a core foundation of general management skills, career-focused specializations and a flexible schedule designed for working professionals. Ranked the # 5 part-time MBA program in the nation and the # 1 part-time MBA program in the South by *Bloomberg Businessweek* magazine, the Elon MBA features a careful blend of conceptual knowledge, critical thinking skills and practical exercises that enable you to develop the skills you need to apply business knowledge in many different situations, communicate effectively, understand multiple perspectives of a problem and use ethical reasoning to determine how a proposed solution may affect your company and the wider community. Designed to be completed in 21 to 33 months, the Elon MBA also includes two regularly scheduled MBA international study trips per year.

M.Ed.

The M.Ed. program offers graduate licensure in elementary education (K-6), gifted education (K-12) and special education (K-12). In the M.Ed. program, students hone skills for implementing appropriate instruction and differentiating curriculum for special needs students while deepening their understanding of the different content areas. Though skill development is an important aspect of the program, empowering teachers to make professionally mature decisions and developing collaborative leadership and research expertise are also emphasized. The M.Ed. Summer Cohort program provides licensed teachers the opportunity to complete the degree in just three summers. The program also includes a study abroad trip to Costa Rica.

M.A. in Interactive Media

In the rapidly converging world of media, the Elon Master of Arts in Interactive Media prepares students to think strategically across media platforms; to plan and create interactive media content consisting of text, images, sounds, video, and graphics; manage information for interactive news, entertainment, and strategic communications; and to work in any profession that employs interactive media skills. The intensive 10-month, 37-hour program includes hands-on production and theoretical courses along with a Winter Term, team-project course where students create an interactive product that involves international travel.



The M.A. in Interactive Media allows students to design, produce and create projects that are rapidly becoming the principal components of 21st century digital media.

DPT

Graduate students enrolled in the three-year, full-time Doctor of Physical Therapy program have unique opportunities to practice specific learning objectives in a variety of clinical settings. The partnership between Cone Health-Alamance Regional Medical Center and Elon's Department of Physical Therapy offers students a wealth of clinical and research opportunities. The philosophy of the DPT program emphasizes critical thinking, active learning, strong clinical experiences and inquiry-based approaches to treatment and research. The program produces graduates who are highly skilled clinician generalists and compassionate individuals, well-prepared for leadership as key members of a health care team.



PA

Elon's PA program prepares graduates to think critically and act skillfully to meet expanding health care needs in local and global communities. Students will immerse themselves in a curriculum structured around active learning strategies through collaborative work with Elon's faculty, scholars and practitioners in the field. Students will graduate from the 27-month, full-time program, prepared to employ the most current knowledge to care for patients' physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs. The Elon PA program, along with the Elon Doctor of Physical Therapy program, is housed within the School of Health Sciences.

J.D.

The Elon University School of Law opened in downtown Greensboro, North Carolina, in fall 2006 with a charter class of 100 students. The school builds on Elon University's national reputation for excellence in engaged learning and leadership education. It provides experiential opportunities for law students in a learning laboratory environment, with direct access to the region's major courts, law firms and government and nonprofit agencies. Elon law students acquire extensive knowledge of the law. They develop broad lawyering skills and learn how to listen, communicate and interact effectively and resolve conflict in the broad range of complex situations lawyers confront. They are empowered to improve our system of justice and make the world a better place.

The School of Law produces a separate academic catalog, which can be accessed online at www.law.elon.edu.

Visiting and contacting campus

Visitors to the university are welcome at all times. Administrative offices are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The Office of Graduate Admissions is located on the Elon campus in the Powell Building and will move to the Inman Admissions Welcome Center in January 2015. Graduate Admissions can be reached at 336-278-7600 or 800-334-8448, ext. 3 (Fax: 336-278-7699). You may also wish to contact us by email at gradadm@

elon.edu. For information about visiting the School of Law, contact the admissions office at 336-279-9200 or law@elon.edu.

The University does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or veteran's status or any other characteristic protected by law in the recruitment and admission of students, the recruitment and employment of faculty and staff or the operation of any of its programs. Students with documented disabilities may request in writing reasonable special services and accommodations. Questions should be directed to Ms. Susan Wise, disability services coordinator, Duke Hall, room 1081, (336) 278-6500. The university's Section 504 coordinator for students and Title IX coordinator is Dr. Jana Lynn Patterson, Student Health and Wellness Suite 104, (336) 278-7200. The university's Section 504 coordinator for applicants and current employees is Mr. Ronald Klepcyk, 314 W. Haggard Ave., (336) 278-5560.

In accordance with the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act, complete information regarding campus security policies and programs and campus crime statistics is available upon request from the Office of University Communications, 2030 Campus Box. Information regarding completion and graduation rates may be obtained from the Office of Admissions or at www.elon.edu/irweb. For support or to report an incident of bias, discrimination and/or harassment visit www.elon.edu/biasresponse.



Introduction

The mission of Elon University graduate programs

Through its graduate programs, Elon University gives students the opportunity to acquire a high level of competence in their fields of interest and to gain significant experience in the application of advanced knowledge and skills. Graduate programs offered at Elon foster a stimulating intellectual community based upon close interaction with faculty, academic engagement with peers in and out of the classroom and a university environment fully committed to supporting inquiry and research. Graduates from Elon's advanced degree programs are prepared to assume positions as active professionals committed to continued learning and the advancement of their professions.

Elon University offers graduate programs that are:

- Connected to the university's undergraduate programs, building on existing strengths and contributing to the enhancement of the quality of the undergraduate experience.
- Committed to the broad perspective of arts and sciences.
- Distinctive, excellent in overall quality and responsive to the needs of society.
- Committed to the intellectual growth and development of each student.
- Supportive of both faculty and student scholarly activity and its dissemination to the appropriate community of scholars and practitioners.

Elon University Honor Code

All students at Elon University pledge to abide by the Honor Code, which recognizes honesty, integrity, respect and responsibility as critical elements in upholding the values of the academic community. The current Student Handbook, www.elon.edu/students/handbook, presents sanctions and hearing procedures in detail.

History

Elon University is a private, coeducational and comprehensive university. Founded in 1889 by the Christian Church (now United Church of Christ), it is the third largest of North Carolina's 36 private colleges and universities.

During the 1980s, Elon experienced a decade of unprecedented growth. During this time, applications doubled and enrollment increased 35 percent, making Elon one of the fastest-growing institutions in the region. Dozens of academic and student life programs were added to enrich the quality of an Elon education. Special classes and volunteer programs were developed to provide students with leadership and service opportunities. In fall 1984, the university began offering a Master of Business Administration degree through the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business. In fall 1986, a Master of Education degree was added, and in 1997, a Master of Physical Therapy degree program was established. In 2003,



the Doctor of Physical Therapy replaced the MPT. The Elon University School of Law opened in fall 2006. The Master of Arts in Interactive Media program was established in fall 2009. The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program began in January 2013.

Also during the '80s and '90s, the university's physical plant grew. Total campus acreage doubled, square footage of buildings increased and significant new facilities were added, including **Carol Grotnes Belk Library**, featuring 75,000 square feet with more than 250 computers, networked study rooms and multimedia and audiovisual stations; **Dalton L. McMichael Sr. Science Center**, providing 81,000 square feet of research laboratories, high-tech instrumentation and computer technology; **Moseley Campus Center**, a 74,000-square-foot student center; and **Koury Center**, a physical education, athletics and recreation complex. In the early part of the new century, Elon opened **Rhodes Stadium**, **Belk Track**, **White Field** and five pavilions in the **Academic Village**.

In the summer of 2006, Elon opened the three-story, 60,000-square-foot **Ernest A. Koury, Sr. Business Center**, home of Elon's Martha and Spencer Love School of Business. The Center includes the **LaRose Digital Theatre**; the **LabCorp Suite for Executive Education**; the **William Garrard Reed Finance Center** with real-time data from global financial markets; the **Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership**; the **Chandler Family Professional Sales Center** and the **James B. and Anne Ellington Powell Lobby**.

In the summer of 2009, Elon renovated the second floor of Powell Building to become the home of the Master of Arts in Interactive Media program. **The Powell Interactive Media Suite** houses a state-of-the-art computer laboratory/production facility and classroom. It includes five editing suites, a graduate study center and a lounge. The suite also houses DSLR cameras, which shoot still photos and high definition video. Additionally, high definition, tapeless video cameras, audio recorders, lighting kits, booms and other equipment to produce interactive media are available for checkout from the School of Communications. Offices for interactive media faculty are also located in the Powell Interactive Media Suite.

In April 2011, the Elon University Board of Trustees established the School of Health Sciences. The school is housed in the **Gerald L. Francis Center**, a renovated space that opened in December 2011 and includes classrooms, lab facilities and meeting and office space.

Location

Elon's historic campus is ideally situated on 600 acres in central North Carolina, adjacent to Burlington, a city of 50,000. Elon's brick sidewalks, Georgian architecture and state-of-the-art facilities are surrounded by majestic oak trees and lovely gardens. The university is a 40-minute drive from UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University, and 30 minutes from Greensboro, a city that regularly offers major concerts and sporting events. A dozen other colleges and universities are less than an hour away.

Downtown Greensboro is also the location of the Elon School of Law, an 84,000-square-foot facility including a new multimillion-dollar library collection, wireless technology, courtroom and specialized labs and classrooms, adjacent to federal and state courts, government offices and major law firms.



Airline services are conveniently located at the Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro and at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Amtrak serves Greensboro and Raleigh with daily connections to Burlington.

Degrees and majors

Elon University offers more than 60 major fields of study leading to the bachelor of arts, bachelor of fine arts or bachelor of science degree. The university also offers a dual-degree engineering program in cooperation with Columbia University, Georgia Tech, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina State University, Penn State University, University of Notre Dame, University of South Carolina, Virginia Tech and Washington University in St. Louis.

Elon's graduate programs include a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business; a Master of Education (M.Ed.) with specialty areas in elementary, gifted and special education; a Master of Arts in Interactive Media (M.A.) through the School of Communications; a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) and a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.P.A.S.) through the School of Health Sciences; and a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree through the School of Law.

Enrollment

With approximately 706 graduate and 5,599 undergraduate students, Elon is smaller than most universities. Students come from 48 states, the District of Columbia and 47 other nations, with approximately 78 percent of enrollment coming from outside North Carolina. At Elon you won't be lost in a crowd, but you will meet and interact with many new people.

Accreditation

Elon University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's and master's degrees, the doctor of physical therapy degree and juris doctor degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4501 for questions about the accreditation of Elon University, to file a third-party comment at the time of Elon University's decennial review, or to file a complaint against Elon University for alleged non-compliance with a standard or requirement. For normal inquiries about Elon University such as admissions requirements, financial aid and educational programs, etc., contact Elon University at 336-278-2000.

The Master of Business Administration program is accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The Master of Education program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and by the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction.

The Master of Arts in Interactive Media program is a part of the School of Communications. The school and program are accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC).



The **Doctor of Physical Therapy program** at Elon University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>.

The **Juris Doctor program** is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).

The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to the **Master of Science Physician Assistant Studies Program** sponsored by Elon University. Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.

Library/technology center

The state-of-the-art Belk Library features the latest in information technology and is located at the center of campus, convenient to all graduate classrooms. It is uniquely designed to integrate print, electronic and audiovisual resources, with an extensive program of research, tutoring and technical support available during all hours of operation to assist students and faculty. More than 250 Macintosh and Windows desktop computers and wireless laptop computers offer access to the online catalog and the Internet. Students can choose among a wide variety of individual and group study spaces while using the more than 280,000 volumes, government documents and media resources. More than 27,000 online journals are available, as well as an extensive video and audio collection.

Belk Library also houses the Tutoring and Writing Center and the Faculty Resource Center. Please visit www.elon.edu/library for more information.

Writing assistance and computer services

Elon has a well-established writing center located in Belk Library. Graduate students seeking assistance with writing may utilize the services of the center, including one-on-one tutoring, without charge. Graduate students may use computer labs with Internet access, and they can access their free email accounts. Staff members are available to provide assistance. There are approximately 940 computer work stations on campus in 50 computer labs.

Career services and professional placement assistance

The Student Professional Development Center, located in Moseley Center, assists graduate students individually as they identify their career direction and finalize their career search. The Career Center has incorporated modern technology to provide effective student/ employer matches and to assist students in accessing current employer literature. Programs for graduate students include resume referral to employers, individual job search assistance,



job vacancy lists and workshops on resume writing and job interviewing. For details, please visit www.elon.edu/careers.

Parking

Student parking at Elon is convenient and easily accessible. For full-time students enrolled in the DPT and M.S.P.A.S. programs the annual fee for parking is \$160 for the first year. DPT students pay \$80 annually for parking in year two and three. No parking fees apply for graduate students enrolled in the second and third year of the M.S.P.A.S. program. The annual fee for students in the Interactive Media, MBA and M.Ed. programs is \$30.

The graduate admissions process

Elon's admissions policy encourages the selection of students who have demonstrated both academic ability and talent in their field. Each application is considered in light of all completed academic work, test scores, evidence of leadership and motivation, work history, credentials and letters of recommendation.

Applicants should consult the section in this catalog dealing with their desired degree for specific admissions requirements. This information, as well as an application, can also be obtained from the **Elon Graduate Admissions website** at www.elon.edu/graduate. Please note that undergraduates are not permitted to register for graduate courses.

Basic requirements

- Evidence of an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Strong undergraduate record
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and any graduate studies completed or taken
- Three letters of recommendation
- TOEFL scores for international students, unless English is the student's native language or the language of instruction



Application procedures, testing, transfer credits and graduate program costs

Since all of Elon's graduate programs differ in application procedures, testing, transfer credits and program costs, graduate students should consult the section in this catalog dealing with their desired degree for program-specific information.

Forms of financial assistance for graduate students

Elon is committed to assisting eligible students in securing the necessary funds for their graduate school program. To the extent possible, eligible students receive assistance through careful planning and through accessing various forms of financial assistance.

In order to receive any type of university, state or federal funding, students must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress toward the completion of graduate degree requirements. No financial assistance is offered until an applicant has been accepted for admission to a graduate program.

Elon University payment program

Elon offers a payment plan to all graduate students. The plan requires an initial payment of one-third of the total cost of the program with the remainder divided into two equal payments. In addition, for the M.Ed. program, there are alternative payment plans. For further information on payment plans, contact the Bursar's office. Students must submit a new application for each semester.

We are making a policy adjustment that will affect students that pay tuition and fees with credit cards. While we understand the reasons people choose this payment method, the university has borne the cost of paying transaction fees to the credit card companies, amounting to approximately \$1.1 million annually. We believe that money would be much better spent supporting our educational mission.

As a result, families that pay tuition statement bills with MasterCard, Discover, American Express and VISA cards will be assessed a 2.75% convenience fee. Students that wish to avoid the fees are encouraged to use online checks/ACH or personal checks, wire transfers or other payment options. There will be no extra fees for other Elon transactions, such as online tickets or Phoenix Cash deposits. In addition, the university accepts American Express, VISA, MasterCard and Discover cards for payment of books.

If you have questions about the new payment options, contact the Bursar's Office.

Federal Stafford Loan (unsubsidized)

Graduate students may borrow up to \$20,500 annually. Repayment of principal begins six months after graduation or when you are no longer enrolled at least half-time. The fixed interest rate is set by the Department of Education and will be established each award year. A small processing fee will be withheld by the Department of Education from your requested loan amount. Federal regulations require the loan proceeds to be disbursed in two equal amounts. These proceeds are applied directly to your tuition account. Unsubsidized Stafford Loans are available through the Direct Loan program, which is administered by the federal government. All loans will be processed with the Department of Education as your lender. First-time borrowers will be required to complete a Master Promissory Note with the Department of Education and are also required to complete student loan entrance counseling at www.studentloans.gov. Information about the Federal Stafford Loan (unsubsidized) may be obtained from the Office of Financial Planning website at elon.edu/finaidborrow.

The Federal Graduate PLUS Loan Program

This is a loan made to graduate and professional students based on credit worthiness. You may borrow up to the cost of education less any other financial aid awarded. Federal regulations require the loan proceeds to be disbursed in two equal amounts. These proceeds are applied directly to your tuition account. Graduate PLUS loans are available through the Direct Loan Program, which is administered by the federal government. All loans will be processed with the Department of Education as your lender. The fixed interest rate is set by the Department of Education and will be established each award year. The Department of Education will withhold a small processing fee from your requested loan amount. First-time



borrowers will be required to complete a Master Promissory Note with the Department of Education and are also required to complete student loan entrance counseling at www.studentloans.gov. Information about the Graduate PLUS Loan may be obtained from the Office of Financial Planning website at elon.edu/finaidborrow.

Forgivable Education Loans for Service

Created by the 2011 N.C. General Assembly, this program is a forgivable loan providing funding to students pursuing degrees in certain critical fields. Recipients must sign a promissory note agreeing to repay the loan by working in North Carolina in their approved field of study. Visit the College Foundation of North Carolina's website for more information (CFNC.org/FELS) or 866-866-2362.

Yellow Ribbon Program

Elon's DPT program is participating in the federal government's Yellow Ribbon Program, designed to assist post-9/11 veterans with secondary and post-secondary educational opportunities. Elon's DPT program will contribute \$5,000 to three post-9/11 veterans on a first-come, first-serve basis, which will be matched by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

American Academy of Physician Assistants

Elon PA students are encouraged to review the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants Financial Aid Resources website (aapa.org) for information about scholarships, awards and grants.

National Health Service Corps

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) scholarship is a competitive program that pays tuition, fees and provides a living stipend to students enrolled in accredited medical (MD or DO), dental, nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, and physician assistant training programs. Upon graduation, scholarship recipients serve as primary care providers between 2 and 4 years in a community-based site in a high-need Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) that has applied to and been approved by the NHSC as a service site.

Awards are made to applicants most committed to serving underserved people, most likely to build successful careers in HPSAs, and meet future needs for care throughout the nation. Application instructions can be found at the NHSC website.

Note: Candidates must be accepted for enrollment or enrolled in a program on or before September 30 in order to apply for the scholarship. Because the Elon PA program enrolls in January, our students are eligible to apply during their first year of enrollment. For example, an Elon PA student could apply as early as March* of their first year and if awarded the scholarship begin receiving funding in July of their first year. As a result, the PA student could receive funding for a total of 21 out of their 27 months of the program.



American Physical Therapy Association

Doctor of Physical Therapy students are encouraged to review the American Physical Therapy Association website (apta.org) for information about scholarships, awards and grants.

Scholarship programs

A limited number of Doctor of Physical Therapy scholarships ranging from \$5,000 to \$14,000 will be awarded annually to students who have demonstrated academic ability and talent as well as an enthusiasm and commitment for the physical therapy profession. Every admitted student will be considered for scholarship in light of all academic work, GRE scores, letters of recommendation, interview scores and demonstrated leadership ability. Students will be notified of their award at the time of acceptance if selected. Students who receive a scholarship are required to maintain good academic and professional standing in the program.

A number of merit-based scholarships are also available to Interactive Media students who demonstrate an enthusiasm for learning and a commitment to energizing media communication. Scholarship amounts range from \$4,000 to \$12,000.

Private sources

Many companies, corporations, foundations and school systems offer assistance to students based on a variety of qualifications. Students should investigate policies of their employers and check with the many local civic organizations to determine the availability of such funds and their application procedures.

Please note that federal and state loan programs are not available to international students.

Academic regulations

Course registration

Registration information is available to all students prior to registration. Students are expected to register themselves on designated days. Registration includes academic advising, selection of courses and payment of fees. As part of the preregistration/registration process, graduate faculty are available to offer advice concerning scheduling of courses and assisting with registration.

DPT and PA students follow a varied registration procedure. Please contact the DPT program director at 336-278-6400 and the PA program director at 336-278-6847.

Undergraduates are not permitted to register for graduate courses.

Changes in class schedule

The university reserves the right to cancel or discontinue any course because of small enrollment or for other reasons deemed necessary. In order to assure quality instruction, the university reserves the right to close registration when the maximum enrollment has been reached and to make changes in schedule and/or faculty when necessary.

Dropping courses

A student may officially drop any class with a “W” (withdraw without penalty) halfway through the term, which includes the week of examinations. The withdrawal period applies to programs following the regular semesters and the summer sessions. After that date, no class may be dropped. Any exception to this policy is the responsibility of the appropriate academic dean’s office.

A course dropped without permission of the Registrar is automatically graded “F.”

A student who withdraws from the university for any reason (except for a medical reason) receives grades of “W” if the withdrawal is before the designated half-term time period. After this time a student will receive a “W” or “F” depending on his/her grades at the time of withdrawal.

*Graduate grading system and quality points**

Graduation is dependent upon the quality as well as the quantity of work completed. Letter grades are used. They are interpreted in the following tables, with the quality points for each hour of credit shown at right:

Grade		Quality Points
A	Distinguished	4.0
A-	Excellent	3.7
B+	Above average	3.3
B	Average	3.0
B-	Below average	2.7
C	Unsatisfactory	2.0
F	Failure	0
I	Incomplete	0
WD	Medical withdrawal	0
W	Withdrawal	0
NR	No report	0

Pluses and minuses added to the letter grade pertain only to the MBA program. **For the DPT and MSPAS grading system, please refer to the DPT and DPAS Student Handbook.** Grades of “A” through “F” are permanent grades and may not be changed except in cases of error. After a professor has certified a grade to the Registrar, he or she may change it before the end of the next regular grading period. The change must be made in writing and have the written approval of the program director/committee chairperson.

An “I” grade signifies incomplete work because of illness, emergency, extreme hardship or self-paced courses. It is not given for a student missing the final examination unless excused by the Dean of Academic Affairs upon communication from the student. After the date designated on the appropriate academic calendar, “I” grades automatically change to “F” unless an extension is granted by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Grade point average (GPA)

The grade point average is computed by dividing the total quality points on work attempted at Elon University by the number of hours attempted, except for courses with grades of “WD,” “W” or “S.”

Grading system for the M.A. in Interactive Media program

Graduation is dependent upon the quality of work and mastery of material in the 37 hours required to complete the Master of Arts in Interactive Media. Students will be evaluated using the following grade scale:

Grade	Evaluation	Credit
H	Honors	3 hrs.
P	Pass with mastery	3 hrs.
L	Low pass	3 hrs.
F	Failure	0 hrs.
I	Incomplete	
WD	Medical withdrawal	
W	Withdrawal	
NR	No report	

If, in the judgment of the academic program director, faculty and administrators of the School of Communications, a student fails to make satisfactory progress toward the completion of the degree or to demonstrate sufficient promise in the discipline, the student will not be allowed to continue in the program. Registration in the following semester for academically ineligible students will be cancelled automatically.

A student becomes academically ineligible to continue in the program for the following reason: He/she receives a grade of F, or more than one grade of L per semester. For iMedia, the August and January terms are considered part of the fall and spring semesters, respectively.

Grading system for the M.Ed. program

Graduation is dependent upon the quality and completion of course work, as well as evidence of development in professional standards during the 33 hours required to complete the Master of Education in Elementary, Gifted or Special Education. Students will be evaluated using the following grade scale:

Grade	Evaluation	Quality Points
A	Distinguished	4.00
B	Average	3.00
C	Weak	2.00
F	Unsatisfactory	0

A “B” is considered average for graduate work. The expectations should be high for graduate students and B’s accordingly should be expected. The M.Ed. program does not give D’s as final grades, as they are not considered passing.

A - Distinguished Performance

Excellent work that demonstrates not only a clear understanding of the material but also a superior ability to utilize that material in the assignment submitted. All criteria are met. The student’s work goes beyond the task and contains additional, unexpected or outstanding features.

B - Average Performance

A solid piece of work that demonstrates a good understanding of the material under study and utilizes that material well in the assignment submitted. The student meets the assignment criteria, with few errors or omissions, but there are few additional, unexpected or outstanding features. A “B” is average for graduate work. The average expectations should be high for graduate students, and B’s accordingly should be expected.

C - Weak Performance

Work that demonstrates a technical, or basic, understanding of the material under study and which utilizes that material adequately in the assignment submitted. The work meets the assignment criteria. In the graduate program, C’s cannot really be seen as “average.” After all, a student cannot remain in the program if 2 C’s are made. As such, they must be seen as “weak” rather than “average.”

F - Unsatisfactory

Work is incomplete, inappropriate and/or shows little or no comprehension of the class material in the assignment submitted.

Continuation standards and graduation requirements

Because all of Elon’s graduate programs differ in continuation standards and graduation requirements, graduate students should consult the section in this catalog dealing with their desired degree for program-specific information.

Access to student educational records

Elon University complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. This act protects the privacy of educational records, establishes the right of students to inspect and review their educational records, and provides guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings. Students also have the right to file complaints with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office concerning alleged failures by the institution to comply with the act.

Questions concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act may be referred to the Office of the Registrar.

Transcripts of student records

Requests for copies of a student's record should be made to the **Office of the Registrar, 2106 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244**. All graduate transcripts reflect the student's complete graduate academic record. No transcripts will be issued without the written authorization of the student. No transcript is issued for a student who has a financial obligation to the university.

Changes

Adequate notice will be given to enrolled students as changes are made in the graduate programs.

Policies

Instructional and financial policies not covered in this document will follow those printed in the official Elon University Undergraduate Academic Catalog. Students may obtain a copy of this catalog from the **Office of Admissions, 2700 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244**. The catalog is also available online at www.elon.edu/catalog.

The PA Program

A strong program

In partnership with Alamance Regional Medical Center and Cone Health, Elon's Department of Physician Assistant Studies enrolled its charter class for the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPAS) program in January 2013 and will add a new cohort of students each January. The program features exceptional faculty and staff, state-of-the-art facilities, strong medical community support and a focus on engaged learning.

A curriculum organized body systems

This 27-month program engages students through an innovative systems-organized curriculum that employs large and small group discussion, hands-on clinical skills labs, simulated patient experiences, lecture and patient scenario discussions. Over the course of the academic year, the patient scenarios and simulated patient experiences will increase in complexity. These will culminate in an Advanced Clinical Reasoning course in the fall that builds on existing learner-centered models by guiding students to reapply knowledge and build competence in all areas of the Competencies for the Physician Assistant Profession.

The required Master's Project supports and promotes professional development in the area of accessing, critically appraising, and applying the best evidence to address a research, patient care, service/education or quality improvement question relevant to PA practice or education. The clinical education phase consists of seven required rotations and two electives. Clinical sites are located throughout the central area of North Carolina.

Year I (beginning January)

Year I consists of a four-week introductory module followed by two progressive modules covering anatomy, pathophysiology, clinical medicine, pharmacology and physical diagnosis of the various body systems and medicine disciplines. The fall modules include population and special populations medicine courses, as well as advanced clinical reasoning, a master's project and a clinical phase preparation course.

Year II

In Year II, the students complete 18 weeks of clinical education experiences before returning to campus for one week of continued professional development instruction and an opportunity to participate in the AAPA National Conference. Concurrently, they also begin their master's project under the mentorship of faculty. The student then completes two 12-week blocks of clinical education experiences followed by a one-week return to campus. The second year ends with the students completing the program's summative evaluation process.

Year III

In Year III, students complete their final six-week clinical education experience, followed by a one-week board review course and culminating with a final week of professional development and presentation of their final masters project. Students graduate in early March.



Accreditation

Elon University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; phone: 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's and master's degree, the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, and the Juris Doctor degree. The PA program is accredited-provisional by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (12000 Findley Road, Suite 150, Johns Creek, GA 30097-1410; phone: 770-476-1224.)

Program mission

The Elon University Department of Physician Assistant Studies embraces the overall mission of the University and seeks to fulfill the departmental vision of “Learning. Caring. Serving. Leading.” by acting upon these commitments:

Learning:

We foster a supportive, collaborative and collegial community that engages students in a learner-centered environment, appropriately challenges them to capably demonstrate clinical competence and supports professional development of students and faculty.

Caring:

We promote dialogue on personal and cultural attributes and are accepting of different values, beliefs and perspectives as a valuable addition to our learning community.

We advance patient care by recognizing our first responsibility is to our patients as we integrate the core competencies of the physician assistant profession including: medical knowledge, interpersonal communication skills, patient care, professionalism and practice- and systems-based learning.

We embrace the health care team approach and believe interprofessional, patient-centered care is achieved through collaboration across health professions' disciplines and integration of patient or family preferences with the best available health care practices.

Serving and Leading:

We are dedicated to the advancement of the PA profession and continually seek to develop as professionals. We seek to lead change within health delivery systems that improves patient care, eliminates health disparities and adapts to meet the needs of the ever changing health care environment.

Program goals

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies (DPAS) embraces Elon University's guiding mission and supports fulfillment of The Elon Commitment through implementation of the departmental “Learning. Caring. Serving. Leading.” vision. The themes of The Elon Commitment serve as the structure for presenting our goals through the 2014-15 Academic Year. Each theme is expanded upon by key strategies that will lead to attaining our overall goal of creating a nationally recognized department.



Commitment to diversity and global engagement

Goal 1: Attract and educate academically-talented, compassionate, mature students from diverse backgrounds and experiences who are committed to the mission of Elon University and the department.

Goal 2: Support student interest in service and leadership through structured co-curricular activities and a curriculum model that adapts to allow exceptional students the opportunity to pursue service and leadership opportunities.

World-class faculty and staff

Goal 3: Prepare our faculty to excel in utilizing “engaged learning” strategies that effectively educate students to deliver patient-centered, evidence-based care to all patients.

Goal 4: Prepare our faculty to excel in utilizing “engaged learning” strategies that effectively educate students to deliver patient-centered, evidence-based care to all patients.

Outcome: One hundred percent of principal faculty employed for the 2013-14 academic year have demonstrated success through a variety of venues that included: submission and publication of peer-reviewed articles, provided national peer-reviewed presentations, successfully competed for grant funding, and held university, professional and national service and leadership positions.

Highest levels of academic achievement

Goal 5: Continue to develop innovative teaching and curriculum methods that prepare PA graduates to meet the future needs of the health care delivery system.

Innovative alumni programs

Goal 6: Create and implement a dynamic Alumni Program for the Department of Physician Assistant Studies.

Premier academic facilities

Goal 7: Maintain the Gerald L. Francis Center as a premier academic facility through the use of sustainable building practices.

The faculty

The DPAS faculty are academically skilled and bring a balance of clinical expertise and research experience to both the classroom and the clinical skills courses. There are eight full-time faculty with terminal degrees in health sciences, medicine, pharmacy and public health. All physician assistant faculty members hold national certification and physician faculty possess board certification in obstetrics and gynecology or pediatrics. In addition, two part-time medical directors are actively engaged in the program and possess board certification in internal medicine.



The faculty work cooperatively to prepare Elon graduates to be clinician generalists. The curriculum includes many unique active-learning opportunities for the student. Classes and laboratories are small, so the student-faculty ratio creates an environment where faculty are accessible to students. Faculty serve as role models for students through their participation in teaching, research, clinical practice and community service on campus as well as in the greater Elon University community. Faculty are also active in leadership positions with the Physician Assistant Education Association and various physician assistant and medicine professional organizations.

Costs

Tuition for the academic year beginning in January 2015 is \$34,680. Books and living expenses are separate. While campus housing is not available for PA students, the university provides local housing information to admitted students. A nonrefundable enrollment fee of \$1,000 is also required and applied to tuition at enrollment.

Refunds

Tuition and fees are refunded on a pro rata basis during the first 13 weeks of each half of the academic year. The first half begins on the first day of classes in January. The second half begins on the first day of July. Following is a table of pro rata charges:

Start of the period through the end of third week	10% charge
Fourth week through the end of the seventh week	50% charge
Eighth week through the end of the 13th week.....	75% charge
14th week	No refund

The effective date of withdrawal is determined by the Associate Vice President of Student Life. Students who believe circumstances warrant an exception from the published policy must appeal to Gerald Whittington, Senior Vice President of Business, Finance and Technology, 113 Alamance Building.

Unpaid charges owed by the student will be deducted from the calculated refund.

The \$1,000 enrollment fee is nonrefundable.

Elon PA admissions requirements and procedures

Admission to the Elon PA program is highly competitive. Each application is evaluated on its own merits. Admission decisions are based on all academic work (including overall GPA and science GPA), GRE scores, letters of recommendation, interview scores, patient care experience, demonstrated service and leadership ability. Motivation, maturity, interpersonal skills, knowledge of the PA profession and the health care system and the mission of the Elon PA program are also considered.



Admission process

The Elon PA program participates in the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). All applicants will apply online using the CASPA application. To apply, visit portal.caspaonline.org.

Minimum admission requirements

- Each applicant must complete a bachelor's degree in the United States from a regionally accredited college or university. International degrees that have been evaluated as United States equivalent will not fulfill this requirement. All prerequisites must be completed at a regionally accredited college or university.
- Minimum GPA of 3.2 for undergraduate work.
- Minimum Overall Science GPA of 3.0 for undergraduate work.
- Completion of prerequisite courses:
 - Anatomy with Laboratory – 4 semester hours
 - Physiology – 3 semester hours
 - General Chemistry with Laboratory – 4 semester hours
 - Additional Chemistry course with Laboratory – 4 semester hours
 - Additional Upper Level Science Courses: two semesters (a minimum of 6 semester hours) of upper level courses focused on deepening an understanding of human anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology. Examples include, but are not limited, to biochemistry, cell and molecular biology, exercise physiology, genetics, immunology, microbiology and organic chemistry.
 - Additional Upper Level Courses: two semesters (a minimum of 6 semester hours) of upper level courses focused on deepening an understanding of the human condition. Examples include but are not limited to courses taken within the disciplines of anthropology, ethics, psychology, public health, sociology or religion.

Notes on prerequisite courses

- Five of the six required science courses must be completed at the time of application.
- Grades of 'C' or better are required in each prerequisite course
- No prerequisite course may be taken on a pass/no pass or credit/no credit basis.
- Each science prerequisite course must have been successfully completed within 10 years prior to January enrollment. Non-science prerequisite courses do not have a time limit.

Official graduate record examinations (GRE) scores taken within the last five years.

- Preference will be given to candidates who score above 1000 (or 297 on the revised GRE taken after 7/31/11) for a composite verbal and quantitative score.

Note: We accept the prior GRE General Test as well as the revised GRE General Test. Visit ets.org/gre for additional information about the revised scoring scale. Elon's CASPA code is 0398.

Minimum of 250 hours volunteer or work experience in a health care setting with at least 20 of these hours spent working with or observing a physician assistant (may be in progress).

- Preference will be given to candidates who have direct patient care experiences that required a prior period of training based on the length/rigor of the required training. In addition, preference will be given to candidates who have completed greater numbers of health care experience hours.

Three letters of recommendation

- One letter should be written by an academic reference or health profession's advisory committee qualified to evaluate the applicant's academic achievement and potential for success as a graduate student.
- One letter should be written by a professional or supervisor qualified to evaluate the applicant's interpersonal skills and ability to meet the future demands of providing patient care under the supervision of a physician.

Must be able to meet the Essential Function Requirements of Physician Assistant Studies at Elon University, which are detailed on our website, elon.edu/pa.

International students

Because several months may be required to receive and process forms from international applicants, applications and complete documentation should be submitted as early as possible. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required unless English is the student's native language or the language of instruction. A minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based) or 79 (Internet-based) is required for admission to any graduate program at Elon. Exceptions to this requirement may be considered under special circumstances.

Requirements for international students on F-1 visas

In addition to PA admissions requirements, F-1 students applications must include:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required unless English is the student's native language or the language of instruction. A minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based) or 79 (Internet-based) is required.
- English translations of transcripts and explanations of grading systems are required if the transcripts are from institution(s) outside the United States.
- Original bank statement or letter issued within the last six months.
- Medical insurance and immunization records. (Elon requires students to maintain health insurance during the entire period of enrollment.)

Prerequisite courses

An application will be considered if the prospective student has no more than one science course remaining to be completed at the time of application. Applicants must complete all of the prerequisite courses prior to enrollment in the program. Grades of 'C' or better are required in each prerequisite course. No prerequisite course may be taken on a pass/no



pass or credit/no credit basis. Each science prerequisite course must have been successfully completed within 10 years prior to January enrollment. Non-science prerequisite courses do not have a time limit.

Transfer credits

Students enrolled in the Elon PA program are not permitted to transfer credits from another graduate program.

Continuation standards

Elon PA students who fail to maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. Any student who receives a second unsatisfactory (U) grade is subject to dismissal from the program. If a student is dismissed from the program, the student may appeal by employing the procedures for student appeals listed in the PA Student Handbook. For consideration for re-admission into the program, the student must compete with the new applicants for the program.

Graduation and degree requirements

To earn the MSPAS degree, the graduate student must:

- Have an overall minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all required PA courses with a maximum of one 'U' (unsatisfactory) course grade.
- Be in good academic and professional behavior standing as determined by the Academic and Professional Progress Committee.
- Submit an application for graduation to the Registrar by Oct. 15 preceding the graduation date.
- Complete all required MSPAS degree courses and requirements in a satisfactory manner within four calendar years.
- Demonstrate professional and personal attributes appropriate for continuance in the program and entry into the profession.
- Demonstrate entry-level competency as determined through the summative evaluation process that occurs in December prior to graduation.

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the preceding requirements for graduation.

(U) grade is subject to dismissal from the program. If a student is dismissed from the program, the student may appeal by employing the procedures for Student Appeals listed in the Elon Student Handbook. For consideration for re-admission into the program, the student must compete with the new applicants for the program.

Graduate-level licensure

The Elon PA graduate is eligible to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certification Exam (PANCE) upon satisfactory completion of all requirements for the MSPAS degree.



Academic course descriptions**INTRODUCTORY MODULE**

PAS 500 (2)
Introduction to Medicine
 This course will introduce the students to several areas important to the practice of medicine including anatomy, pharmacology, laboratory medicine, radiology and topics in Infectious Disease. Prerequisite: Admission to the Elon Physician Assistant Program

PAS 502 (2)
Medical Physiology
 This course offered early in the physician assistant program curriculum will review concepts of human physiology to strengthen the students' core foundation of physiology knowledge. Major themes regarding commonly occurring pathophysiologic processes will be introduced to prepare students for more in-depth learning about specific disease states and patient presentations in subsequent courses. Prerequisite: Admission to the Elon Physician Assistant Program

PAS 504 (2)
Introduction to History and Physical Exam
 This course will introduce the students to the principles of patient-centered communication and medical interviewing that will be foundational in their development as physician assistants. They will also begin to develop physical examination skills as they learn and practice the assessment of a patient's general appearance and vital signs. Prerequisite: Admission to the Elon Physician Assistant Program

PAS 506 (1)
Professional Issues Seminar
 This course will introduce the students to several areas important to the professional development and practice of a physician assistant. These include the history of the physician assistant profession, the team-based approach to practice and physician assistant professional organizations. Prerequisite: Admission to the Elon Physician Assistant Program

SPRING MODULE

PAS 510 (3)
Anatomy I
 This course is designed to provide Physician Assistant students with a thorough, clinically relevant knowledge base in human gross anatomy. The course utilizes lecture, embryologic correlation, human donor dissection, fresh tissue dissection, surface anatomy, and anatomic body painting to help students create this knowledge base. This hands-on course is clinically oriented, with emphasis on anatomic relationships and procedural/surgical skills that students will see and use while in clinical practice. Prerequisite: PAS 500-506

PAS 512 (6)
Pathophysiology I
 This course is designed to follow PAS 502, Medical Physiology. The course is a comprehensive study of the major pathophysiologic processes that affect the HEENT, dermatology, endocrine, hematology, oncology, pulmonary, cardiovascular and gastrointestinal systems. Emphasis is placed on pathophysiological conditions of clinical relevance, especially those that relate to primary care medicine. The course utilizes lecture, small-group learning, student presentation, student writing, and written examination to help students achieve an understanding, both broad and specific, of how basic

pathophysiologic concepts affect the organ systems above. Prerequisite: PAS 500-506

PAS 514 (12)
Clinical Medicine I
 An intensive study of human diseases and disorders from the perspectives of epidemiology, etiology, clinical presentation, progression, therapy and prognosis. Emphasis will be on diseases common to primary care practices and the development of a differential diagnosis and plan based upon the patient's clinical presentation. Prerequisite: PAS 500-506

PAS 516 (9)
Pharmacology I
 This course will provide an intensive study of the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and specific properties of medications used to treat HEENT, dermatology, endocrine, hematology, oncology, pulmonary, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal and nutrition disorders. Students will also learn to write prescriptions and begin to explore how individual patient factors affect pharmacotherapeutic decision-making. Prerequisite: PAS 500-506



PAS 518 (4.5)
History & Physical Exam I

In this course students will learn to obtain medical history from patients presenting with HEENT, dermatology, endocrine, hematology, oncology, pulmonary, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal and

nutrition disorders. In addition they will learn to correctly perform the physical examination of the head, eyes, ears, nose, throat, neck, heart, lungs and abdomen. Prerequisite: PAS 500-506

SUMMER I MODULE

PAS 520 (1)
Anatomy II

This course is designed to provide Physician Assistant students with a thorough, clinically relevant knowledge base in human gross anatomy. The course utilizes lecture, embryologic correlation, human donor dissection, fresh tissue dissection, surface anatomy, and anatomic body painting to help students create this knowledge base. This hands-on course is clinically oriented, with emphasis on anatomic relationships and procedural/surgical skills that students will see and use while in clinical practice. Prerequisite: PAS 510

PAS 524 (5)
Clinical Medicine II

An intensive study of human diseases and disorders from the perspectives of epidemiology, etiology, clinical presentation, progression, therapy and prognosis. Emphases will be on diseases common to primary care practices and the development of a differential diagnosis and plan based upon the patient's clinical presentation. Prerequisite: PAS 514

PAS 522 (2.5)
Pathophysiology II

This course is a comprehensive study of the major pathophysiologic processes that affect the neurologic, musculoskeletal, urology, nephrology, obstetric and gynecology systems. Emphasis is placed on pathophysiological conditions of clinical relevance, especially those that relate to primary care medicine. The course utilizes lecture, small-group learning, student presentation, student writing, and written examination to help students achieve an understanding, both broad and specific, of how basic pathophysiologic concepts affect the organ systems above. Prerequisite: PAS 512

PAS 526 (3.5)
Pharmacology II

This course will provide an intensive study of the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and specific properties of medications used to treat musculoskeletal, neurology, urology and nephrology disorders. Students will also reinforce their prescription writing skills and continue to explore how individual patient factors affect pharmacotherapeutic decision-making. Prerequisite: PAS 516

PAS 528 (2)
History & Physical Exam II

In this course students will learn to obtain medical history from patients presenting with musculoskeletal, neurology, urology and nephrology disorders. In addition they will learn to correctly perform the physical examination of the musculoskeletal, neurologic, and genitourinary systems. Prerequisite: PAS 518

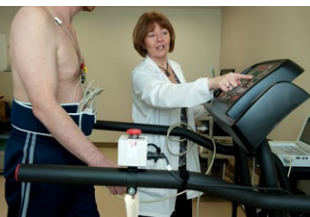
SUMMER II MODULE

PAS 530 (5)
Emergency Medicine

This course is designed to prepare students to evaluate and treat patients in an emergency room setting. Students will learn the pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis, evaluation and management of urgent and emergent medical problems commonly encountered in hospital emergency departments. Prerequisites: PAS 524

PAS 532 (5)
Surgical Care

This course is designed to prepare students to evaluate and treat patients with surgical conditions. Students will learn the pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis, evaluation and management of disorders requiring surgical consultation and management. Prerequisites: Summer I Module courses



FALL I MODULE

**PAS 540 (5)
Special Populations**

This course will allow the student to explore issues related to the compassionate, patient-centered care of special populations including geriatric, pediatric and a variety of underserved groups. Students will learn about childhood nutrition, growth and development, the functional assessment of the elderly and how to adapt their interview and physical examination techniques to the developmental, functional, educational and social level of individual patients. They will explore a variety of health needs and health systems issues that are important in the care of older adults. They will learn to identify vulnerable populations and to respond to the health disparities vulnerable groups often experience. Additionally they will learn about the preparation of patients for global travel, the primary social determinants of health, and the effects of emerging global health concerns on healthcare locally and globally. Prerequisite: Summer II Module courses

**PAS 542 (4)
Reproductive Medicine & Sexual Health**

This course is designed to prepare students to evaluate and treat patients with reproductive or sexual health concerns. Students will establish a foundational knowledge of obstetric and gynecologic disorders, as well as normal human sexuality and sexual

dysfunction and acquire problem-focused evaluation, diagnosis and patient management skills. Prerequisite: Summer II Module

**PAS 544 (2)
Behavioral Medicine**

This course is designed to prepare students to evaluate and treat patients with behavioral medicine problems. Students will review the relevant anatomy and pathophysiology, establish a foundational knowledge of behavioral disorders, and acquire problem-focused evaluation, diagnosis and patient management skills. Prerequisite: Summer II Module

**PAS 546 (5)
Advanced Clinical Reasoning**

This course creates a contextual environment in which students will apply concepts and skills acquired in their prior courses while learning to recognize knowledge deficits and identify resources that promote continued learning. The case-based approach will offer a contextual development of professional competencies characteristic of excellent physician assistant students and future clinicians. Within a clinical scenario, they will strengthen their ability to synthesize clinical data and practice evidence-based medicine in their pharmacotherapeutic decision-making. Prerequisite: Summer I Module



FALL II MODULE

**PAS 580 (3)
Master's Project I**

In this course, the students will learn the basic principles of research study design, epidemiology and biostatistics as well as the principles of evidence-based medicine. They will strengthen their abilities to develop a relevant clinical question, perform a review of the medical literature and critically appraise published articles in order to formulate an evidence-based response to their questions. These skills will prepare them for the execution of a scholarly project in PAS 680 Master's Project II. Prerequisite: Fall I

**PAS 582 (2)
Clinical Phase Preparation**

This course is designed to prepare students to begin their core clinical experiences. Topics will include an introduction to medical ethics, patient safety principles, communication in the clinical setting, the use of electronic medical records, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) training, professionalism, and an in-depth discussion of program requirements for progressing through the clinical year. Prerequisite: Completion of Fall I Module

Clinical education course descriptions

PAS 630 (3)

Primary Care

The Primary Care rotation is designed to give students exposure to the spectrum of adult outpatient medical practice. Students will learn the principles of routine (well) care, management of acute illnesses, and management of chronic/multiple diagnoses. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 632 (3)

Pediatrics

The Pediatric Medicine rotation is designed to give students exposure to the spectrum of pediatric practice, including care of infants, children and adolescents in routine well-child care and care of acute and chronic diseases. The student will recognize the role that understanding the developmental stage of a patient plays in the approach to, examination of and treatment of a pediatric patient. Prerequisites: 500-582

PAS 634 (3)

Emergency Medicine

The Emergency Medicine clinical rotation is designed to teach students the recognition and treatment of acutely ill patients of all ages. This rotation will require honing of the student's triage skills; learning to recognize and manage those conditions that need immediate attention and prioritizing care for those conditions which are less urgent. Prerequisite: PAS 500-582

PAS 636 (3)

Inpatient Medicine

The Inpatient Medicine rotation is designed to give the student an overview of the care of hospitalized patients. During this rotation the students will learn the indications for admission to the hospital and the care of a hospitalized patient. The student will actively participate in the ongoing care of the patient, working with consulting services as needed and coordinating discharge planning. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 638 (3)

Surgery

The Surgery clinical rotation is designed to give students experience in the care of patients undergoing elective or acute surgical procedures. The student will perform the pre-operative history and physical; assist, when able, in the operating room; be involved in immediate post-operative care and stabilization; and assist with post-operative follow up. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 640 (1.5)

Women's Health

The Women's Health rotation is designed to give the student practical experience in the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of problems and issues associated with women's health care. Emphasis is placed on learning experiences in family planning and birth control, the recognition and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, cancer detection and prevention, prenatal care and the evaluation and treatment of common ambulatory gynecologic problems. During this rotation the students augment and strengthen their skills in regard to a wide variety of problems seen in the primary care setting. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 642 (1.5)

Behavioral Medicine

The Behavioral Medicine rotation is designed to give students practical experience in the diagnosis and management of psychiatric patients in the clinical setting. Students will work to hone their ability to recognize psychiatric diagnoses in the outpatient and/or inpatient settings with the goal of applying their knowledge and skills to the many other disciplines of medicine and clinical practice. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 650 (3)

Elective 1

The Elective rotation is intended to provide the student with supervised experiential training in an area that he/she might have a special interest in but was unable to experience during other clinical rotations. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582

PAS 652 (3)

Elective 1

The Elective rotation is intended to provide the student with supervised experiential training in an area that he/she might have a special interest in but was unable to experience during other clinical rotations. Prerequisites: PAS 500-582



PAS 670 Clinical Year Seminar I

(2)

The Clinical Year Seminar courses one and two are designed to augment the student's clinical experiences by reinforcing acquisition of medical knowledge, supporting development of interpersonal communication skills, distinguishing traits that promote professional excellence, implementing improvements in practice performance by applying critically appraised medical literature, and recognizing the impact of systems-based processes on individual patient care. Topics will be presented in a sequence that prepares students to transition from their student role to that of an autonomous member of a physician/physician assistant team. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the academic phase courses

PAS 672 Clinical Year Seminar II

(2)

The Clinical Year Seminar courses one and two are designed to augment the student's clinical experiences by reinforcing acquisition of medical knowledge, supporting development of interpersonal communication skills, distinguishing traits that promote professional excellence, implementing improvements in practice performance by applying critically appraised medical literature, and recognizing the impact of systems-based processes on individual patient care. Topics will be presented in a sequence that prepares students to transition from their student role to that of an autonomous member of a physician/physician assistant team. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the academic phase courses

PAS 680

(2)

Masters Project II

In this course the students will develop a capstone Master's project for which students will develop a relevant clinical question, perform a review of the medical literature and critically appraise published articles in order to formulate an evidence-based response to their questions. Under the mentorship of a faculty advisor each student will identify, develop and implement a project (evidenced-based medicine review or original research project) and present the project in the form of a professional article and formal presentation. Prerequisite: Fall II Module



Administration

Leo M. Lambert, B.A., M.Ed., Ph.D.
President

Gerald L. Francis, B.S., M.A., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President

Steven D. House, B.S., Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Elizabeth A. Rogers, B.S., M.Ed., Ed.D.
Dean of the School of Health Sciences

Arthur W. Fadde, B.S., M.Ed.
Associate Dean of Admissions and
Director of Graduate Admissions

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