

NOP 657
Neurology Specialty

CLERKSHIP ELECTIVE ROTATION SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY & OPHTHALMOLOGY

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At Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM), we are constantly working to improve our curriculum and to meet accreditation guidelines. We need to meet the challenges of modern medicine that force us to innovate. While changes will generally be instituted at the beginning of the school year, changes may also be implemented semester to semester.

Please be mindful of the need to read your syllabi before beginning your rotation.

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ROTATION REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENT	SUBMISSION METHOD (for submission due dates, refer to table at the end of the syllabus)
Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student	Students must select their attending physician as directed within the rotation description in Medtrics. At the start of the last week of the rotation, students will need to request an evaluation in Medtrics. By requesting an attending evaluation from their assigned attending physician, the attending physician will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned Attending Evaluation within Medtrics. Attendings will be able to electronically access and submit the forms on behalf of their students.
Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation	Students will submit their rotation evaluations electronically at the conclusion of every rotation by accessing the Medtrics system: https://msucom.medtricslab.com/users/login/ . By the last week of each rotation, students will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned evaluation. Students can also access pending evaluations on the 'Home' or 'Evaluations' tabs within their Medtrics accounts.
Mid Rotation Form	Completed 100% and needing no revisions to the appropriate drop box in D2L

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to actively engage in patient-based, learning experiences under the guidance of a faculty member (preceptor) in collaboration, as appropriate, with residents and/or fellows.

Rotations are typically two weeks, three credit hours or four weeks, six credit hours in duration. Timeframes for each rotation are decided at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the rotation.

The overall performance of course participants will be evaluated through customary assessment instruments normally employed by the department for core rotations, at the discretion of the instructor of record.

ELECTIVE COURSE SCHEDULING**Preapproval**

- This course does not require preapproval from the IOR. The student should follow the below directions for elective course confirmation and enrollment.

Required Prerequisites

- This course does not require any prerequisite courses.

Course Confirmation and Enrollment

- The student must be an active student at MSUCOM.
- Student must complete five core rotations prior to any elective rotation.

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- It is the student's responsibility to provide the elective site/rotation acceptance material to the COM.Clerkship@msu.edu for MSU confirmation and scheduling.
 - MSUCOM clerkship confirmation is complete when the rotation is visible on the students Medtrics schedule.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure enrollment prior to beginning any course/rotation.
 - Enrollment will be processed by the MSUCOM Registrar's Office upon clerkship confirmation.
 - Enrollment can be verified by the student by reviewing the Student Information System
- MSUCOM confirmation must occur at least 30 days in advance of the rotation.
- Once confirmed, the rotation may only be cancelled 30 days or more in advance of the start date.

ROTATION FORMAT

This rotation has been designed to cover primary topics commonly seen in this discipline. Each week will focus on one didactic topic of importance. You are encouraged to engage the attending physician(s) in discussion, as this will lend a greater understanding of these critical issues.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOALS

1. Obtain the ability to perform a neurological examination and localization of the neurologic lesion.
2. Adequately formulate a differential diagnosis.

OBJECTIVES

1. Acquire an understanding of basic laboratory tests necessary to pursue a suspected diagnosis; included, but are not limited to, electrophysiology, neuroimaging (CT, MRI, etc.), CSF, hematology and metabolic analysis, history, and general physical exam pertinent to neurology.
2. Develop an understanding of the neuropathology prognosis and treatment strategies for common illness.
3. Develop a strong didactic background in basic neurology, neurophysiology and neuropathology that will allow a foundation for lifelong learning in this discipline.

COMPETENCIES

1. Perform neurological exam incorporating mental status; skull, spine and meninges, cranial nerves; motor examination; sensory examination; coordination; reflexes; and gait and station.
2. Recognize and treat each patient as a whole person, integrating body, mind, and spirit.
3. Prescribe rehabilitative/therapeutic exercises to address specific musculoskeletal imbalances to more effectively manage conditions that otherwise become chronic.
4. Perform a physical exam incorporating visual inspection, auscultation, palpitation, percussion, and range of motion testing.

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5. Identify key history and physical examination findings pertinent to the differential diagnosis.
6. Formulate a differential diagnosis based on findings from the history and physical of the patient.
7. Take an accurate history by communicating effectively – verbally and non-verbally – with patients and families.
8. Apply appropriate knowledge to the medical interview and demonstrate the ability to identify and/or address psychosocial, cultural, religious, health maintenance, and risk factors issues.
9. Synthesize into an organized presentation all information gathered as part of the patient encounter, including history and physical findings, chart review, laboratory and diagnostic findings, epidemiological data, psychosocial, cultural, and religious factors, patient age, risk factors, and patient concerns.
10. Formulate a management plan based on the evaluation of the best evidence from the medical literature and other resources related to the findings obtained during and after the patient encounter.
11. Provide health care services consistent with osteopathic principles and practices, including an emphasis on preventative medicine and health promotion.
12. Communicate a coherent story of illness, diagnosis, and treatment.

COLLEGE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In addition to the above course-specific goals and learning objectives, this clerkship rotation also facilitates student progress in attaining the College Program Objectives. Please refer to the complete list provided on the MSUCOM website (<https://com.msu.edu/>) and in the Student Handbook.

REFERENCES

REQUIRED STUDY RESOURCES

Desire 2 Learn (D2L): Please find online content for this course in D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). Once logged in with your MSU Net ID, your course will appear on the D2L landing page. If you do not see your course on the landing page, search for the course with the following criteria, and pin it to your homepage: **NOP 657 Neurology Specialty Clerkship**

If you encounter any issues accessing this D2L course, please email the CA (on the title page of this syllabus). It is your responsibility to make sure you have access to the course D2L page on the first day of the course.

Student D2L email addresses must be forwarded to your MSU email account.

SUGGESTED STUDY RESOURCES

Recommended Texts

Kondziella, D., & Waldemar, G. (2013). Neurology at the bedside. Springer.

Available: [Neurology at the Bedside](#)

WEEKLY READINGS/OBJECTIVES/ASSIGNMENTS

MID ROTATION FEEDBACK FORM

This form is required for this rotation, including both two- and four-week rotations.

Two-week Rotation: This will need to be completed by the Attending or Resident and dated by the 1st Friday of the rotation. Students must upload the form to a D2L drop box by 11:59 on the last day (Sunday) of the rotation.

Four-week Rotation: This will need to be completed by the Attending or Resident at the end of week two of the rotation. It should be dated no later than the 3rd Wednesday of the rotation. Students must upload the form to a D2L drop box by 11:59pm on third Sunday of the clerkship to be eligible to obtain a Pass in the rotation.

ROTATION EVALUATIONS

Attending Evaluation of Student

Attending Evaluation of the Student is completed electronically via Medtrics by the supervisor designated within the Medtrics rotation description. To initiate this evaluation, each student must select their attending physician as directed within the rotation description in Medtrics. Students will receive an email from Medtrics to select the attending 7 days prior to the end of the rotation. Should your rotation lack a rotation description or if you have any questions, please contact COM.Clerkship@msu.edu. Upon selecting the attending physician directed within the Medtrics rotation description, the attending physician will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned Attending Evaluation within Medtrics.

Attendings will be able to electronically access and submit the Attending Evaluation of the Student. Attendings will access the electronic form within Medtrics by selecting the email link on a smart device. No login (username/password) will be required for attendings to access their pending evaluation(s) assigned to them. After the electronic form has been submitted by their attending, students can review the Attending Evaluation of the Student that were completed by visiting the 'Evaluations' module (in the 'About Me' tab) of their Medtrics profiles.

Students are encouraged to seek formative/verbal feedback on their performance at least weekly. Students are also encouraged to discuss the Attending Evaluation of the Student with the supervisor completing the evaluation.

Any evidence of tampering or modification while in the possession of the student will be considered "unprofessional behavior" and will be referred to the Committee on Student Evaluation (COSE).

Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation

Students will submit their rotation evaluations electronically at the conclusion of every rotation by accessing the Medtrics system: <https://msucom.medtricslab.com/users/login/>. By the last week of each rotation, students will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned evaluation for the respective rotation. Students can also access their pending evaluations on the 'Home' or 'Evaluations' tabs within their Medtrics accounts.

Unsatisfactory Clinical Performance

The Instructor of Record will review/investigate a student's performance on a rotation when a concern is raised by the supervisor(s), and/or when the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student contains any below expectation marks within the professionalism area, any unsatisfactory written comments, or a total of two or more below average marks on the evaluation. After investigations, the Instructor of Record will determine a final grade for the student.

Professionalism concerns, as well as accolades, will also be referred to the MSUCOM Spartan Committee Clearinghouse for resolution, per MSUCOM's Common Ground Framework for Professional Conduct.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The following assignments are eligible for corrective action. Students who were not successful on these assignments during the course will receive an NGR grade and permitted to go through a 'corrective action' process. Corrective Action and will be due no later than 14 days after the last day of the rotation at 11:59pm:

- The student will be required to obtain attending evaluation of rotation.
- The student will then be required to complete and submit the student evaluation of rotation form.

The student is responsible for contacting the Course Assistant (on the title page of this syllabus) if they believe missing assignments were reported in error, or if they are unclear about the corrective action process.

While it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student is completed, this requirement may extend beyond the corrective action deadline.

If a student **successfully completes** the corrective action process, as determined by the IOR, the student will receive credit for the deficient academic grading requirement(s) and be eligible for a change in rotation grade (from NGR to Pass, pending the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student)

As determined by the IOR, the student will receive an N grade for the course if all assignments and the corrective action process are **not completed** successfully within 14 days after the last day of rotation at 11:59pm (except for the Attending Evaluation). Additionally, a letter of unprofessional behavior for late submission of assignments will be sent to the MSUCOM Spartan Community Clearinghouse.

BASE HOSPITAL REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for completing all additional requirements set by the hospital/clinical site at which they are completing a rotation. Students are not responsible for

reporting to MSUCOM the results of any requirements that exist outside of those listed above.

COURSE GRADES

All rotation requirements must be completed to determine a grade for the course. Students are required to ensure their rotation requirements are completed and submitted correctly.

P/Pass – means that credit is granted, and that the student achieved a level of performance judged to be satisfactory by the department according to the student's didactic and clinical performance.

NGR/No Grade Reported – means that a final grade ('Pass' or 'No Grade') cannot be determined due to one or more missing course requirements. The NGR grade will be changed to a final grade once all the completed course requirements have been submitted to and processed by MSUCOM (either to the department or Clerkship Team). An 'NGR' grade will NOT remain on a student's transcript.

N/No Grade – means that no credit is granted, and that the student did not achieve a level of performance judged to be satisfactory by the department according to the student's didactic and clinical performance.

N Grade Policy

Students who fail this rotation will have to repeat the entire rotation and fulfill all (clinical and academic) requirements.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

See the clerkship attendance policy.

ATTIRE AND ETIQUETTE

If the students are assigned to work within the hospital, the student may wear scrubs, white coats, or business casual attire. If the student is assigned to work within the outpatient clinic, they will be expected to dress in business casual with their white coats and no tennis shoes will be permitted in the clinic.

MSU COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE STANDARD POLICIES

The following are standard MSUCOM policies across all Clerkship rotations.

CLERKSHIP ATTENDANCE POLICY

MSUCOM requires student participation in clerkship rotations and clinical activities with consistent attendance to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for successful program

completion. This policy will define the policy and procedures regarding absences for clerkship activities. [Policy - Clerkship Absence 2025.pdf](#)

POLICY FOR MEDICAL STUDENT SUPERVISION

The MSUCOM curriculum includes required clinical experiences in a variety of clinical learning environments. The Medical Student Supervision Policy outlines all supervision agreements and expectations. [Clerkship Medical Student Supervision Policy.pdf](#)

MSUCOM STUDENT HANDBOOK

The Student Handbook is published electronically by MSUCOM for students in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program. This handbook does not supersede other Michigan State University or College of Osteopathic Medicine policies, regulations, agreements, or guidelines. <https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/student-handbook>.

COMMON GROUND FRAMEWORK FOR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Common Ground Framework provides the MSUCOM community with a reminder of the unity of mind, body, and spirit that underlines the field of osteopathic medicine. The framework is a set of guiding, foundational principles that underpin professional conduct and integrity and applies to all professionals at work within the shared college community, independent of their specific roles or responsibilities.

<https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/about-us/common-ground-professionalism-initiative>

MEDICAL STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The rights and responsibilities of students enrolled in MSUCOM are defined by the medical colleges of Michigan State University, including the College of Osteopathic Medicine, the College of Human Medicine, and the College of Veterinary Medicine. Students enrolled in the professional curricula of these colleges are identified as “medical students.” These colleges collectively define “Medical Student Rights and Responsibilities” (MSRR). This document addresses academic rights and responsibilities, governance, procedures for complaints, due process, and other topics. The current version is available on the MSU Spartan Life website at the address below: <http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/medical-student-rights-and-responsibilities-mssr>

MSU EMAIL

MSU email is the official communication from faculty and staff to students and students are responsible for checking it daily and maintaining their MSU email accounts so that messages can be received. Students are responsible for responding to email in a timely manner or as otherwise outlined in course communication.

Forwarding MSU email to another email account or failure to check email are not valid excuses for missing a deadline or other requirements of the DO program.

Please Note: Student D2L email addresses must be forwarded to your MSU email account.

Further, students must use secure email when working in a hospital, clinic, or other health care setting if discussion of patient information is involved. MSUNet (msu.edu) email is secure;

many web-based email systems including Hotmail, Gmail, and Yahoo are not.
<https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/student-handbook>.

DUTY HOURS AND FATIGUE MITIGATION

The accreditation standards for graduate medical education programs include restrictions on the duty hours of residents. Additionally, institutions are expected to promote a clinical learning environment in which duty hours are monitored and strategies exist to mitigate the effects of fatigue. [Clerkship Duty Hours and Fatigue Mitigation Policy.pdf](#)

STUDENT EXPOSURE PROCEDURE

A protocol has been developed by the University Physician to report incidents of exposure, e.g., needle sticks, mucous membrane exposure, tuberculosis exposure, etc., and it may be found here:

<https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/clerkship-medical-education/injury-and-property-damage-reports>

Contact Associate Dean for Clerkship Education, Dr. Susan Enright (enright4@msu.edu), if exposure incident occurs.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION LETTERS

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD) at 517-884-RCPD, or on the web at www.rcpd.msu.edu. Once a student's eligibility for (clinical and/or testing) accommodation(s) are determined, the student may be issued an Accommodation Letter. Students must present their letter to the Clerkship Team (COM.Clerkship@msu.edu) at the start of the semester in which they intend to use their accommodations (for tests, projects, labs, etc.). Accommodation requests received after the semester onset will be honored whenever possible.

If modifications, updates, or extensions to an existing letter are made after the semester begins, it is the responsibility of the student to submit the newest version to the Clerkship Team if he/she intends to utilize the accommodation going forward.

SUMMARY OF GRADING REQUIREMENTS

*For any below information requiring an item be uploaded to D2L, students must ensure it is put into the correct folder within the correct section for their course.

Requirement	Submission Method	Pass	No Grade Reported	No Pass
Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student	Attendings receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned evaluation(s) within Medtrics, where they may access and submit the electronic form(s) directly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student may receive "Below Expectations" in up to one (1) subcategory. • Overall categories must receive "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" 	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receives two (2) or more "Below Expectations" within the subcategory sections. • Receives comments that indicate below expectations of performance. • See Unsatisfactory Clinical Performance above
Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation	Can be accessed and submitted electronically by students within the dashboard of their Medtrics profiles	Completed 100% by 11:59 pm the last day of the rotation	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete and submit within 14 days from the last day of the rotation.
Mid Rotation Feedback Form	Submit via D2L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, scanned, and uploaded to D2L. • Must be 100% complete and needing no revisions by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-week rotations- 11:59 pm on the 3rd Sunday of the rotation. • Two-week rotations- 11:59pm on the 1st Friday of the rotation. 	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete 100% and upload by 14 days after the last day of the rotation at 11:59 pm



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MID-ROTATION FEEDBACK FORM

Rotation: _____

Student Name: _____

Evaluator Name: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____

Date of review with Student: _____

1. This assessment is based on:

- ☐ My own observations and interactions with the student.
☐ Feedback received from other faculty and/or resident supervisors.

2. The student is progressing satisfactorily for their level of training:

☐ YES ☐ NO

If NO, please summarize areas needing improvement below:

3. Overall comments on student performance

Strengths:	Areas of Improvement:

4. Please check only areas of student **DIFFICULTY**:

<input type="checkbox"/>	On time for all activities of the rotation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Present/Prepared for all activities of rotation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Respectful/courteous to patients, staff, peers, attending's	<input type="checkbox"/>	Student is aware of limitations and appropriately seeks assistance when needed
<input type="checkbox"/>	A great team player (helpful, reliable, proactive)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepting of feedback and made necessary changes because of the feedback
<input type="checkbox"/>	Engaged in learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Honest and trustworthy
<input type="checkbox"/>	A good patient advocate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work ethic