UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
BISC-514H	Clinical Practicum - Hematology	7.5
Prerequisites	**Department**	**Semester**
None	Life Sciences	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Concertation Hematology	Biomedical Sciences	English
Level of Course	**Lecturer(s)**	**Year of Study**
2nd Cycle	Dr. Stella Nicolaou	2nd
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Corequisites**
Face-to-face	Yes	None

Course Objectives:

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 are 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 immunology and or hematology techniques.
- Identify the relationship of laboratory results to the patient's diagnosis and management.
- Observe and follow guidelines to perform quality control procedures and preventative equipment maintenance.
- Learn to adapt to new procedures quickly.
- Recognize the responsibilities of the profession and professionally communicate accurate and precise results.
- Apply laboratory organization, management, and quality assurance procedures.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

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 communicating with companies for new and better methods of diagnosis in the field of clinical immunology.

Course Content:

This course is a practical internship that students can do in clinical and/or research laboratories that do diagnostic testing based on immunological techniques/methods.
Students must participate in all phases of laboratory functions common to contemporary clinical laboratory practice, including immunohematology (routine and specialized procedures in blood banking and transfusion medicine) and immunopathology (immunodiagnostics, 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 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 student's learning experience and/or performance evaluations.

Assessment Methods:

Placement Evaluation, Written reports, Daily Task Sheets
A. Students will be assessed for their technical performance and professionalism by the clinical mentors assigned at the laboratory, where they will practice during their internship. Evaluation will be based on an instrument (form) designed to reflect the guidelines and level competencies according to the Cyprus law N.132/88 and the "EFLM syllabus V5:2018". The student clinical mentors will have to complete a Mid-term Evaluation checklist and a Final Competency Evaluation checklist to guide students' accomplishments during the clinical rotation. The students will be assessed by the clinical supervisor on the following:
   1. Affective behavior (rating scale 1-5) during the internship
   2. Ability to demonstrate advanced theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of specialization (rating scale 1-5)
   3. Technical ability to perform various laboratory procedures (rated on % competency), 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.).

B. Submission of 6 written reports (2 from each section) to the University Supervisor.

C. Submission of Daily Task Sheets, completed by the student and signed by the clinical instructor each day of rotation. These will be submitted to the University Supervisor.

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.

Placement Criteria:

To ensure the Clinical Practicum's integrity, quality, and comprehensiveness, students must undertake their training in an environment distinct from their current or previous work settings. This policy is rooted in the belief that exposure to diverse clinical settings and methodologies is fundamental to the holistic development of a biomedical specialist. Moreover, completing placements in a familiar environment may not only hinder the broadening of a student's experience but can also lead to potential conflicts in the supervisor-student dynamic. Consequently, students are strictly prohibited from pursuing their Clinical Practicum in any laboratory where they have previously or are currently employed. Additionally, it is essential to highlight that the program is designed to be rigorous and comprehensive, and prior experience in a particular clinical laboratory does not warrant exemptions from any parts of the curriculum or practicum.