Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

MED 8400/8410/8420/8430/8440
Research and Scholarly Activity Elective – OMS 4

Academic Year 2022 - 2023

COURSE SYLLABUS

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I.   **Course Description**
During residency training and in clinical practice beyond, all physicians will be required to frequently search out, review and critically appraise a variety of clinical topics in the ever-growing body of medical literature. This scholarly activity provides students the opportunity to further develop skills in reviewing evidence-based medicine, critical thinking, and writing skills, all while working under the mentorship of VCOM clinical or biomedical faculty members. The work must not have been previously published or presented.

Students should recognize that participating in case reports and research are valued by graduate medical education programs and should include these in their CVs and applications. Students should seek to publish or to present a poster on their research projects at Via Research Recognition Day.

II.   **Credits**
- 4-week course - 4 credit hours

III. **Suggested Resources**
- VCOM Research Primer Modules (taken in Foundations of Clinical Medicine) under the following pathway- VCOM-CC- Foundations of Clinical Medicine- Research Modules: https://vcom.mediasite.com/mediasite/catalog/catalogs/default
- CREDO Research Matcher
- VCOM Library Contacts:
    o   Auburn Campus: Hiram Rogers, MLIS, Director for Library Sciences, hhrogers@auburn.vcom.edu
    o   Carolinas Campus: Bill Nichols, MLS, Medical Librarian, wnichols@carolinas.vcom.edu
    o   Louisiana Campus: Kristy Hutson, BA, Director for Library Services, khutson@ulm.vcom.edu
    o   Virginia Campus: Elaine Powers, MSLS, Director for Library Services, epowers@vt.vcom.edu
- Writing an Effective Case Report (Word file)
- How to write a medical book chapter?
- The Process for Writing A Case Report (PDF article from AAP)
- VCOM Policy on Case Reports and Case Series
- CITI Account Set up for Protection of Human Research Subjects Training
- VCOM IRB Website

IV.   **Requirements for Successful Completion**

A. **Requirements**
All components (Case Report, Research Project Report) must be completed and submitted as indicated. The following components are required for successful completion of this course:

- **Students must complete and submit either a Case Report or Research Project Report**

    o   **Case Report**
        Students who choose to complete a Case Report will work with a faculty mentor (the clinical faculty member/preceptor involved in the care of the patient whose case is the subject of the Case Report) to identify a significant and novel case on

which to focus. Students must have had direct care involvement with the patient/case in a clinical setting. The work must not have been previously published or presented.

- ➢ Students must have a mentor that is a VCOM faculty member or a clinician/PhD/PharmD/similarly credentialed individual that is affiliated with VCOM.
- ➢ After you have met and confirmed with your mentor that they will be providing supervision during your Research Rotation, **please submit the "Mentor Identification Form" to CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation.**
- ➢ If you need help identifying a mentor or developing a research idea, please contact the Course Director who will assist you.

A Case Report is a detailed report of the symptoms, signs, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of a patient. Case Reports may contain a demographic profile of the patient but usually describes an unusual or novel occurrence. Case Reports are typically categorized as one of the following:

- ➢ An unexpected association between diseases or symptoms
- ➢ An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient
- ➢ Findings that shed new light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease or an adverse effect
- ➢ Unique or rare features of a disease
- ➢ Unique therapeutic approaches
- ➢ A positional or quantitative variation of the anatomical structures

Submission of an IRB application is waved for Case Reports as long as the student adheres to the guidelines for the purpose of a Case Report. See Policy R016: VCOM Policy on Case Reports and Case Series in Canvas. A Case Report where the IRB is waived, should never recommend new treatments, other interventions, or diagnostics or make generalizations. The Case Report may recommend further studies to be done.

The Case Report must follow the format and include the components for a Case Report manuscript to be submitted to the Journal of Osteopathic Medicine: https://jom.osteopathic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/JOM-Original-Article-Template.pdf and https://jom.osteopathic.org/authors/. The allowed manuscript types are: Case Report. The Case Report must also include a summary of the review of the current evidence-based literature related to the case topic.

Case Report Length Requirement: A minimum of 1000 words and a maximum of 1500 words with a minimum of 10 references.

In addition, students must be sure that they include all components as indicated in the Case Report Grading Rubric. The Rubric can be found in Canvas.

All components must be completed and the **final Case Report must be submitted by 5:00PM on February 28 to CANVAS and to the faculty mentor**. The Case Report will be Administratively Reviewed by the Course Director and will be returned to the student if necessary for corrections to meet

the format and content requirements as defined in the journal instructions to authors. Once Administrative Review is passed, the student will provide the Report and the Grading Rubric to the faculty mentor for grading. Faculty members must complete grading of the Report within 1 week of being provided the Report and the Grading Rubric. Students must complete all course requirements to pass the course. The Case Report will receive a letter grade, and this grade will also be the grade the student receives for the Research and Scholarly Activity credit hours.

Students are encouraged to publish or present their Case Report with the faculty mentor involved in the direct care of the patient listed as a co-author.

o **Research Project**
There are many different types of research projects – clinical, basic, educational, sociological, etc. All are potential research projects provided that a suitable hypothesis and project plan can be devised. Such a project should be right-sized to complete the goals for the rotation, with sufficient time to create a high-quality Research Project Report. The work must not have been previously published or presented.

Students wishing to complete a research project must do so under the guidance of a faculty mentor who has an established research program or the skills and ability to conduct a research program.
  ➢ Students must have a mentor that is a VCOM faculty member or a clinician/PhD/PharmD/similarly credentialed individual that is affiliated with VCOM.
  ➢ After you have met and confirmed with your mentor that they will be providing supervision during your Research Rotation, **please submit the "Mentor Identification Form" to CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation.**
  ➢ If you need help identifying a mentor or developing a research idea, please contact the Course Director who will assist you.

A project devised with a mentor can designed to be completed by several individuals or teams in succession to accomplish the overall project goals. However, such a research project must be organized and broken down into sub-goals. Also, all students are required to submit a research project report. Team members can submit the same report, but such a report must contain a section that details the contributions of each team member to the goals/sub-goals of the project.

Submission of an IRB application is required for all clinical research projects, surveys, or projects that include human subjects. Surveys of students of faculty within the college are not approved for this project.

All students conducting research must also complete the Responsible Conduct of Research training modules. See: https://www.vcom.edu/research/irb/required-education

All students working in a laboratory must complete Laboratory Safety Training. Contact the lab manager or the Associate Dean for Research on the respective campus for more information about any required training.

The Research Project Report must follow the format and include the components for a Original Article manuscript to be submitted to the *Journal of Osteopathic Medicine:* https://jom.osteopathic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/JOM-Original-Article-Template.pdf and https://jom.osteopathic.org/authors/. The allowed manuscript types are: Original Article.

Research Report Length Requirement: A minimum of 1500 words and a maximum of 3000 words with a minimum of 15 references.

In addition, students must be sure that they include all components as indicated in the Research Project Report Grading Rubric. The Rubric can be found in Canvas.

If a student chooses to complete a Research Project, they **must submit a Research Project Plan that includes the project title, description, and research plan (together as 1 page) as agreed to by the student and the mentor along with the "Mentor Identification Form" to CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation.** This plan will be reviewed for approval by the Course Director.

The **final Research Project Report is due by 5:00PM on February 28 t**o CANVAS and to the faculty mentor and will be graded by the research faculty mentor and Course Director. Students may be required to revise the report based on feedback before receiving a final grade. Faculty members must complete grading of the Report within 1 week of being provided the Report and the Grading Rubric. Students must complete all course requirements to pass the course. The final Research Project Report will receive a letter grade, and this grade will also be the grade the student receives for the Research and Scholarly Activity credit hours.

V.   Grading

A grading rubric will be utilized for the Case Report and Research Project Report and can be viewed in Canvas.

Students may be required to revise their report based on feedback before receiving a final grade.

In accordance with VCOM's grading policy, the College defines satisfactory performance as 70% or above in the course, which equates to 70 points or higher. A final course grade of less than 70% (less than 70 points) will result in an "F" grade for the course and the student will be brought before the Promotion Board.

A. Case Report
Submit the "Mentor Identification Form" to **CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation.**

All components must be completed and t**he final Case Report must be submitted by 5:00PM on February 28 to CANVAS and to the faculty mentor**. The Case Report will be Administratively Reviewed by the Course Director and will be returned to the student if necessary for corrections to meet the format and content requirements as defined in the journal instructions to authors. Once Administrative Review is passed, the student will provide the Report and the Grading Rubric to the faculty mentor for grading. Faculty members must complete grading of the Report within 1 week of being provided the Report and the Grading Rubric. Students must complete all course requirements to pass the course. The Case Report will receive a letter grade, and this grade will also be the grade the student receives for the Research and Scholarly Activity credit hours.

B. Research Project
Submit the "Mentor Identification Form" to **CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation.**

Submit a Research Project Plan that includes the project title, description, and research plan (together as 1 page) as agreed to by the student and the mentor **to CANVAS at least 1 week before the start of your Elective Research Rotation** to be reviewed for approval by the Course Director.

The final Research Project Report **is due by 5:00PM on February 28 to CANVAS and to the faculty mentor.** The Research Report will be Administratively Reviewed by the Course Director and will be returned to the student if necessary for corrections to meet the format and content requirements as defined in the journal instructions to authors. Once Administrative Review is passed, the student will provide the Report and the Grading Rubric to the faculty mentor for grading. Students may be required to revise the report based on feedback before receiving a final grade. Faculty members must complete grading of the Report within 1 week of being provided the Report and the Grading Rubric. Students must complete all course requirements to pass the course. The final Research Project Report will receive a letter grade, and this grade will also be the grade the student receives for the Research and Scholarly Activity credit hours.

Course Item	Contribution to Final Grade
Case Report or Research Project Report	100%

VI. Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points
H	90 - 100
HP	80 - 89
P	70 - 79
F	< 70

VII. **Academic Expectations**

Grading policies, academic progress, and graduation requirements may be found in the *College Catalog and Student Handbook* at: http://www.vcom.edu/handbooks/catalog/index.html

A. Failure of the Course

If a student fails to complete any portion of the course or fails to earn a P (Pass) or better on the Case Report or Research Project Report, the student will receive an "F" grade for the course and will be brought before the Promotion Board. If the student is allowed to repeat the course, all components of the course must be repeated. In this case, the "F" grade remains the permanent grade for the initial course and the student will receive a new grade for the repeated course. The grade will be recorded in a manner that designates that it is a repeated rotation (e.g. R-pass).

No grade will be changed unless the Office of Clinical Affairs certifies to the Registrar, in writing, that an error occurred or that the remediation results in a grade change.

VIII. **Professionalism and Ethics**

It is advised that students review and adhere to all behavioral policies including attendance, plagiarism, dress code, and other aspects of professionalism. Behavioral policies may be found in the College Catalog and Student Handbook at: https://vcom.cld.bz/VCOM-College-Catalog-and-Student-Handbook/index.html

A. VCOM Honor Code

The VCOM Honor Code is based on the fundamental belief that every student is worthy of trust and that trusting a student is an integral component in making them worthy of trust. Consistent with honor code policy, by beginning this exam, I certify that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment, where "unauthorized assistance" is as defined by the Honor Code Committee. By beginning and submitting this exam, I am confirming adherence to the VCOM Honor Code. A full description of the VCOM Honor Code can be found in the *College Catalog and Student Handbook* at: http://www.vcom.edu/handbooks/catalog/index.html