

# Transgender Health Syllabus

Approved and Updated: Erika Sullivan, MD 1/14/2025

## Contact Information

Name	Position	Phone/Pager	email
Erika Sullivan, MD, MS, MS	Course Director	Clinic 801-581-2000 Cell 773-484-6591 (text is best)	erika.sullivan@hsc.utah.edu

## Who to contact to schedule clinic/OR time

Faculty Name	Specialty	Admin Person	Email	Phone	Notes
Erika Sullivan, MD	GAHT		erika.sullivan@hsc.utah.edu	773-484-6591	SHC 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
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Bernadette Kiraly, MD	GAHT		Bernadette.kiraly@hsc.utah.edu		SHC 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Noah Zucker, MD	GAHT		Noah.Zucker@hsc.utah.edu		Westridge
Rebecca Abbey, MD	GAHT		Rebecca.Abbey@hsc.utah.edu		Westridge
Tiffany Ho, MD	GAHT		Tiffany.Ho@hsc.utah.edu	408-836-9887	SHC 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Rachel Goossen, MD	GAHT		Rachel.Goossen@hsc.utah.edu		SHC 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Marisa Adelman, MD	OB/Gyne	Natalie Moore	Natalie.Moore@hsc.utah.edu	Natalie (801) 581-5501	Tuesdays at SHHC
Isak Goodwin, MD	Plastic Surgery	Kiersten Winegar	Kiersten.Winegar@hsc.utah.edu	801-581-7719	
Cori Agarwal, MD	Plastic Surgery	Kylie Ware	Kylie.Ware@utah.edu		
Norelle Walzer, PA-C	Plastic Surgery	Kylie Ware	Kylie.Ware@utah.edu		
Brett Myers, PhD, CCC-SLP	Voice therapy	None	Brett.Myers@hsc.utah.edu	801-585-6054	417 Wakara Way
Nikki Mihalopoulos, MD	Adolescent Med	Gregory Schoonover	Gregory.Schoonover@hsc.utah.edu		

Ben McCormick, MD	Urology		<a href="mailto:mccormick@hsc.utah.edu">mccormick@hsc.utah.edu</a>		
Jeremy Myers, MD, FACS	Urology		<a href="mailto:jeremy.myers@hsc.utah.edu">jeremy.myers@hsc.utah.edu</a>		
Lauren Barlow, DPT, PRPC	Physical Therapy	None	<a href="mailto:Lauren.barlow@hsc.utah.edu">Lauren.barlow@hsc.utah.edu</a>	801-587-7007	Univ Ortho center
Kaysen Walker, MOT, OTR/L	Occupational therapy (inpatient post-surgery)	None	<a href="mailto:Kaysen.walker@utah.edu">Kaysen.walker@utah.edu</a>	801-599-1485	Univ Utah main hospital

### Course Information

#### Brief Description of Course

This course will introduce students to the health issues affecting transgender patients. Through lectures, clinical exposure, research project 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 longitudinal 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)  
Six of these sessions **must occur** July-Dec; the **remaining six** can be Jan-April

10% independent reading (~10 hours) and community involvement (volunteering at PRIDE, attending one of the quarterly Patient and Family Advisory Board Meetings as an observer – contact Ariel Malan for details at Ariel.Malan@hsc.utah.edu)

20% special research project (~20 hours) (MUST be approved by course director)

### **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 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 (ob/gyne, 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.

### **Recommended Reading**

1. WPATH Standards of care version 8: [Standards of Care for the Health of Transgender and Gender Diverse People, Version 8 \(tandfonline.com\)](https://www.tandfonline.com)
2. 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.
3. Safer JD, Tangpricha V. Care of the Transgender Patient. Ann Intern Med. 2019;171:ITC1–ITC16.

**Optional 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Edition	Free online (transhealth.ucsf.edu)

**Additional Resources**

- WPATH SOC8: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/26895269.2022.2100644>
- Lancet Transgender Health Series
- [www.hrc.org/explore/topic/transgender](http://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	4/15/2026	Must Pass
Participation in 12 half clinical days	4/15/2026	Must Complete
Special Research Project	4/15/2026	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

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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](http://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](http://safeu.utah.edu).