

Applied Clinical Skills I (PAST 526) - Applied Clinical Skills I is a required 2-credit course designed to help PA students make a smooth transition from the didactic/classroom setting to the clinical phase of the program. The course orients students to the structure, goals, and expectations of the clinical year. A focus of the course is on the recognition and application of professional behaviors essential to clinical practice. In addition, through hands-on/skills-based activities, students develop an understanding of and basic competence in performing a variety of procedures and skills pertinent to clinical practice in general outpatient, hospital, and acute care settings, which can be further with more intense, personalized instruction in the clinical setting during clinical rotations. The curriculum includes didactic material as well as hands-on opportunities to practice skills on inanimate models as well as fellow classmates. Students will complete the provider courses in Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). *(2 Credits)*

Applied Clinical Skills II (PAST 541) - Applied Clinical Skills II is a required 4-credit course taught in the second (clinical) year of the program. The course occurs during the winter term, which is approximately midway through the clinical phase of the program. The course continues the theme of professional aspects of clinical practice by instructing students about healthcare delivery systems, policy issues that affect practice, quality improvement, laws and regulations regarding professional practice, licensure and certification, creating a professional curriculum vitae and applying for jobs, to name a few. Students participate in additional hands-on/skills-based activities to supplement and reinforce the skills taught on their clinical rotations. *(4 Credits)*

Bridge to Professional Practice (PAST 542) - Bridge to Professional Practice occurs just before graduation, when students return to campus to complete a comprehensive review course to prepare them to pass the physician assistant national certification exam (PANCE), which is a requirement in order to obtain a license to practice medicine. This course includes a series of professional practice topics, focused board review sessions, and practice exams based on the content blueprint of the PANCE exam. *(3 Credits)*

Community Outreach Project I-V (PAST 506A-E) - For their Community Outreach Project (COP) students select a health promotion/disease prevention topic of interest from Healthy People 2030, research and write a paper, design and develop a curriculum for an educational presentation, and implement the project to a group of specifically targeted community members. The course culminates with the design and presentation of a digital poster, and the option to archive the paper and the poster. *(5 Credits)*