Didactic Electives Offerings for McWhorter School of Pharmacy Students
Spring 2018

The McWhorter School of Pharmacy (SOP) Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum requires two (2) didactic elective courses to be completed during the second year spring semester and/or third professional years of study. All electives are 2-credit hours. Didactic electives are to be selected from the courses listed below, provided prerequisites are fulfilled. Course descriptions also are presented below. Courses taken prior to enrollment in the McWhorter SOP cannot be counted toward elective requirements in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum.

Students enrolled in the McWhorter SOP/Samford University dual programs (e.g., PharmD/MBA, PharmD/MPH) can count selected dual program courses to meet their pharmacy didactic elective course requirements. However, these students can still enroll in pharmacy didactic elective courses if they desire. The school is collaborating with other Samford University College of Health Sciences (CHS) faculty to create additional interprofessional electives. Once approved, these will be added to this list.

Students have the ability to complete more than two didactic elective courses if they choose. Extra tuition will NOT be charged to complete more than two didactic elective courses (but cannot exceed 21 credit hours in the semester).

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<th>PHRX *</th>
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<th>P3 Spring</th>
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<td>470</td>
<td>Healthcare and Pharmacy in Great Britain</td>
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<td>Pharmacy Practice and Healthcare in Spain</td>
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<td>467 c</td>
<td>Exploring Medical Missions</td>
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<td>472 c</td>
<td>Medication Use in the 15th and 16th Century</td>
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<td>Women’s Health</td>
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<td>Research</td>
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a = Each elective has a minimum number of students that need to be enrolled for the elective to be scheduled.

b = This elective is completed after the spring semester.

c = This course is completely delivered and completed online.

PHRX 450-19: Pharmacy Practice and Healthcare in Spain
This is a 2-week immersive experience in Spain. In conjunction with Studies in Spain, students travel to the city of Granada, Spain and will stay at a local hotel for two weeks. While in country, students are provided with a variety of opportunities to learn about the healthcare system in Europe and specifically how it is delivered in Spain. Additionally, students will learn about pharmacy education and how pharmacists maintain competence to practice. Students will take part in various site visits including community pharmacies, hospital, university, professional association, and some historic and cultural sites. A minimum number of students are required to fill the course and additional course fees apply.

PHRX 454 – Journal Club
This elective is designed for students to further enhance their skill at evaluating and critiquing randomized, controlled clinical trials. Selected trials (i.e., landmark and current) will be thoroughly assessed to identify strengths and limitations plus determine appropriate application into practice. Prerequisite: PHRX 403.
PHRX 456 – Managed Care Pharmacy
This elective explores the fundamental knowledge and skills needed in the delivery of pharmaceutical care in a managed health care environment, primarily serving ambulatory patients. Emphasis on drug benefit management from a fiscal and clinical perspective.

PHRX 460-01 – Research
This elective applies literature and laboratory techniques or other methods of scientific investigation to pharmaceutical problems. Students choose to study and investigate a synthetic route in the design of a drug or develop a quantitative assay procedure for a known chemical entity. Prerequisite: Professional GPA of at least 2.5.

PHRX 460-02, -03, -04, -05 – Research
This elective is designed to provide the student with directed research experience on specific topics in pharmaceutical sciences. These topics are generally focused on characterization and evaluation of new or existing therapeutic agents, bioanalytical methodology for drug measurement, novel platforms and routes of administration. Students will gain hands-on experiences with in vitro bioanalytical sample preparation and analysis techniques. Prerequisite: Professional GPA of at least 2.5.

PHRX 462 – Current Topics in Toxicology
Primary instructors: Ann Slattery and Bill King from The Regional Poison Control Center at Children’s Hospital in Birmingham. This elective covers common biologic, chemical and drug poisonings. Learn signs and symptoms, mechanisms of action, and toxicokinetics of various toxicants. Highlights “state of the science” treatment modalities. Includes site visit to local poison control center.

PHRX 463 – Complementary and Alternative Medicine
This elective provides pharmacy students with more specific education regarding herbal/natural products and other practices of complementary and alternative medicine.

PHRX 466 – Mental Illness and Treatment in the Movies
This elective is designed to evaluate the description and treatment of mental illness as portrayed in the movies. The class will be divided into groups and each group will present one movie. The groups will focus on specific movie scenes that address the disease in terms of symptomatology, effects on the characters' lives, attitudes of friends/family, portrayal of health care workers, treatment, etc.

PHRX 467 – Exploring Medical Missions
This elective is an introduction to medical missions aimed at understanding the need to provide medical care among the world’s underserved communities, the roles and responsibilities of various healthcare providers, and how to serve Jesus Christ by providing spiritual and physical health care with an emphasis on global healthcare. This course will be aimed at understanding the social, emotional, and cultural needs of specific patient populations and providing patient care, medicine, and spiritual guidance to the less fortunate. Students in any degree program in the College of Health Sciences may enroll in this interprofessional course. Pharmacy students must be in their P2 year.

PHRX 470 – Pharmacy and Healthcare in Great Britain
This elective course is designed to provide the student with the opportunity to learn about the role of the pharmacist in the health system of Great Britain. In addition to preparatory meetings at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy prior to the trip, the course requires international travel to the Samford University Study Centre in London, England (or other housing in London) and travel within Great Britain. This course also involves local travel within London to multiple health care, cultural, and historical sites. Minimum of eighteen (18) students are to be enrolled for this course to be offered. Additional course fees apply. Prerequisites: Professional GPA above 2.00 and no active university values violations.

PHRX 472 – Medication Use in the 15th and 16th Century
This elective course is designed to provide the student with an overview of common disease states and treatments during the 15th and 16th centuries. The course will compare and contrast prevalence and treatment of common disease states of that period with modern day prevalence and treatment. Considerations will be given to social / cultural aspects of the period which may have influenced the use of medications in Western civilizations.

PHRX 473 – Advanced Topics in Extemporaneous Compounding
This elective explores advanced topics related to non-sterile and sterile extemporaneous compounding through a case-based approach. Topics include compounding techniques, regulations, and requirements; as well as pharmacy business models. Compounding laboratory sessions will simulate real-world scenarios in preparing and dispensing compounded products. A course fee (up to $50) will be charged to students enrolled in this elective.
PHRX 478 – Women’s Health: A Focus on Select Gynecologic and Obstetric Disorders
This elective is designed to provide an overview of gynecologic and obstetric disorders. Emphasis will be placed on medication therapy used for these disorders (e.g., PCOS, infertility, fibroids, uterine & ovarian cancer, disorders during pregnancy [hypertension, diabetes, thromboembolism], labor & delivery/post-partum care & issues, lactation & breastfeeding).

PHRX 480 – Health-Systems Pharmacy Practice
This elective is designed to offer students the opportunity to learn the more specific health-system pharmacy practices. Through lectures, individual assignments, and discussion, students will be introduced to the variety of practices a pharmacist can have in a health-system utilizing practicing pharmacists.

PHRX 482 – Basic Pharmacognosy and Medicinal Plants
This elective course focuses on evidence based medicines originating from natural products and their synthetic derivatives. Topics covered are the traditional and scientific basis for the medicinal use of natural products, fundamental concepts of botany and plant taxonomy, methods of classifying the clinically significant properties of medicinal plants, quality control and extraction methods, and considerations when counseling patients on the use of these products. This course will contain active learning components.