

Summer Rural Externship (SRE) Syllabus

CLME 8112.001

The Summer Rural Externship is a two week experience designed to reinforce interest in rural practice and to prepare students for their rural clerkships. The Summer Rural Externship is strongly encouraged for Rural Medical Track students. Each student participating in the SRE program will shadow an assigned preceptor, as well as other non-physician medical professionals, in a rural clinical setting. Students are also strongly encouraged to be involved in the assigned community by attending events, visiting local businesses, and volunteering with nonprofit organizations or other community based groups of personal interest.

Students will be assigned sites based upon the order applications are received. Students hoping to secure a specific location and/or rotation block should complete and submit the SRE application as soon as possible.

1. Course Contacts

- A. **Course Coordinator:** Mark Woodring, DrPH
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- B. **Rural Medical Education Manager:** Lori Boyd, M.S.
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- C. **Program Contact:** Michelle Loveless
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 - 2. 918-401-0499

2. General Course Description

- A. **Course Title:** Summer Rural Externship
- B. **Course Length:** Two Weeks
- C. **Credit Hours:** 2
- D. **Course Format:** Rural Community Clinical and Interdisciplinary Experiences
- E. **Student Level:** Students in the 3 + 1 Program and Osteopathic Medical Students who have completed the first year medical curriculum
- F. **Clinical Setting:** Family Medicine, clinic-based Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics. Students will not be assigned to specialists or hospital-based preceptors.
- G. **Potential Out-of-Office Experiences:**
 - 1. Hospital staff and committee meetings
 - 2. House calls
 - 3. Hospital emergency room calls
 - 4. Community activities

3. Learning Objectives

- A. Apply observational and clinical skills in the office of a rural primary care physician.
- B. Develop an appreciation for the role played by non-physician health professionals in rural communities.
- C. Describe how this experience could influence the decision to practice in a rural setting.
- D. Develop an understanding and appreciation of the total rural experience. Discuss how this externship has impacted your understanding of primary care and rural medicine.

4. Student Requirements

A. Pre-Externship:

1. Students are required to contact their assigned preceptor at least two weeks prior to starting their SRE Experience to coordinate the daily schedule and other pertinent aspects of the experience.
2. All students must wear College-approved identification and a clean, pressed white clinical jacket. Dress is business casual unless directed otherwise by the preceptor.
3. Students are required to bring identification passwords for library resources and any current references.
4. All students must **attend a mandatory orientation** before the first day of the externship.
5. Students are required to complete and sign the Orientation Checklist during orientation (provided at orientation).
6. Students are required to bring the following items for verification purposes:
 - a. National Background Check
 - b. Proof of Health Insurance
 - c. Immunization Records
 - d. Letter of Good Standing (provided at orientation)

B. During Externship

1. First Week Requirements:

- a. Meet with assigned preceptor for on-site orientation
- b. Discuss individual clinical strengths and weaknesses with preceptor
- c. Contact your Center for Rural Health (CRH) Regional Coordinator with any questions/comments/concerns.

2. Other Requirements

- a. Complete two full weeks of clinic observation (64-80 hours, based upon a 32-40 hour workweek).
- b. Complete two, 2-hour Interdisciplinary Experiences with non-physician medical professionals.
- c. Submit a brief press release to local media, which includes your name and a brief mention of the experience purpose.
- d. Take an active role in the community.

- e. Meet with the assigned preceptor regularly to determine how the experience is going.

C. Post-Externship:

- a. Complete the site evaluation on LEO.
- b. Submit a 2-3-page Rural Reflection Paper that includes community information, preceptor and clinic observations, specific details about the two interdisciplinary experiences, and the range of procedures observed. Students should include a narrative discussing their view of rural practice and how this experience has impacted their career path.
- c. Submit copies of three “Thank You” notes, all of which detail the recipient’s name, title, and a description of the educational experiences provided.
- d. Submit a copy of the press release published by local media.
- e. Submit the Interdisciplinary Experience form.

5. Grading Policy

- A. **Pass/Fail.** Students must achieve an overall grade of 70% or higher based upon the following criteria:
 - 1. 50%= Student Performance Evaluation from preceptor
 - 2. 15%= Attendance and living in the rural community (if housing is provided)
 - 3. 15%= Rural Reflection Paper
 - 4. 10%= Interdisciplinary Experiences
 - 5. 5%= Thank You notes
 - 6. 5%= Press Release
- B. All required assignments must be submitted to LEO no later than seven (7) days after the SRE Experience ends.
- C. Students are required to live in the rural community if housing is provided and encouraged to remain over the weekends.
- D. If an absence during the rotation is unavoidable, the student should submit a physician-signed Exception to the Rotation Application to the CRH Regional Coordinator.

6. Scheduling Information

- A. The specific scheduling of days and hours will be made by the preceptor, with approval by the OSU-COM Course Coordinator, and will generally conform to the following.
- B. Students are excused for Memorial Day and Independence Day should the preceptor’s office be closed on either of those holidays.