Course Description
This module is designed to instruct students in various disease/disorder entities in Pediatrics, Women’s Health, Behavioral Health, and Sexual Health in preparation for clinical clerkships. The student will gain comprehensive knowledge of the etiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic work-up, treatment and management of common diseases/disorders in these fields. The module includes instruction in clinical medicine, pharmacology, radiology, physical diagnosis, nutrition, and medical interviewing. In addition, student instruction will include an overview of psychiatric concepts and an introduction to the evaluation of patients with behavioral health disorders. Students will learn the components of a psychiatric interview and will become familiar with the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) diagnostic criteria.

Credits/Modes of Instruction
Six semester credits with approximately 100 hours of instruction over five weeks. Teaching strategies include lecture, discussion, small group work, simulation, and assigned readings.

Prerequisites
Enrollment in the physician assistant program and completion of prior courses within the curriculum, as appropriate.

Course Goals
Provide a broad base of applied clinical medicine knowledge and skills in the areas of Pediatrics, Women’s Health, Behavioral Health, and Sexual Health in preparation for clinical training.

Course Objectives
For each of the topics and disease entities introduced throughout this module, the student will be able to:
1. recognize the signs and symptoms (clinical manifestations)
2. identify the etiology
3. illustrate the epidemiology
4. demonstrate knowledge of the pathophysiology
5. describe and interpret specific diagnostic tests
6. discuss the natural history, course, and prognosis
7. identify potential complications
8. assess the psychosocial aspects
9. discuss pertinent patient education and counseling
10. predict prognosis
11. explain preventive measures
12. demonstrate knowledge of treatment and management
13. discuss socioeconomic aspects

In addition, upon completion of the module the student will be able to:

1. Describe the basic principles of the following techniques: standard radiographs, nuclear medicine studies, computerized tomography, ultrasound, coronary angiography, magnetic resonance imaging as relates to the disease entities discussed in this module.
2. identify anatomical areas as they appear on radiographs
3. recognize variations of normal on radiographs
4. describe pathological findings on radiographs
5. decide which radiographic studies would be appropriate to order based upon a patient's history and physical examination
6. correlate the radiographic findings with the history and physical examination in order to determine a diagnostic impression
7. identify an appropriate initial course of action based on radiographic and clinical findings
8. Describe the basic pharmacokinetic principles and their application to specific disease states.
9. Describe the pharmacologic properties of drugs used to treat specific disease states.
10. List factors that can affect drug response and dosage.
11. Discuss the indications, contraindications, adverse effects and drug interactions within a specific drug class.
12. Distinguish how the clinical properties of drugs influence the passage of drugs to the effector site.
13. Discuss the pharmacologic effects, metabolism, toxicity and clinical uses of a specific class of drugs.
14. Compare the different dosage forms and how they affect the speed and extent of drug absorption.
15. Demonstrate the techniques needed to perform gynecological physical examination of a female and a complete pediatric physical exam.
16. Demonstrate an appreciation for distinguishing normal from abnormal physical exam findings.