

## **Stritch School of Medicine**

### **Radiology Vertically Integrated Curriculum**

#### **General course information**

The radiology curriculum is presented in a longitudinal, progressive format beginning in the first and second preclinical years and extending into the clinically oriented third year. The required course is part of a larger vertical curriculum called “Topics in Clinical Medicine” (TCM). The vertical structure of the radiology curriculum allows flexibility in timing so that the radiology curricular topics correspond to and integrate with topics covered in concurrent coursework.

The TCM1 (Topics in Clinical Medicine 1) Radiology VIC (Vertical Integrated Curriculum) course takes place in the first semester of the M1 year. Content is focused on the fundamental principles of the wide variety of imaging modalities in clinical use today, as well as the imaging appearance of normal and physiologic anatomy. Content is presented in the form of two live didactic lectures, which are timed to correspond to topics presented in the concurrent Structure of the Human Body anatomy course. Lectures are supplemented by a live review session. Knowledge and skills are assessed via multiple choice questions.

The TCM2 Radiology VIC course spans the entire M2 year. Key content is focused on imaging appearance of common pathologic disorders and the appropriate use of imaging studies in the clinical setting. Content is presented primarily as a series of concise, focused systems-based didactic mini-lessons which students view asynchronously in a video format. These are supplemented by live review sessions. Content is integrated into the Patient Centered Medicine 2 course small group sessions and the Mechanisms of Human Disease Course small group and lab sessions to facilitate application of material. Students are required to attend one live Radiology VIC workshop during which they interpret chest x-rays alongside preceptors from the Radiology Department. The knowledge and skills related to the radiology curriculum are assessed via multiple choice questions on block exams.

The TCM3 Radiology VIC course spans the entire M3 year. The focus of this course is on allowing students to build on what they learned in TCM1 and TCM2 by interpreting and providing differential diagnoses for medical images in a given clinical context. They also gain non-interpretative skills by understanding appropriate imaging work up of common clinical conditions. Content is presented as a series of 38 on-line weekly radiology case-based modules that correspond with the student’s concurrent core clinical clerkship (Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Ob-Gyn, Family Medicine, and Neurology). Students respond asynchronously, and each student’s answer is reviewed by a Radiology faculty member, who provides personalized written feedback. Students are assessed by completion of the modules, as well as by a multiple-choice written exam.