

Wilderness Medicine Elective – September 2-30 – University of Michigan

Duration: 4 weeks; Period offered: 5. Min-Max Enrollment: 10-20.

Distribution of Student's Time: 50% small groups/lecture; 50% hands-on scenarios

Tentative Important Dates: 9/2 Orientation Day, 9/7-14 Michigan Camping Trip, 9/29 Final Exam

On-call responsibility: Classes will be held on days, afternoons, nights, and weekends through the month.

Where to Report First Day of Clerkship: B1380 Taubman Center, University of Michigan

Course Fee: Approximately \$350

Administrative Contact: Heather Wourman cerovski@med.umich.edu. Phone 734-763-1271

Course Description

The course is composed of both classroom learning and hands on practicals. There will be approximately 40 hours of lectures given by various faculty from University of Michigan and outside academic institutions. Reading assignments will be given from *Wilderness Medical Society Practice Guidelines: For Wilderness Emergency Care* and *Wilderness Medicine* by Paul S. Auerbach. The 2013 course was accredited for 38 Wilderness Medical Society Fellowship credits. Educational highlights of the course include:

- Hands on suturing and fracture reduction/splinting techniques
- Outdoor excursion planning, 7 day camping and hiking trip in Northern Michigan (Pictured Rocks 2013, Isle Royale 2012)
- Participation in Midwest Medwar
- Knots, rock climbing techniques and safety at Planet Rock
- Trip to MSU Beal Botanical Gardens to learn about poisonous and edible plant taxa
- Austere environment ultrasound lab and practical
- Procedure lab and practical (tube thoracostomy, cricothyroidotomy, etc.)
- Kayaking and mountain biking practicals
- Student lectures on a Wilderness Medicine topic of their choice.

Clerkship Objectives

To enhance knowledge and skill sets pertaining to environmental medicine, group dynamics, and physician confidence in low resource environments. Sample of learning topics below:

- Scene safety and initial patient assessment
- Improvisation of medical diagnostic and therapeutic interventions
- Common illnesses (e.g. GI, envenomation, tropical) and injuries (e.g. Trauma, ocular)
- Submersion and dive medicine, tactical medicine
- High altitude and space medicine; Heat and cold injury
- Patient packaging, transport, and development of an evacuation plan
- Search and rescue, organization and participation in
- Basic competence in travel and wilderness survival skills (e.g. fire starting, water purification)
- Team dynamics, individual responsibility, open communication, leadership under duress

Evaluation and Grading

- **Clinical Evaluation: 45%** Faculty members are provided a student evaluation matrix to evaluate performance during wilderness medicine scenario sessions.
- **Written Examination: 20%** The written examination is approximately 75 questions long and is based on the lectures and assigned reading.
- **Case Presentation: 20%** Each student is required to present a short scholarly presentation on a evidenced-based topic germane to practicing medicine in low resource environments.
- **Professionalism: 15%** This includes professional behavior and attendance at lectures, small groups, field trips, and scenarios.