

PHRM 390

Medical Master's Capstone

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Credit Hours: 2

Class Time: Thursdays 1:15-3:15 pm

Location: [HSRF 400](#)

Course Goals: The goal of the course is for students to advance their fundamental knowledge in biochemistry, pharmacology and physiology towards an in-depth understanding of therapeutic applications in a discussion format. Students will choose and research current therapeutic problems and will communicate new molecular strategies in "Grand Rounds" style presentations. Initial classes will consist of attending Grand Rounds or invited speakers. The remainder of the sessions will consist of student presentations based on their research of current problems in therapeutics. Students will gain skills in medical knowledge and critical reading and will also improve their presentation/teaching ability through small group discussion sessions.

Course Expectations: Attendance and participation is mandatory. Students will present 2 research presentations during the semester as formal powerpoint presentations. Students will also attend two Grand Rounds sessions and write a short reflection for each. Attendance and participation in discussion will account for 30% of the grade. Written evaluations of peers will be included in the participation grade.

10% 2 Reflection Assignments

35% Presentation 1

35% Presentation 2

20% Attendance and participation

Grand Rounds Reflection Assignments:

Attend 2 UVM Grand Rounds presentation within the first 3 weeks of the course and write a short (2-3 paragraphs) reflection on the grand rounds sessions. The Grand Rounds schedule will be distributed to all students by the MMS program. Reflections should be uploaded into Blackboard. They should include the following:

Grand Rounds Department, Presenter, date, topic

1. What was the focus of the presentation?
2. How well did the presenter convey the content to the audience?
3. What main theme did you take from the presentation?

Student Presentations:

Time should be approximately 20 minutes

Rubric for content:

1. Introduction to the Problem
 - a. Population affected
 - b. Morbidity and Mortality
2. Underlying Physiology and Pathology
 - a. Physiology: cell and organ effects
 - b. Pathology: acute and chronic indicators
3. Current Pharmacology and Therapeutics
 - a. Current therapy
 - b. Effectiveness and Toxicities
4. Future Directions
 - a. Problems to address
 - b. Proposal for new strategy/study (clinical or preclinical)

Grading for Student Presentations: Students will be given a written evaluation after each presentation that includes a summary of peer evaluations (anonymous) and an instructor critique. Content will be the primary focus of the grading, but the clarity of slides and presentation style will also be evaluated.

Academic Integrity

All assignments are expected to be unique and the students' own original work. References should be included on slides when using images from published sources. Please be particularly aware of plagiarism in putting your presentations together and make sure you understand the UVM Code of Academic Integrity (<https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/acadintegrity.pdf>). If there are any questions as to what constitutes plagiarism, please consult the instructor.

Estimated Timeline:

Date	Topics
Feb 4	Introduction, link to Doodle poll to choose presentation days
Feb 11-18	Attend 2 UVM Grand Rounds Presentations (schedule will be distributed by the MMS program), Reflections due March 4 th
Feb 25-May 7	Student Presentations, Discussion and Evaluations completed during session