MD Program
Curriculum Orientation
Class of 2023

Richard L. Riley, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Preclinical Curriculum
Welcome MD Class of 2023!

We are so very pleased that you have chosen the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and look forward to working with you to achieve your goals.

In this handout, we will provide a brief summary of the “high points” of the curriculum for the MS-1 year as well as an overall view of the medical curriculum for the MD program.
The First and Second Years: The MD curriculum begins with Introduction to the Medical Profession (IMP). IMP focuses on orientation to medical school, communication skills, introduction to study skills for medical school, and professional attributes and clinical skills required of each physician. All medical students (both MD and MD/MPH) will take the IMP course together.

The foundational basic sciences pertinent to medicine are taught to MD and MD/MPH students together in the Fundamentals of Biomedical Science core. This encompasses the courses: Fundamentals of Biomedical Science: Molecular Basis of Life; Fundamentals of Biomedical Science: Host Defense, Pathogens, and Pathology; and Fundamentals of Biomedical Science: Cellular Function and Regulation. In addition, the Human Structure course, which includes anatomy, histology, and embryology, is co-taught to all entering medical students in parallel with the Fundamentals courses. These provide the foundations of basic science principles needed to understand both normal and pathologic organ system functions and disease. MD students will also participate in the Epidemiology course and the Population Health & Health Systems Science course, extending your knowledge in public health and in health care systems.

The foundational courses are followed by organ system specific courses; this occurs in the second semester of the MS-1 year and comprise the medical courses in the MS-2 year. In parallel with courses in the MS-1 and MS-2 years is instruction in clinical skills and participation in clinical experiences. These aims are met via the Physicianship courses.

The Third and Fourth Years: The clerkship years of the MD curriculum focus on core, required, and elective experiences in the clinical disciplines.

Several “maps” of the medical curriculum follow, with emphasis on the MS-1 and MS-2 courses. Also, opportunities for assessment of competencies and preparation for USMLE Step 1 are highlighted. More detailed information about mandatory sessions, exam dates, and other activities during the courses will be communicated to you nearer the actual course start dates.
MS1 MD

Intro Medical Profession
- Fundamentals Biomedical Sci: Molecular Basis Life
- Fundamentals Biomedical Sci: Host Defense, Pathogens, Pathology
- Fundamentals Biomedical Sci: Cellular Function & Regulation
- Winter Break
- Cardiovascular System
  - Epidemiology 1
- Population Health & Health Systems Sci
- Spring Break
- Neuroscience & Behavioral Science
- Clinical Competency

MS2 MD

Dermatology & Ophthalmology
- Respiratory System
- Gastrointestinal System & Nutrition
- Renal System
- Epidemiology 2
- Inflammation
- Winter Break
- Infectious Disease
- Hematology & Oncology
- Endocrine & Reproductive Systems
- Spring Break
- Clinical Competency

Doctoring & Physicianship Courses
- Clinical Skills
- Communication Skills
- Health Informatics & Info
- Ethics/Professionalism
- Geriatrics/Palliative/Pain
- Population Health
- Special Populations
- Patient Safety/QI
- Systems Based Care

Doctoring

Physicianship
MS3 and MS4 Curricula—MD Program

**MS3 Year 3**
- **June:** Orientation, Patient Safety, Transition to Wards
- **Core Clerkships (8, 6 or 4 weeks):** Core Clerkships
- **Winter Break:** Core Clerkships
- **June:** OSCEs

**Core Clerkships**
- IM
- Surgery
- OB/GYN
- Psychiatry
- Pediatrics
- Electives
- GPC
- Family Med

**Required Clerkship/Electives**
- Orientation
- Required Clerkship/Electives
- Winter Break
- Required Clerkship/Electives
- **May:** Graduation

**MS4 Year 4**
- **June:** Orientation
- **June:** Required Clerkship/Electives
- **May:** Graduation

**Required clerkships/Electives**
- Subinternships
- Geriatrics
- EMed
- Radiology
- Neurology
- Anesthesia
- Electives
- Externships
Teaching in the MD Curriculum

Lectures
Small Group
- Problem-based learning; Case based learning
- Physicianship

Clinical Experiences
Independent Study
Comprehensive Competency Assessment

- Week long assessment at end of years 1 & 2
  - Structured evaluations
  - Reflection and review
  - Learning/Professional Development Plans
- Meet with faculty mentor
- Objective Structured Clinical Examinations at end of year 3
Getting Ready for USMLE Step 1: Summary of NBME Exams

**NBME-customized course exams in MS-1 and MS-2:** Beginning in AY 2019-2020, courses will make customized exams employing questions from the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) to assess our learning objectives. Exams may use a mixture of NBME questions and our own questions. All exam questions are carefully aligned with each course’s learning objectives.

**NBME Comprehensive Basic Science exam:** In the MS-2 year, students sit for the Comprehensive Basic Science exam, a standardized NBME exam that assesses student knowledge in basic science and organ system content. This exam is not for course grades or student progress, but rather provides valuable information to students prior to dedicated USMLE Step 1 exam study.

**Exposure to NBME questions and exams beginning early in MS-1 and throughout MS-2 helps prepare our students for the USMLE Step 1 exam.**