

Transgender Health Syllabus

Approved: Erika Sullivan, MD 3/2/2021

Contact Information

Name	Position	Phone/Pager	email
Erika Sullivan, MD	Director	Clinic 801-581-2000 Cell 773-484-6591	erika.sullivan@hsc.utah.edu
Cori Agarwal, MD	Co-Director	801-581-7719	cori.agarwal@hsc.utah.edu
Nikki Mihalopoulos, MD	Co-Director	801-213-3599	nicole.mihalopoulos@hsc.uta h.edu
Joanne Rolls, PA-C	Co-Director	801-587-3355 Clinic 801-581-2000	joanne.rolls@hsc.utah.edu
Isak Goodwin, MD	Co-Director	801-581-7719	isak.goodwin@hsc.utah.edu

Course Information

Brief Description of Course

This course will introduce students to the health issues affecting transgender patients. Through lectures, clinical exposure, and community opportunities, the students will explore discrimination issues, social and legal challenges, primary care and transgender specific care, and specific challenges related to the pediatric and adolescent transgender population. This will be structured as a continuity course, which will be spread over a full academic year in order to maximize clinical exposure in this multidisciplinary field.

Course Goals

As a result of successfully completing the course on Transgender Health students will:

1. Understand primary care issues as they specifically apply to the transgender population.
2. Gain an understanding of hormone therapy for adults undergoing gender transition.
3. Be able to appreciate the complex multidisciplinary approach to management of a gender questioning or gender-nonconforming adolescent.
4. Have a general understanding of surgical interventions for transgender patients.
5. Understand mental health needs and resources for gender non-conforming individuals.
6. Gain exposure to community services and resources for the transgender community and will understand social and legal challenges for this community.

Course Format & Schedule

Timeline

This will be a longitudinal course over the academic year during which students will commit to approximately 80-90 hours in total.

Educational and Instructional Modalities

70% clinical time including clinics and operating room (12 half days clinic, 4-5 hours each= 48 - 60 hours)

10% independent reading (~10 hours)

20% special project to be approved by course director (e.g. Scope Radio piece or Poster presentation ~10-20 hours)

(Historically there has also been a Community Experience involved in this rotation, however, due to limited access to community experiences as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the community experience is being waived for this academic year)

Role of the Student in this Course

Clinical Experience: It will be the student's responsibility to contact the involved faculty and arrange for days to be involved in either the operating room or the clinics (total of 12 half days). Please try to spread these out among primary care (hormone therapy), adolescent medicine (puberty blockers/hormone therapy), surgery (plastics and urology) and other experiences (mental health/vocal therapy/physical therapy).

During clinic days, students will be expected to retrieve and review pertinent clinical information from the electronic medical records, and depending on the expectations of the specific preceptor, they will either see the patient independently or together with the resident or preceptor. The student may enter orders, notes, and any prescription medications (with oversight). During operating room days, the student will review the patient information prior to the surgery and will be present before the surgery to observe markings and pre-operative consent. The student will be scrubbed in during the surgery and assist as able.

Clinical faculty include: Erika Sullivan, MD (family medicine 801-581-2000), Cori Agarwal, MD (plastic surgery 801-581-7719), Isak Goodwin, MD (plastic surgery 801-581-7719), Joanne Rolls PA-C (family medicine 801-581-2000), Nikki Mihalopoulos, MD (adolescent medicine 801-213-3599).

Recommended Reading

1. Feldman, J and Safer, J. *Hormone Therapy in Adults: Suggested Revisions to the Sixth Version of the Standards of Care*. Int J Transgenderism. 11(3):146-182.
2. Safer JD, Tangpricha V. Care of the Transgender Patient. Ann Intern Med. 2019;171:ITC1-ITC16.
3. TransLine Hormone Therapy Prescriber Guidelines (<https://transline.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/229373288-TransLine-Hormone-Therapy-Prescriber-Guidelines>)

4. Hembree, WC *et al.* Endocrine Treatment of Gender-Dysphoric/Gender-Incongruent Persons: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline, *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, Volume 102, Issue 11, 1 November 2017, Pages 3869–3903

Recommended Textbook(s)

Book Title + ISBN	Author/Publisher/Edition	Appx Cost
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Healthcare: A Clinical Guide to Preventive, Primary, and Specialist Care	Kristen Eckstrand (Editor), Jesse M. Ehrenfeld (Editor), Springer 2016, 1 st Edition	Available online at Eccles Library
Guidelines for the Primary and Gender-Affirming Care of Transgender and Gender Nonbinary People	Madeline B. Deutsch (Editor). Center of Excellence for Transgender Health. June 2016, 2 nd Edition	Free online (transhealth.ucsf.edu)

Additional Resources

- WPATH (World Professional Association for Transgender Health) Standards of Care, version 7
- Lancet Transgender Health Series
- www.hrc.org/explore/topic/transgender
- Fenway Institute “Optimizing Transgender Health” <https://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/transtalks/>
- National Geographic Gender Revolution Special Issue (Jan 2017)

Assessment & Grading

Preceptor Evaluations & Time Commitment

This Clinical Course employs preceptor evaluations which contribute to the student’s overall course grade.

The student will track hours committed to the course and submit these to the course director at the end of the course. They will also provide a brief written summary of the community experiences in which they participated.

Assessments –

Assessment/Assignment	Due Date	Weight towards Final Grade
Preceptor Evaluations	5/15/2022	Must Pass

Participation in 12 half clinical days	5/15/2022	Must Complete
Special Research Project	5/15/2022	Must complete and be approved by course director

Grading System

Students will receive a final letter grade of PASS (P), or FAIL (F) for this course.

PASS: A student who achieves the criteria will be assigned a grade of PASS for the course.

FAIL: A student who fails to achieve the criteria for PASS will be assigned a grade of FAIL for the course.

Student Feedback

Student feedback is important and helps identify opportunities to improve the course.

At the conclusion of each course, clerkship or rotation medical students are required to complete a summative evaluation. Evaluations are completed electronically and remain confidential.

Standard Policies

Please refer to the Student Handbook (on the Student Affairs website) for these policies:

- Accommodations**
- Addressing Sexual Misconduct**
- Attendance policy**
- Dress Code**
- Examination and Grading Policies**
- Grade or Score Appeal**
- Professionalism, Roles & Responsibilities**
- Mistreatment**

Center for Disability & Access Services

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability and Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). Staff of the Center for Disability and Access will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability and Access.

The Senior Director of the Academic Success Program, Dr. Steven Baumann (1C047B SOM Dean's Office, 587-3671, or steven.baumann@hsc.utah.edu), serves as the liaison between the School of Medicine and the Center for Disability and Access.

Covid-19 Campus Guidelines.

Students are required to self-report if they test positive for COVID-19. To report, please contact: Covid-19 Central @ The U. 801-213-2874, coronavirus.utah.edu.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus, face coverings are required in all in-person classes for both students and faculty. Based on CDC guidelines, the University requires everyone to wear face coverings in shared public spaces on campus. If you repeatedly fail to wear a face covering in class, you may be referred to the Dean of Students for a possible violation of the Student Code.

Some courses may require attendance due to hands-on coursework. Please read the syllabus and attendance requirements for the course thoroughly.

Some students may qualify for accommodations & exemptions from these guidelines through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accommodations should be obtained prior to the first day of class. If you believe that you meet these criteria, contact:

Center for Disability & Access
801-581-5020
disability.utah.edu
162 Union Building
200 S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Safety.

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.