# Health Sciences: Pre-Physician Assistant

Jefferson College of Health Professions



## **Presentation Overview**

- Program Description
- Plan of Study
- Optional Minor
- Sample Student Work
- Outcomes
- Careers
- Professional Associations
- Student Profile
- Faculty Profile





## Dr. Wendy Krupnick DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES, DIRECTOR





#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

## BS in Health Sciences: Pre-Physician Assistant Track



## Health & Wellness

• Classroom and Experiential

Critical Thinking

**Problem Solving** 

**Ethical Reasoning** 

Communication

Organization & Leadership



## Science & Psychology

• Required and Electives



College Studies (Hallmarks)



## BS Health Sciences: Pre-Physician Assistant Track

|                                                                                                                                                                      | BS HSCI | Pre-PA                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Health Science (HSCI) Courses Required: Intro to Health Professions, Intro to Healthcare, Medical Terminology, Applied Statistics Choice: 4 Health Science Electives | 21      | (include)<br>Clinical Interactions                   |
| Science Courses Required: Biology, Anatomy & Physiology I & II Choice: 4 Science [Biology, Chemistry, Microbiology, Physics]                                         | 28      | (include) Biology II, Chemistry I & II, Microbiology |
| <b>Psychology</b> Courses<br>Required: Intro to Psychology, Developmental Psych, Abnormal Psychology<br>Choice: 2 Psychology electives                               | 15      |                                                      |
| Hallmarks (College Studies)  1st Year Seminar, Writing I & II, Diversity, American Studies, Citizenship, Math, Ethics, Global Studies, Integrative Seminar, Capstone | 34      | 34                                                   |
| Free Electives (may include 4-course minor)                                                                                                                          | 21-22   | (include) Genetics, Organic Chem                     |
| Minimum Total                                                                                                                                                        | 120     |                                                      |



## Health Science Courses

| Required           | Intro to Health Prof (1 cr) Medical Terminology (3 cr) New Applied Statistics (3 cr)                       |                                                             |  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Patient<br>Contact | Intro to Health Care (2 cr) 20 hours (40 hours if honors course)<br>Clinical Interactions (3 cr) 150 hours |                                                             |  |
| HSCI<br>Electives  | New Health, Law & Ethics (Sp)                                                                              | Kinesiology (Fa)                                            |  |
|                    | Nutrition (Fa, Sp)                                                                                         | New Women's Health (Sp)                                     |  |
|                    | Fitness & Health (Fa, Sp)                                                                                  | New Children's Health (Fa)                                  |  |
|                    | Clinical Research in Emergency<br>Medicine (Fa, Sp, Su)                                                    | New Emergency Med Tech (Sp) (course reserved for PA/Pre-PA) |  |
|                    | Exercise Physiology (Sp)                                                                                   | New Community Health (Fa)                                   |  |

#### Minor (4 free electives)

**Psychology:** 4 PSYC courses **Spanish:** 3 Spanish Courses +

(in addition to required) Cultures of Spanish-Speaking World

**Public Health: Business of Health:** 

Issues in Community Health Community Health

Health, Law & Ethics Nutrition Healthcare Economics Medicinal Plants +

1 more from menu of options **Business Tools for Healthcare** 

Gender & Health Studies (choose 4): **Exercise Science:** 

Gender & Diversity Nutrition Cultures of Health Fitness & Health

Law, Women & Gender Exercise Physiology

Women's Health Kinesiology

Community Health **Custom:** any 4 courses linked by theme (complete custom minor form)

## **New** The Big Interview Assignment

HSC 100. Introduction to Health Professions

Challenge: Students need to be able to describe their goals and interests in the health professions in order to gain access to healthcare systems for contact hours and exposure.

Solution: Engage health science students with Career Services EARLY to develop interviewing skills. Create assignment where students learn to frame past experiences as a link to future career goals.

"Jefferson health majors are reaching out to potential employers, mentors, and colleagues early and often to obtain contact hours in their freshman, sophomore, and junior years... We focus on helping students to gain the skills necessary to have meaningful conversations with personnel at clinical sites. Professional communication and development is a vital aspect to overall student' success and we ensure they have an advantage from the start..." (Career Services Staff)

# Health Provider Training & Facilities

- 5 large Simulation Centers
- 20 fully equipped AV supported clinical exam rooms
- More than 125 Standardized Patients (SPs)
- Low and high-fidelity models used for teaching and development of clinical skills



## Study Away

#### Semester Away in Costa Rica

- Designed for Health Sciences
  - Genetics/Lab
  - Public Health Issues
  - Integrative Seminar
  - Medical Spanish
  - Elective

#### 4-Week Immersion in Costa Rica

- End-July to mid-August
- 1 course in Medical Spanish & 1 free elective
- Volunteer at the National Children's Hospital

#### **Short Courses**

- Fulfill GDIV or GCIT requirements
- During Spring break or in Summer
- Nexus Abroad: Cuba (Summer)

#### Global Medical Brigades

- Central America: Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua
- 7-8 days including 3 days working in a medical clinic
- 1-2 days working on community health projects
- Open to freshmen and sophomores
- Occurs in May, OR during Spring break

#### 24 Study Abroad Opportunities

 London, Paris, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Cyprus, Ireland, Botswana, Italy, Czech Republic + ...



## **Career Services**

### Internships for credit (fulfill free electives)

- 3 (144 hrs) or 6 credits (288 hours)
  - Hands-on learning experience that aligns with career goals
  - Apply knowledge gained in classroom and build professional network
  - Opportunities for meaningful work through defined learning objectives, goals and timeline
  - On-site supervision by experienced professional
  - Faculty internship advisor

#### Handshake website

- Job and internship database
- Online Career Finder Assessment
- Career Advice
- RSVP for on-campus events, career fairs, information sessions
- Create/identify internship opportunities



# Community of Scholars who exhibit Academic Excellence & Integrity

Designed for talented, intellectually curious students

#### Admission & Graduation Profile

- SAT and GPA requirement
- Peer leaders who engage in the University community

Honors Freshman Year Seminar (1)

**Honors Ethics (3)** 

**Honors Writing Seminar 2 (3)** 

**Honors Contemporary Global Issues (3)** 

**Honors Hallmarks Capstone Portfolio (3)** 

**Honors Applied Statistics** 

**Honors Nutrition** 

Honors Disciplinary Experience
(60+ cr status)
Honors Intro to Healthcare
Clinical Research in Emergency Med
Emergency Medical Technician
Global Medical Brigades

- Service Learning
- Colloquium
- Directed Research
- Internships

Practicum

**Honors Clinical Interactions Capstone** 

Hallmarks

Majors

#### PLACEMENT RATE

RANKINGS

96%

100%

**#1 R**anking description will go here eventually.

**TOP TEN Ranking description will** go here eventually.

**BEST R**anking description will go here eventually.

#### **FAST FACTS**

- 96% first time test-taker pass rate on PANCE National Certification Exam (5-year composite)
- American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) --PAragon award
- Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA) -National Educator of the Year

#### **EMPLOYERS OF JEFFERSON GRADUATES**

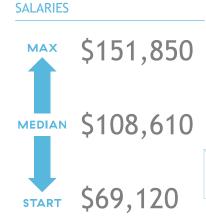
- Primary Care Offices
- Hospitals
- Surgical Specialties

## Physician Assistant

OUTLOOK (BLS.2018)

"Employment of physician assistants projected to grow 31% from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations."

Demand for healthcare services will increase due to the growing and aging population, population longevity and potential for more medical care as people age and, increases in the number of patients living with chronic diseases who will need treatment and preventive care.



#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Academy of Physician Assistants
   AAPA is the national professional society for physician assistants
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
   NCCPA is the national certifying organization for physician assistants
- Physician Assistant Education Association
   PAEA is the accrediting body for physician assistant educational programs





# Alex Kalicki STRATFORD, CT CLASS OF 2021, BS HSCI - Pre-PA Track

"I chose Jefferson because I really like the small campus feel, being able to get to know your professors, seeing familiar faces on campus, and being so close to a major city. Most importantly, Jefferson has given me many different opportunities and resources, such as being able to do research in the University hospital's Emergency Department, that other schools wouldn't have been able to give me.

All of the courses I have taken have been able to relate back to health care and the different health care professions. It's very assuring to know that you not only learn the material in your course but, can also apply that knowledge to your future career.

My advice for prospective students would be to get involved on campus. There are so many different clubs and activities here at Jefferson and it's a great way to meet new people, try new things, and be involved in the Jefferson community."





## Health Sciences Faculty

Faculty clinical expertise encompasses medicine, nursing, nutrition, therapy, exercise science, public health, and emergency medicine.

**HSCI 309 Children's Health:** Dr. Jay Greenspan and Dr. Meg Frizzola, Pediatricians at Nemours Children's Hospital in Wilmington, DE

HSCI 308 Women's Health: Megan Grugan, MSN, CRNP, Director of TJU East Falls Student Health Center

**HSCI 302 Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine:** Dr. Anna Marie Chang, Director of TJU Clinical Research at Jefferson Hospital

HSCI 305 Fitness & Health: Dr. Teresa Gero, Physical Therapist, Moss Rehab

HSCI 330 Medical Terminology: Michael Rackover, Physician Assistant





## Jennifer L. Anderson, PA-C, MS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES, ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR

#### RESEARCH & CLINICAL INTERESTS

- Hospital medicine
- Geriatric medicine and delirium
- Gender pay disparity within the PA profession
- Academic integrity

"It is a pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity as a professor of PA studies to teach the most amazing students every day, while also continuing to care for my patients in a clinical setting. It is a joy to watch the student's transformation from eager, ambitious, didactic students to enthusiastic students on clinical rotations, and ultimately welcome them into the profession as valued colleagues. There is no greater reward as a professor."



