

Course title	Clinical Specialties: Rheumatology, Orthopaedics, Dermatology			
Course code	GEMD-401			
Course type	Required			
Level	Undergraduate			
Year / Semester	Year 4 / Semester 7/8 (rotation)			
Course Lead	Professor Joseph Joseph Chair, Clinical Education			
ECTS	60	Teaching Periods per Week		
		Large Group Learning	Small Group Learning	Clinical Practice
		3	1	36
Course purpose and objectives	<p>The main objectives of the last two years of the Medicine programme are to provide students with extensive experience in the clinical environment, mainly in hospitals but also in the community, so that they can utilise their learning over the previous three years to practise their clinical, communication, diagnostic and reasoning skills on real patients, and to learn about the management of patients, from a medical, therapeutic, surgical, psychosocial and caring perspective.</p> <p>In this course, students will spend five weeks working primarily with patients with musculoskeletal, orthopaedic and skin disorders. They will develop an understanding of the presentation, signs and symptoms, physical examination findings, investigations, diagnosis, treatment (medical and/or surgical, including plastic surgery, as appropriate) and management plan for common musculoskeletal, orthopaedic and skin disorders.</p> <p>The students will learn how to take detailed histories from, carry out systematic clinical examination of, and interpret laboratory and imaging data on patients with disorders of the musculoskeletal and integumentary systems and on patients requiring orthopaedic surgery. The students will gain a basic understanding of the application and type of information to be obtained from different methods for investigating musculoskeletal and skin disorders. They will also spend time in theatre observing musculoskeletal, orthopaedic and dermatological operations and plastic surgery.</p>			
Learning outcomes	<p>By the end of the course the students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. take a focused history from a patient, or relative of a patient, presenting with a musculoskeletal, orthopaedic or skin disorder, in a sensitive and caring manner. 2. carry out a sensitive physical examination as part of investigation of the presenting complaint. 3. discuss a differential diagnosis for the presenting complaint. 4. apply their knowledge of basic and clinical science to identify and explain appropriate investigations, including blood and urine tests, nerve conduction 			

	<p>tests, imaging, joint aspiration and biopsy to assist in the diagnosis of the presenting complaint and to interpret the results from such tests.</p> <p>5. prepare and explain a treatment management plan for the patient to present to the responsible clinician to include medical, pharmacological, surgical options as appropriate.</p> <p>6. observe, and where appropriate, carry out or assist with, medical and surgical procedures relating to patients with rheumatological, orthopaedic and dermatological conditions, planned and opportunistic.</p> <p>7. Prescribe medications to treat patients with disorders of the joints, muscles, ligaments and skin make appropriate therapeutic/management decisions.</p>					
Prerequisites	None		Required	None		
Course content	<p>Common presentations affecting the musculoskeletal system and skin including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rheumatoid and osteoarthritis ○ Connective tissue disorders ○ Disorders of bones and joints ○ Fractures, dislocations and ligament injuries ○ Disorders of the foot and spine ○ Skin disorders and infections ○ Sarcomas and skin cancer ○ Burn management and wound healing ○ Sports Medicine injuries 					
Teaching methodology	The course is delivered by clinical placements, lectures, tutorials, case studies and group discussions.					
Bibliography	Required textbooks/reading					
	Authors	Title	Edition	Publisher	Year	ISBN
	Adebajo, Ade Dunkley L	ABC of rheumatology	5 th	Wiley-Blackwell	2018	9781118793213 E-book
	McGregor, AD McGregor IA	Fundamental techniques of plastic surgery and their surgical applications	10 th	Elsevier	2000	9780443063725
Christopher E. M. Griffiths, Jonathan Barker, Tanya O. Bleiker, Walayat Hussain, Rosalind C. Simpson	Rook's Textbook of Dermatology	10 th	Wiley-Blackwell	2024	9781119709213	

	Dandy, DJ Edwards DJ.	Essential orthopaedics and trauma	5 th	Churchill Livingstone	2009	9780443067174
	Joint Formulary Committee	https://bestpractice.bmj.com/drugs	Latest	BMJ Group and Pharmaceutical Press	Current year	
	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence	https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance	Latest	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence	Current year	
Recommended textbooks/reading						
	Authors	Title	Edition	Publisher	Year	ISBN
	Stone J	Current diagnosis & treatment in rheumatology	4 th	McGraw Hill	2021	9781259644641
	Ramachandran M	Basic orthopaedic Sciences	2 nd	CRC Press	2017	9781444120981
	For more information on accessing the British National Formulary (BNF) please see the library guide Health Research Basics					
	Additional information can also be found in the library guides: Clinical Placement Support Resources & Health Library Student Well-being Resources					
Assessment	End of year exam and end of year OSCE. The written assessment will be Single Best Answer MCQs and Short Answer Questions. Workplace based assessments will take place during the attachment.					
Language	English					