“Topics in Clinical Medicine” (TCM) is a SSOM Course which encompasses the Vertically Integrated Curricula (VICs).

VICs are relevant and contemporary curricular topics that span multiple disciplines and are therefore learned/taught/evaluated across the four year curriculum.

The five VICs are:

- End of Life
- Nutrition
- Quality and Patient Safety
- Prevention and Screening
- Radiology

The goal of these vertically integrated curricula is to further student development into physicians who provide evidence-based, appropriate, effective, safe, compassionate and quality care.

Each VIC has established objectives. Acquisition of knowledge, skills, and professional attitudes and behaviors is evaluated as part of the course/clerkship assessment(s) into which the VIC material is integrated.

A final comprehensive “Capstone” TCM exam is given at the end of the third year after the individual components of a VIC are completed.

A clinical skills exercise assessing cumulative skills in ambulatory medicine developed in year three is also a required component of TCM.

Attaining a Pass in TCM is required for graduation and to do so a student must receive a Pass in each individual VIC and the end of third year clinical skills exercise.