



Western  
University  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

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College of  
Podiatric Medicine

CURRICULUM  
OVERVIEW

# OUR MISSION

The mission of Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine is to mentor and educate students by providing innovative educational experiences, including interprofessional patient care, in an inclusive, diverse and equitable environment, and inspiring a passion to improve the lives of others.



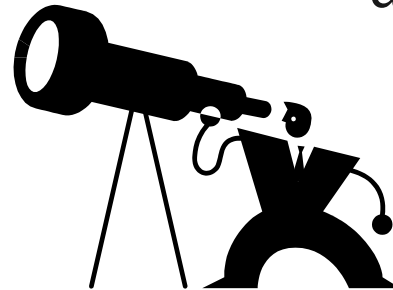
# OUR VISION & CORE VALUES

## VISION

- The global leader of innovative and integrated Podiatric Medical Education.

## CORE VALUES

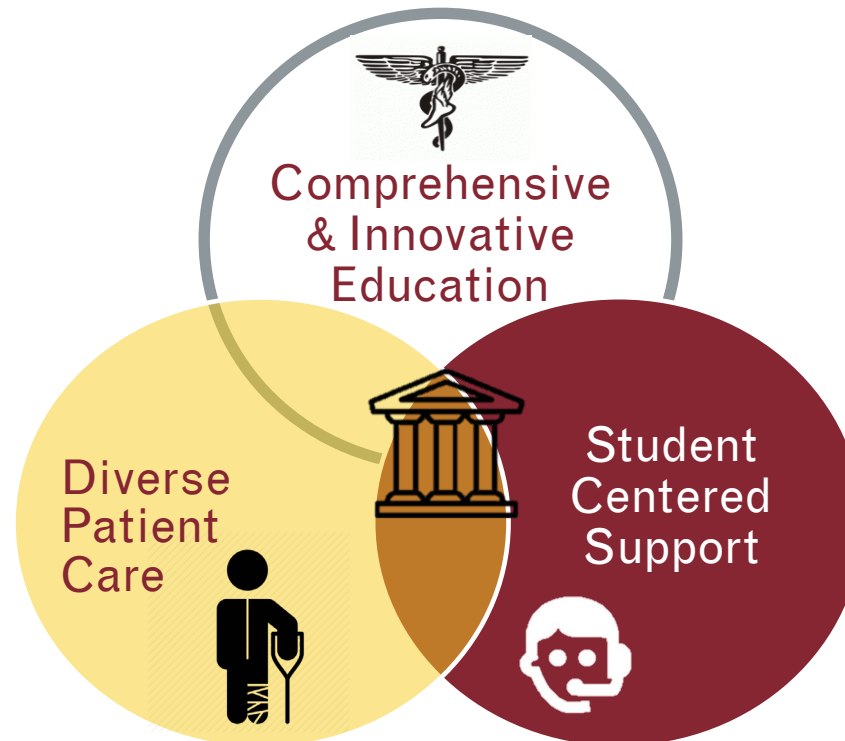
- Embody a humanistic tradition that encompasses compassion, humility, integrity, truth, quality and service.



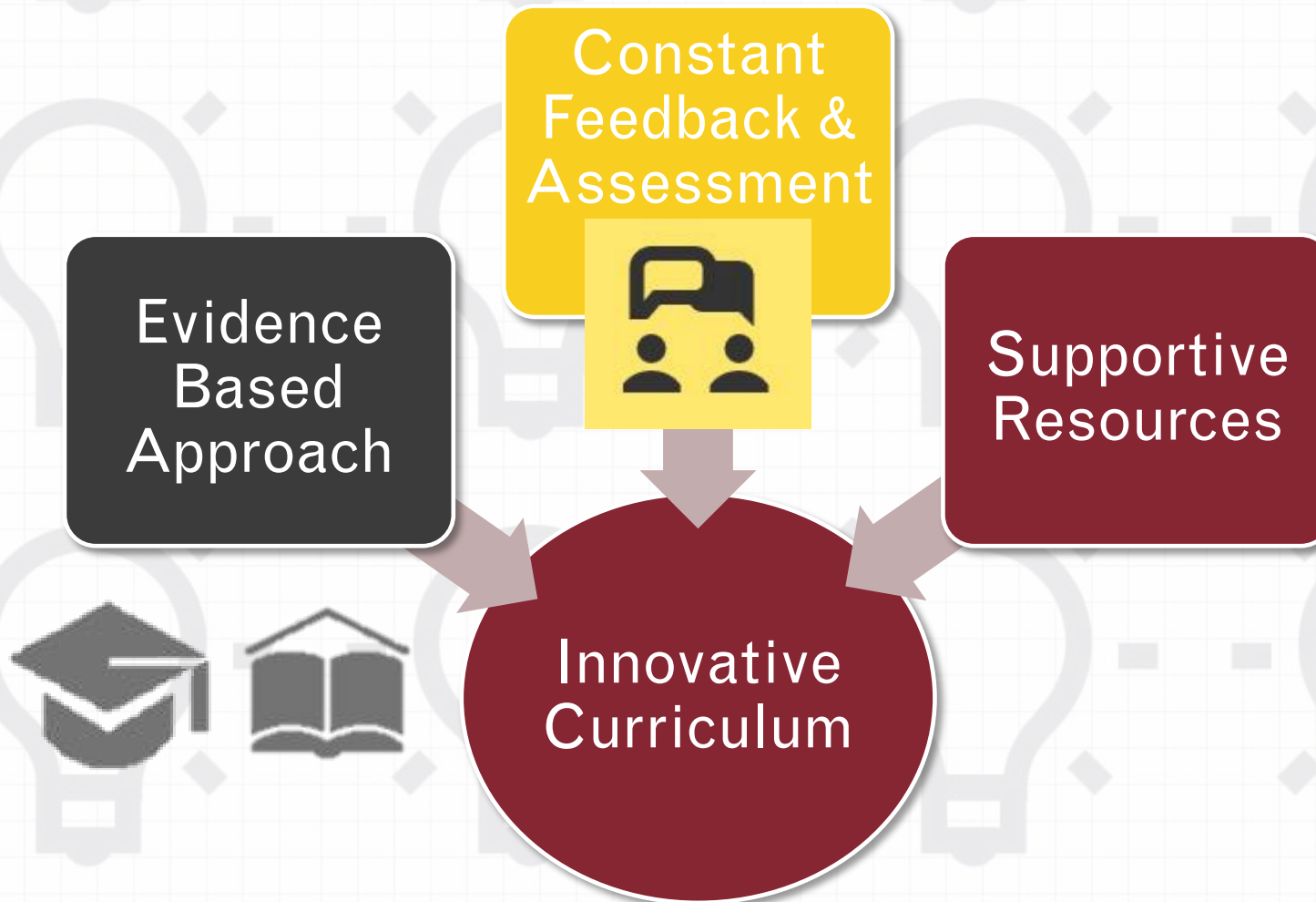
# 3 Pillars

## THAT SHAPE OUR STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

If you want to find quality education and training to practice in today's health care environment, and you want a supportive learning environment, then consider Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine.



# ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION



# A PRODUCT OF INNOVATION



## Start

with the end in  
mind...



## Outcome

Whole-Body  
Clinician with  
Specialty in Lower  
Extremity  
Medicine &  
Surgery



## Assessment

Multimodal design  
to capture the  
Outcome in mind



## Learning Activity

High yield  
curriculum  
designed to  
support the  
Outcome and align  
with Assessment  
modes



# CURRICULUM

## Pre-clinical curriculum

### FALL SEMESTER

### SPRING SEMESTER

1st Year

Foundations of  
Medicine 1  
4 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 2  
6 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 3  
8 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 4  
8 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

High-Yield  
Review

Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 1

Podiatric Medical Principles 1

University-based Interprofessional Education

Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 2

Podiatric Medical Principles 2

2nd Year

Foundations of  
Medicine 5  
8 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 6  
4 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 7  
6 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

Foundations of  
Medicine 8  
5 weeks

Assessment  
Week

Conference  
Week

High-Yield  
Review

Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 3

Podiatric Medical Principles 3

University-based Interprofessional Education

Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 4

Podiatric Medical Principles 4





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# INNOVATIVE TEACHING – CPM SIM LAB AND WESTERNU SARKARIA SIM SUITE

[HTTPS://WWW.WESTERNU.EDU/SA  
RKARIA-SIMULATION-SUITE/](https://www.westernu.edu/sarkaria-simulation-suite/)





# YEAR 1 & 2 SUMMARY

## Standardized Patient Encounters

- Humanistic clinical skills
- State of the art clinical labs
- Emphasis on critical thinking

## Hands-on Community Service Clinics

- Office based procedures
- Preventative care
- Health screening
- Patient education

Early Patient  
Care Exposure



## Team-Based Patient Care Skills

### Whole Body Curriculum

- 10 Human Body Systems
- Lower Extremity Anatomy
- Podiatric Medicine & Surgery
- Biomechanics
- Radiology

### Critical Thinking Skills

- Integrated disciplines
- Biostatistics for clinicians
- Research methodology

Comprehensive  
Foundation



## Built-in Student Wellness

### Academic Counseling

### Mental Health Services

### Disability Accommodations

### Board Preparation

- Protected preparation time
- Board preparation materials
- Mock Board Written Exam

### Mentorship/Networking

- Faculty advisor
- Conference Week

Student Centered  
Support



Innovative Delivery & Evidence Based

# CURRICULUM

## *Clinical curriculum*

### FALL SEMESTER

### SPRING SEMESTER

3rd Year

4 weeks	4 weeks	8 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	12 weeks	8 weeks
Internal Medicine	Family Medicine	Medicine Subspecialty	General Surgery	Surgery Subspecialty	Podiatric Medicine & Surgery	Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Externships
Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 3						

4th Year

20 weeks	4 weeks	20 weeks
Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Externships	Didactic Program	Core Rotation (Medicine, Surgery, & Med/Surg subspecialties)

The order of the four-week clinical rotations in the third and fourth years varies.

# 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR CORE ROTATION SITES

- Note: List of core rotation sites subject to change based on new affiliations

**Olive View Medical Center/ UCLA**



**DVA Greater Los Angeles Health Care System**



**WesternU Health | Pomona**



**Arrowhead Regional Medical Center**



**Riverside University Health Systems**





# THIRD YEAR DIDACTIC EXPERIENCES



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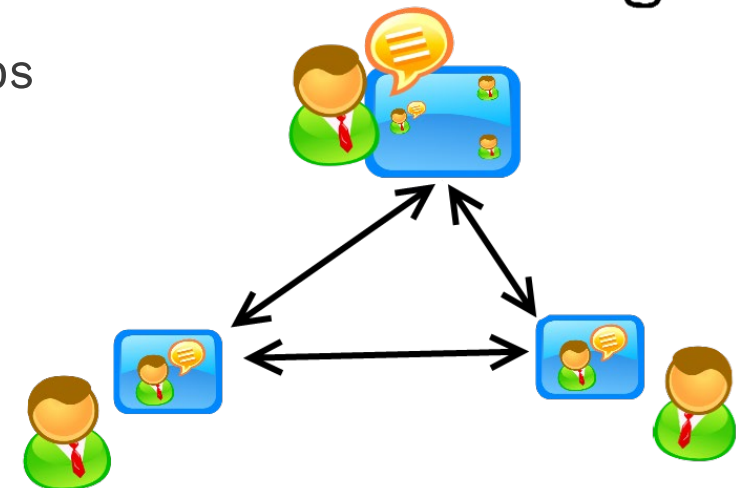
Learning experiences designed to...

- Advance beyond pre-clinical foundations
- Prepare for externships and residency interviews
- Provide competency assessments

Examples:

- Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE)
- Journal club
- Case conference
- Clinical skills workshops

## Web Conferencing



# YEAR 3 & 4 SUMMARY

## Wide range of pathology exposure

- Rotations in different disciplines such as medicine, general surgery, podiatry, etc.
- Diverse patient population
- In-patient and outpatient clinics
- Emphasis on critical thinking

**Seasoned teaching/academic hospitals**

**Early externship experiences/ 6-7 before residency interviews**

Well-Rounded  
Clinical Experience



## Team-Based Patient Care Skills

- Applied skills from year 1&2

## Critical Analysis Skills

- Journal Club
- Case Conference

**Whole body physician specializing in the lower extremities**

**Clinical skills workshop**

Comprehensive  
Foundation



**Academic Counseling**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Disability Accommodations**

## Board Preparation

- Protected preparation time
- Mock board standardized patient exam

## Residency Preparation

- Mock residency interviews
- Faculty & peer advisor
- Rotation preparation

Student Centered  
Support



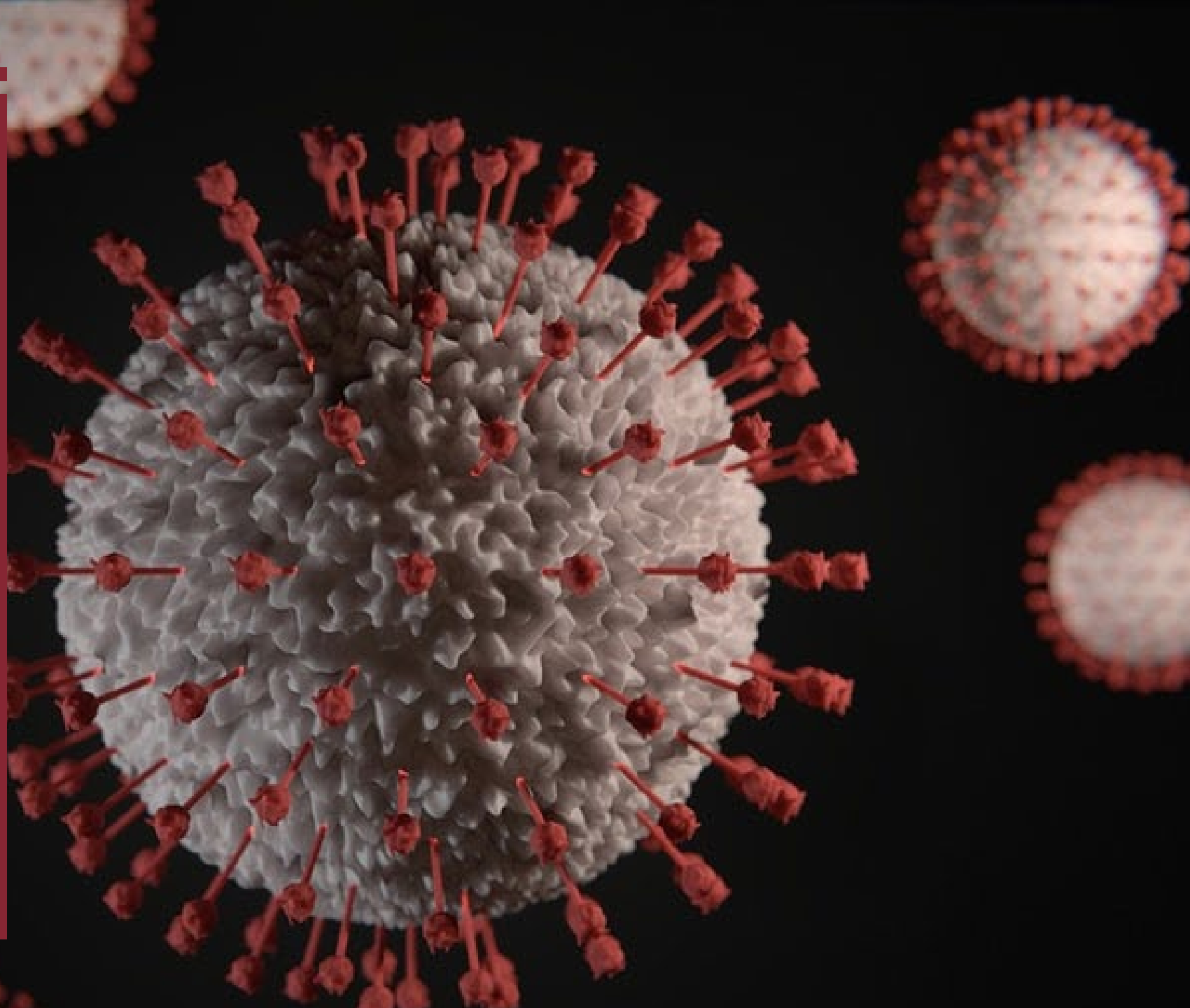
Innovative Delivery & Evidence Based



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# VACCINE REQUIREMENTS





# STUDENT EMPLOYEE HEALTH OFFICE (SEHO)



- All students must send documentation showing they have received any required vaccines to [stu-emphealth@westernu.edu](mailto:stu-emphealth@westernu.edu) or a hold will be placed on their account
- **SARS-CoV-2 vaccination still required for clinical rotations.**
- For more details, click <https://www.westernu.edu/health/>





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STUDENT  
RESEARCH



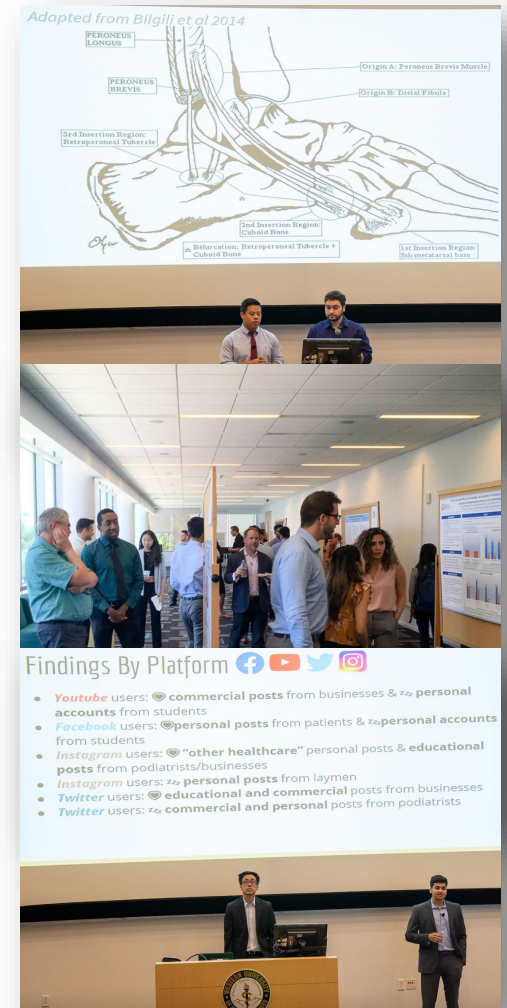
# STUDENT RESEARCH

## Research Opportunities

- Start ANY time a student is ready
- Students create research ideas or work on existing projects
- Encouraged to complete data collection by middle of 3<sup>rd</sup> year
  - Optimizes their portfolio before residency interviews
  - Allows opportunity to present/publish in front of a national audience

## Summer Student Research Grant

- Internal funded program open to all WesternU students (>1,000+)
- Funded over the 1<sup>st</sup> summer (before 2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- Poster or oral presentation at the end of the summer





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# INTENSIVE SUMMER ANATOMY COURSE

(ISAC)

# SELECTION CRITERIA



- Students with:
- Science GPA of 3.35+ **and** MCAT average of 26+ (or 500 +)
  - Successful completion of anatomy, physiology or anatomy and physiology course in undergraduate coursework.

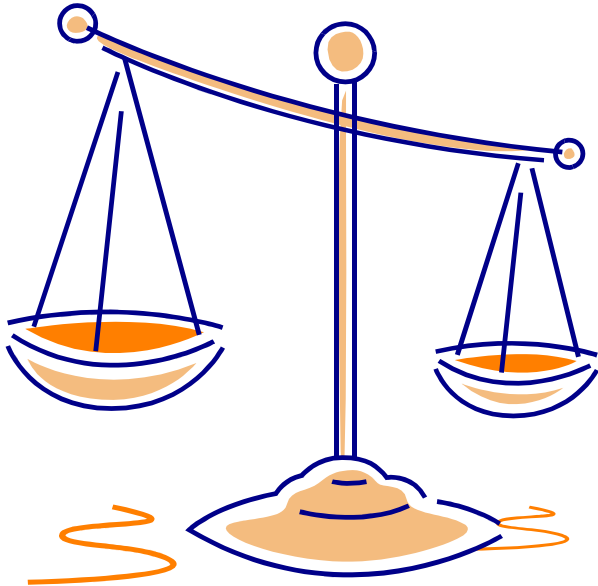


Begins June **prior** to the start of the academic school year.



Accelerated 7-week course.

# WHY TAKE ANATOMY OVER THE SUMMER?

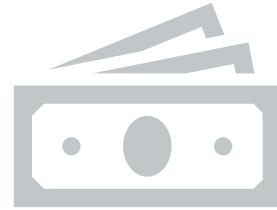


- **ISAC GOAL:**

- To *improve the ratio* of facilitators to students during dissection periods
- 1:35.2 → 1:8-12



# ...MORE REASONS TO TAKE SUMMER ANATOMY!



- **8.5 credits**
- Facilitators will be **chosen** from students who score **>80%** in ISAC
  - No additional exams during the academic year
  - Still must attend lecture
- **Compensated** for teaching lab
- **Score of < 70%** must take MGA during academic year

# FIRST COME FIRST SERVE ENROLLMENT

ISAC fills up  
**QUICKLY!**

Inquire with Office  
of Admissions if  
interested in ISAC  
and apply early

Enrollment is on a  
first come first  
serve basis



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# SUMMER PREPAREDNESS AND READINESS COURSE

(SPARC)

# WHY PAY FOR A SUMMER PREP PROGRAM?

LEARNING ENHANCEMENT & ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT



- Evaluates personal academic strengths & weaknesses.
- Provides tools to help transition to medical school.
- Gives hands-on preview of WesternU courses.

Apply through LEAD from WesternU website

<http://www.westernu.edu/lead/lead-summer-prep/#smsplinks>



# ADDITIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES (MSHS)



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- Health Professions Education (HPE), Community Health Education (CHE), or Research in Podiatric Medicine Tracks
- 2 options for application
  - Before matriculation, or
  - During year 2 of DPM program
- 5-years total if earning DPM and MSHS concurrently
  - Masters course work done in between years 2 & 3 prior to clinical rotations
- Link: [Master of Science in Health Sciences \(MSHS\) | Prospective Students \(westernu.edu\)](#)



# FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT US AT...

- <http://prospective.westernu.edu/>





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THE END

THANKYOU!