UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

STANDARDS FOR COURSE OBJECTIVE, COURSE OUTLINE AND PUBLIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Date of last review: April 2014
Revised:
Approved by the Curriculum Committee:
Approved by ECSC:
Next revision: November 2016

PURPOSE

The curriculum of the Doctor of Medicine Program (the Program) or Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University continually evolves in response to new developments in pedagogy, expansion of medical knowledge, addition of new resources and the importance of social accountability.

With increasing professional accountability, the Program recognizes the need to identify the key attributes expected of learners. To meet this goal, the Program is moving towards a competency-based curriculum.

The Program curriculum is founded on our curricular competencies:
http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/medicine/undergraduate/about_us/curriculum/competencies.html
that are derived from the CanMEDS framework:

http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/common/documents/canmeds/framework/the_7
_canmeds_rol___es_e.pdf

These will serve as the overall goals of learning in all clinical and non-clinical instruction throughout the four years of study in the Program.

STATEMENT

The Program demands that each course has objectives for the course and for each session. Each objective must be linked to the curricular competencies of the Program.

In designing and delivering course material, a course committee and faculty will adhere to the following:

Course Objectives

- The general objectives of a course, rotation or learning modality in the Program will be made known to medical students in two ways:
  - Students can view the general course objectives (which are mapped to our Program Curricular Competencies and to Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning) in our education management database (One45).
  - http://one45.schulich.uwo.ca
  - The general course, rotation or learning modality objectives are also included within each course site in the Western University learning management system OWL: https://owl.uwo.ca
- At the direction of the Curriculum Committee, all learning objectives should be reviewed and or modified on a yearly basis collaboratively by the faculty members and Course Committee.
  - According to our Program Year 1, 2 & 4 course production dates, each course has a final course objective schedule target date that is usually 12 weeks prior to the first day of the course.
  - Clerkship Rotation Directors are required to finalize objectives for their rotations by the last Clerkship and Fourth Year Electives Committee CEC Committee meeting in July.
  - In the time period from end of course up to the course target date in #1, the course committee will meet to review the previous year objectives and determine if the course objectives should be updated, revised, edited or re-written.
  - The Course Committee will consult with and monitor the annual review and revision of session objectives by teaching faculty.
  - Meetings with the Coordinator, Curriculum Oversight are encouraged to help with the writing of objectives as well as the mapping of the objectives to Blooms Taxonomy and the Program Competencies.

Course Outlines
  - The course outline or syllabus provides an overview of the course to students.
  - Course outlines are available to learners and disseminated through the Western University password-protected system OWL.
  - Course outlines are to be reviewed and revised on a yearly basis.
  - The course outline should contain the following information:
    - Overall broad course objectives and goals
    - Individual session objectives and outlines (if necessary)
    - Course instruction (a narrative description of the course indicating the learning modalities that will be used)
    - All methods of course assessment including objectives, mapping and weighting on the final course grade (mode and mark breakdown for each assessment tool) in accordance with the "Statement on Student Assessment in the UME program"
    - Reference to the Statement on Students with Academic Challenges
    - http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/medicine/undergraduate/docs/policies_state ments/linked/1-3-3-Policy-Students-Academic-Challenges-Year-1-and-_2.pdf

    - Resources supported by the course committee (Library/Learner Equity & Wellness/ Required readings and textbooks/ Course Notes/Additional Resources.)
    - Any and all Laboratory and or Independent Learning Modules
    - Reference to the Statement on Attendance and Absenteeism

- o [http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/medicine/undergraduate/docs/policies_state ments/linked/1-2-0-Schulich-Policy-Attendance-Absenteeism.pdf](http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/medicine/undergraduate/docs/policies_statements/linked/1-2-0-Schulich-Policy-Attendance-Absenteeism.pdf)

  - o Linkage to Program Policies: Scholastic Discipline Policy/ Western/Schulich Computer Acceptable User Agreement – all of which are available via an assigned Course Support Administrator.
  - o A Course Outline template will be provided to new Course Chairs as part of their orientation package. The Course Outline template is available at any time from UME Curriculum Support.

- **Public Course Descriptions**
  - o Public Course Descriptions provide a brief overview of the course for the review of any member of the general public outside of the Program or Western University. These overviews are posted on the public UME website through the school web hosting. Many serve as means of recruitment for our school Admissions process.
  - o Public course descriptions will be reviewed and if needed revised on a yearly basis.
  - o A public course description contains the following information:
    - Course name and course code
    - Name and contact information of course chair and committee
    - A short description of the course objectives and content