PATHOLOGISTS’ ASSISTANT PROGRAM

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Program Director: Veralucia Mendes-Kramer
http://cphs.wayne.edu/pathologists-assistant/

The Pathologists’ Assistant is academically and clinically prepared to assist pathologists in anatomic, surgical and autopsy pathology as well as ancillary services defined by the American Association of Pathologists’ Assistants. The Wayne State University Pathologists’ Assistant program trains individuals who will assist pathologists in the performance of postmortem examination and in the dissection, dictation, and evaluation of surgical specimens for microscopic diagnosis. The program also provides individuals with budgetary, supervisory, and teaching skills. Last, the program trains individuals to function as competent entry level pathologists’ assistants capable of performing, under the supervision of a pathologist those professional responsibilities as defined by the American Association of Pathologists’ Assistants (AAPA). The Pathologists’ Assistant program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018-5119, 847-939-3597, 773-714-8880, Fax: 773-714-8886, http://www.naacs.org.

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• Pathologists’ Assistant (M.S.) (http://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-pharmacy-health-sciences/pathologists-assistant/ms)

PAA 5020 Applied General Pathology Cr. 3
Fundamental principles and theories applied to general pathology with special emphasis on disease processes and mechanisms found in adult and pediatric pathology. Offered Fall.
Corequisite: PAA 7250
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.

PAA 5050 Clinical Terminology and Methodology for the Pathologists’ Assistant Cr. 3
Clinical and medical terminology specific to the pathologists’ assistant along with associated methodologies used in surgical and autopsy pathology in the second year of the program. Introduction to laboratory human organ system grossing methodologies. Offered Winter.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Course Material Fees: $250
Equivalent: MS 5050

PAA 5100 Medical Photography and Techniques in Pathology Cr. 2
Theory of the behavior of light and selection of appropriate lenses; principles of exposure, color, and filters; macro- and microphotography. Adjustment of clinical photographs and student photographs corrected by Adobe Photoshop Professional resulting in a student Eportfolio. Offered Spring/Summer.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Course Material Fees: $100
Equivalent: MS 4100

PAA 5200 Medical Microbiology for Technical Professionals: Pathologists’ Assistant Cr. 3
Infectious diseases affecting major organ systems of the body encountered by the pathologists’ assistant. Clinical case study analysis with student presentations. Offered Winter.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Equivalent: MS 5200

PAA 6061 Human Embryology and Pediatric Pathology Cr. 3
Embryological basis of pediatric and childhood diseases along with adult presentations. Human embryological correlations to clinical settings: case study analysis specific to the pathologists’ assistant and clinical evaluation of pediatric pathology. Recognition of anatomical presentations with embryological development in normal and diseased states. Offered Winter.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 7060])
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Equivalent: MS 5061

PAA 6150 Histochemistry for the Pathologists’ Assistant Cr. 4
Study of techniques specific to the Pathologists’ Assistant involved in the preparation of tissues prior to microscopic examination and processing inclusive of embedding, sectioning, preparing frozen sections and performing routine and special stain on a variety of tissues. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 6560])
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Course Material Fees: $200
Equivalent: MS 4150

PAA 6420 Laboratory Management and Quality Management in Anatomic Pathology Cr. 3
Interpersonal and technical management techniques for the clinical and anatomic pathology laboratory settings. Quality management techniques, policies, protocols and best practices for the pathologists’ assistant. Safety mandates and protocols as applied to anatomic and surgical pathology. Discussion and analysis of governmental mandates covering laboratory improvement (CLIA). Offered Winter.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Equivalent: MS 4420

PAA 6560 Human Histology and Clinical Correlations Cr. 4
Characteristics and identification of human tissue microanatomy. Functional interpretation of human microstructure. Examine and study prepared, strained tissue sections from a variety of organ sections both normal and abnormal allowing for clinical correlations in patient case presentations. Offered Fall.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.
Course Material Fees: $100
PAA 7060 Human Anatomy and Physiology for Pathologists’ Assistants Cr. 4
Detailed comprehensive review of human anatomy and physiology as it pertains to the pathologists’ assistant practice. Laboratory is innovative and includes zones of learning associated with high definition models, virtual reality software and prosected human specimen and organ blocks. Offered Fall.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Material Fees: $350

PAA 7200 Introduction to Autopsy Techniques Cr. 4
Comprehensive review of general and specialized techniques for performing postmortem examinations in both the hospital and medical examiner settings, with emphasis on the external examination, evisceration, and block dissection of the adult, perinatal, and pediatric decedent. The laboratory component of this course will focus on developing evisceration techniques on cadavers, and address pertinent medical findings while applying thorough block dissection skills. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 7060])
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Material Fees: $300
Equivalent: MS 4200

PAA 7250 Clinical Academic Pathology I Cr. 3
Systemic pathologies affecting the following organ and organ systems: white blood cells, lymph nodes, spleen and thymus, red blood cells and bleeding disorders, peripheral nerve and skeletal muscles, CNS, the skin, and the bones, joints and soft tissue tumors. Concepts of molecular diagnostics are integrated when appropriate. Offered Fall.
Corequisite: PAA 5020
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.

PAA 7251 Clinical Academic Pathology II Cr. 3
Continuation of PAA 5020 and PAA 7250. Systemic pathologies affecting the following organ and organ systems: the blood vessels and heart, the lung, head, and neck, the gastrointestinal tract, liver and gallbladder, and the eye. Concepts of molecular diagnostics are integrated when appropriate. Offered Winter.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 5020]) AND (PAA 7250)
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.

PAA 7252 Clinical Academic Pathology III Cr. 3
Continuation PAA 7250 and 7251. Systemic pathologies affecting the following organ and organ systems: the kidney, the lower urinary tract and male genital system, the female genital tract, the breast, the endocrine system and the pancreas. Concepts of molecular diagnostics are integrated when appropriate. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 5020]) AND (PAA 7250) AND (PAA 7251)
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7253 Clinical Academic Pathology IV Cr. 3
Continuation of PAA 7251 and 7252. Systemic pathologies affecting the following organ and organ systems: the bone and joints, and the skin. Concepts of molecular diagnostics are integrated when appropriate. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisites: ([PAA 5020]) AND (PAA 7250) AND (PAA 7251) AND (PAA 7252)
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7420 Future Trends in Pathology Practice and Education Methodology Cr. 2
Group discussion of trends associated with healthcare, patient care, technology, legal issues, education methodology, licensure and accreditation issues; medical ethics, safety, medicolegal, and quality management in anatomic, surgical and autopsy pathology are covered. Presentations lead to recommendations for future best practices in a variety of pathology settings. Students present research findings via PowerPoint and in a seminar format. Offered Spring/Summer.
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Equivalent: MS 5420

PAA 7500 Clinical Autopsy Pathology Cr. 2
Clinical autopsy procedures, including data retention, dissection techniques, selection of tissue for microscopic examination, and methods of body restoration prior to release in clinical facilities. Course addresses NAACLS competency levels for medical autopsy techniques (adult) and medical autopsy techniques (pediatric). Offered Fall.
Prerequisite: PAA 7060 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7061 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Material Fees: $100

PAA 7520 Clinical Histopathologic Technique Cr. 2
Organization of a histology laboratory, instrumentation and safety; advanced staining techniques including immunohistochemistry; frozen sections, tumor triage and proper handling of specimens for processing and assessment of clinical cases. Offered Fall.
Prerequisite: PAA 6560 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 6150 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Material Fees: $100

PAA 7550 Clinical Histopathologic Technique Cr. 3
Systemic pathologies affecting the following organ and organ systems: the blood vessels and heart, the lung, head, and neck, the gastrointestinal tract, liver and gallbladder, and the eye. Concepts of molecular diagnostics are integrated when appropriate. Offered Winter.
Corequisite: PAA 5020
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program.

PAA 7600 Clinical Pediatric Pathology Cr. 1
Embryological basis of pediatric and childhood diseases along with adult presentations. Human embryological correlations to clinical settings: case study analysis specific to the pathologists’ assistant; clinical evaluation of pediatric pathology. Recognition of anatomical presentations with embryological development in normal and diseased states. Offered Fall.
Prerequisite: PAA 5050 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 6061 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists’Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
PAA 7650 Surgical Pathology I Cr. 3
Application of principles, theories, and clinical practices related to grossing (simple) surgical dissections. Addresses NAACLS competency levels associated with adult and pediatric surgical pathology techniques. Offered Fall.
Prerequisite: PAA 5050 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7060 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7250 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7251 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7252 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7651 Surgical Pathology II Cr. 3
Application of principles, theories, and clinical practices related to gross (simple and complex) surgical dissections. Addresses NAACLS competency levels associated with adult and pediatric surgical pathology techniques. Offered Winter.
Prerequisite: PAA 5050 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7650 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7250 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7251 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7252 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7652 Surgical Pathology III Cr. 3
Application of principles, theories, and clinical practices related to gross (simple and complex) surgical dissections. Addresses NAACLS competency levels associated with adult and pediatric surgical pathology techniques. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisite: PAA 5050 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7650 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7651 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7700 Forensic Pathology and Techniques Cr. 4
Forensic autopsy techniques specific to the Pathologists' Assistant and compliant with NAACLS competency levels associated with adult and pediatric cases; forensic toxicology specimen collection and processing; forensic techniques associated with determining cause manner and mechanism of death; techniques of photographic record keeping and body release. Offered Winter.
Prerequisite: PAA 7060 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7061 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7750 Clinical Laboratory Management in Anatomic Pathology Cr. 2
The clinical application of interpersonal and technical management techniques for the clinical and anatomic pathology laboratory settings. Quality management techniques, policies, protocols and best practices for the pathologists' assistant. Safety mandates and protocols as applied to anatomic and surgical pathology. Discussion and analysis of governmental mandates covering laboratory improvement (CLIA). Offered Winter.
Prerequisite: PAA 6420 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

PAA 7800 Clinical and Forensic Photography Cr. 3
Techniques required to photographically record gross and microscopic specimens as presented from surgery and in surgical grossing, as well as from the forensic setting resulting in a PA student E-portfolio. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisite: PAA 5100 with a minimum grade of C
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

Course Material Fees: $100

PAA 7890 Seminar in Anatomic and Surgical Pathology Cr. 2
Clinically based capstone seminar course. Invited clinical specialists in anatomic and surgical pathology address contemporary issues in pathology allowing dialogue between pathologists' assistant students and pathologists. Offered Spring/Summer.
Prerequisite: PAA 7650 with a minimum grade of C and PAA 7651 with a minimum grade of C
Corequisite: PAA 7652
Restriction(s): Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Pathologists' Assistant Program; enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.