Physician Assistant Studies Master’s Program
Ignatian Pedagogy Subcommittee (IPSC)
Mission, Educational Goals & Objectives

Mission Statement

Our mission is to develop physician assistants in the Jesuit tradition who realize their full potential as excellent clinicians and national leaders. We pursue this for *ad majorem Dei gloriam*, the greater glory of God, and the benefit of the human community.

An ideal graduate of our program is well-rounded, clinically and intellectually competent, committed to professional growth, spiritually centered, compassionate and dedicated to doing justice in generous service to others. Our graduates will be leaders in promoting health, wellness, and preventing disease in diverse healthcare settings and in their communities.

Goal 1: Program Responsibilities
The program will support students academically during their physician assistant training in order for them to achieve their academic and professional goals.

- Students will be challenged with a rigorous medical curriculum while being supported by the faculty and administration through a high faculty to student ratio, academic advising and support. (measured by ACS committee/referrals)

- Through the support provided to students and a thoughtful admission process, the program will maintain a low attrition and deceleration rate. (measured by attrition/deceleration rates)

- The PA program fosters a culture of leadership and service to others by crafting unique experiences and by the example of our faculty. (demonstrated by early pre-clinical experiences in underserved clinics and faculty service in the larger community)

- The program recognizes students learn from a variety of teaching methods and will employ these methods including: lectures, problem-based learning, small group experiences, standardized patient experiences, clinical rotations, and self-reflection exercises.

- Graduates of the program will have a 100% employment rate by six months in each graduating class. (measured by grad survey)

Goal 2: Medical Knowledge
Prepare competent PA’s using a rigorous curriculum that provides a strong biomedical sciences knowledge foundation.

- Graduates will maintain first-time passing rates of 100% on the PANCE exam. (measured by PANCE scores)
• Graduates will maintain scores above the national average in each of the organ system subcategories of the PANCE exam. (measured by PANCE scores)

• Students will apply knowledge from didactic training across clinical disciplines with competent performance in the core clinical areas of Family Practice, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Women’s Health, Behavioral Medicine, and Internal Medicine. (measured by EOR exams)

**Goal 3: Interpersonal & Communication skills**
Prepare students to effectively communicate interpersonally in a professional manner.

• Students will demonstrate that they can communicate effectively and work collaboratively with all members of the healthcare team. (measured by preceptor evals)

• Students will establish clear communication and appropriate language when eliciting a history and providing education to patients. (measured by SP interactions)

• Students will formulate appropriate written communication for medical documentation and scientific writing. (measured by Science Writing Course/Capstone/Coding)

**Goal 4: Patient Care**
Prepare patient-focused PA’s who provide high quality care of patients within the scope of their practice.

• Students will provide compassionate care for patients and respond sensitively to patients and the communities in which they live. (measured by ROB assignment and reflection, clinical rotations)

• Students will acquire and refine patient evaluation skills. (measured by OSCE for patient evaluation)

• Students will accurately interpret signs, symptoms, and relevant diagnostic studies to make sound patient management decisions. (measured by Case Studies in didactic years and clinical evals for patient management)

**Goal 5: Professionalism**
Prepare our graduates to promote the PA profession through their leadership, ethical practice, scholarship, and service.

• Graduates will be leaders of the profession at the local, state, and national level. (measure rates by grad survey, alumni report from NCCPA and other qualitative data)
• Providing compassionate, patient-centered care to a diverse population of patients. (preceptor evaluations)

• Fostering integrity through accountability to patients, society, and the PA Profession.

• Graduates will meet all regulatory requirements for licensure and maintain their professional certification through completion of ongoing professional development. (measurable by recertification rates)

• Graduates will function as effective and efficient members of the healthcare team by working up to their full potential.

Goal 6: Practice-based learning
Prepare our graduates to work effectively both independently and with other members of the healthcare team to assess and improve patient care outcomes.

• Graduates will recognize their personal biases, cognitive and physical limitations, and initiate steps required to make improvements in these areas.

• Graduates will demonstrate oral and written proficiency in the presentation, synthesis, and critique of the latest evidenced based medical and scientific data using information technology for the purpose of practice-based improvements. (Assessed by EBM papers/projects and/or information solicited from graduates)

• Graduates will partner with physicians and other professional colleagues to measure, critique and revise their practice outcomes. (IP projects and/or may need to solicit this information on grad survey or other means)

Goal 7: Systems based practice
Prepare our graduates to be advocates for quality patient care, promote safe medical practice, assist patients in dealing with system complexities, and address biases that contribute to health care disparities.

• Students will recognize and address disparities in socioeconomic status and resources in rendering care to the disadvantaged. (ROB and ER reflections)

• Students will use evidenced based practice to provide patient centered care that honors individual characteristics and maximizes their scope of practice.

• Partner with their patients to navigate the intricacies of complex healthcare systems, cost-effective health care, and the ever-changing world of health insurance and reimbursement.

• Show accountability and initiative by promoting patient safety and taking steps to improve the healthcare system when deficiencies are identified.