



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code BISC-514	Course Title Clinical Practicum (Immunology)	ECTS Credits 7
Department Life and Health Sciences	Semester Spring/Summer	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Elective	Field Biomedical Sciences	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 2 st Cycle	Year of Study 1 st	Lecturer Voniatis Constantia
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

This course aims to provide students with an opportunity to integrate and apply previously acquired knowledge and technical skills in actual clinical settings.

The course specific objectives is for the students to :

- Experience how work is organized in an actual clinical setting that performs immunology based assays/diagnostic tests
- Practice skills learned in student laboratories and how to use automated instrumentation related to the immunology techniques
- Identify the relation of laboratory results to the patients' diagnosis and management
- Observe and follow guidelines to perform quality control procedures and preventative maintenance of equipment
- Learn to adopt to new procedures quickly
- Recognize the responsibilities of the profession and communicate accurate and precise results in a professional manner
- Apply laboratory organization, management and quality assurance procedures

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to show competence in:

1. The mastery in the practice of immunology/serology techniques.
2. Conducting themselves in accordance with laboratory practices and policies at each site.
3. Accountability for accurate results and an independent interpretation of results in relation to normal and abnormal physiological processes within the body.

4. Appraising the importance of personal and professional ethics when dealing with patients samples and the commitment to confidentiality regarding diagnosis results.
5. Participating in reviews of procedures with other colleagues, the director and the health professionals.
6. Explaining laboratory organization, record keeping and reporting systems, quality control and quality assurance procedures and documentation
7. Reviewing the scientific and diagnostics industry literature and communicate with companies for new and better methods of diagnosis in the field of clinical immunology.

Course Contents:

This course is the practical internships that students can choose to do in clinical and/or research laboratories that do diagnostic testing based on immunological techniques/methods.

Students have to participate in all phases of laboratory functions common to contemporary clinical laboratory practice including, but not limited to immunoematology (routine and specialized procedures in blood banking and transfusion medicine) and immunopathology (immunodiagnosics, serology). Students also participate in relevant continuing education activities and may engage in other professionally-related activities

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

The University will set up contractual affiliation agreements with all clinical affiliated sites (Table 8 of this application) under terms that students do not perform service work in lieu of staff. Students may be employed by the clinical affiliates provided that it does not conflict with the students' learning experience and/or performance evaluations.

Assessment Methods:

Student will be assessed for their technical performance and their professionalism by the clinical mentors assigned at the laboratory where the students will practice during their internship. Evaluation will be based on an evaluation instrument (form) designed to reflect the guidelines and level competencies according to the Cyprus law N.132/88 and to the "European Register of Specialists in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine: Guide to the Register, Version 3-2010".

This evaluation is organized in three parts:

1. Affective behavior (rating scale 1-5) during the intership (20% of final mark);
2. Ability to demonstrate advanced theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of specialization (rating scale 1-5) (40% of final mark)
3. Technical ability to perform various laboratory procedures (rated on % competency) (40% of final mark), including assignments and assessment of participation in the other activities of the laboratory (i.e. seminars/lectures, journal club, case studies, new method development etc.).

Daily Task Sheets are to be completed by the student and signed by the clinical instructor each day of rotation. The student clinical mentors will have to complete a Mid-term Evaluation checklist and a Final Competency Evaluation checklist to serve as a guideline of students accomplishments during the clinical rotation. Students will also have to complete a minimum on one assignment each week and posted electronically.

If a clinical rotation does not offer all of the required testing from the competency/evaluation checklist, the student may be required to attend/find another clinical site that performs the testing. This may include the student laboratory on campus.

The student may also need to receive additional training in the student lab, library, or computer lab.

Practicum Rotations

Practicum rotations have to ensure the availability of: (i) a broad variety of Practicum environments; (ii) adequate supervision, staff interaction and exposure to techniques related to immunology; (iii) ability of the student to travel to their assigned sites; and take some consideration of (iv) student's preferences.

Scheduling is done during the summer semester and is contingent on availability of an appropriate Practicum affiliate site and adequate supervision. Practicum rotations (days, times and sites) are scheduled and confirmed by the Program coordinator in consultation with the clinical mentor assigned at each practicum affiliated site. Arrangements done by students require the approval of the programme coordinator.

Students will be placed into Practicum rotations only after submitting a copy of his/her immunization records (including completion of the Hepatitis B series) and a negative drug screen and criminal background check. These records will be submitted to and kept by the Program coordinator.

