**FOURTH YEAR ELECTIVE TITLE**

**RURAL FAMILY MEDICINE**

**COURSE NUMBER**
FMED 9009

**LOCATION**
VARIOUS SITES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY (BUT NOT NJ)

**ELECTIVE DIRECTOR**
JOYCE AFRAN, MD

**ELECTIVE FACULTY**
SITE DEPENDENT

**ELECTIVE CONTACT**
ENID N. CRUZ
RWJMS FAMILY MEDICINE
KTW, N-106 (P)

**CONTACT PHONE/FAX/EMAIL**
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**BLOCKS AVAILABLE**
ALL

**DURATION/WEEKS**
MIN 2; MAX 4

**HOURS PER WEEK**
0-50

**STUDENTS**
MAX 4

**LECTURES/SEMINARS**
SITE DEPENDENT

**OUTPATIENT**
YES

**INPATIENT**
NO

**HOUSESTAFF**
SITE DEPENDENT

**NIGHT CALL**
SITE DEPENDENT

**WEEKENDS**

**LAB**

**EXAM REQUIRED**
NO

**NOTE:** PRIOR WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE REGISTRAR’S OFFICE BEFORE SCHEDULING!!

**OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL OF ELECTIVE**
To increase students’ understanding of the needs of rural patient populations and to develop proficiency in the evaluation and management of common outpatient problems in a rural practice environment.

**OBJECTIVES**

I. **Patient care**
   - Increase student’s ability to evaluate and manage a variety of problems seen in the rural ambulatory setting.
   - Refine students’ skills in history taking and performance of the physical exam.

II. **Medical knowledge**
   - Increase ability to apply basic and clinical sciences in the rural out-patient setting.
   - Enhance student’s clinical reasoning abilities.

III. **Practice-based learning and improvement**
   - Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific and clinical studies relevant to patients’ health problems.
   - Provide an opportunity to explore student’s own strengths, personal goals and career options.

IV. **Interpersonal and communication skills**
   - Facilitate development of effective communication skills, both verbal and written, that results in appropriate information exchange with patients, patients’ families, and other health professionals.
   - Develop proficiency in patient education and counseling.

V. **Professionalism**
   - Promote respect, compassion, and integrity in interactions with patients and other health professionals.
   - Ensure accountability to patients, society, and the profession.

VI. **Systems-based Practice**

OVER
• Increase student’s understanding of the demographics of the population being served and the available resources in the practice and the community.
• Demonstrate an understanding of the psychosocial and economic factors that impact the provision of care in a rural environment.
• Increase student’s awareness of the complexity of providing longitudinal, comprehensive, and integrated care in the rural setting and increase student’s ability to assist patient in navigating the health care system.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**
Students can select one of the several rural family medicine preceptorships offered throughout the United States. No sites available in New Jersey. Student will primarily be engaged in the evaluation of patients at a rural ambulatory care clinic under a preceptor’s supervision. The patient population will include all ages and the full scope of presentations managed in a rural family practice. Students will also engage in outreach and educational programs in the community. Housing is available at most locations.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**
Students will be evaluated by preceptor(s). No written examination.

**ARE THERE ANY PREREQUISITES FOR THIS ELECTIVE?** No

**IS THIS ELECTIVE AVAILABLE TO THIRD YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS AS WELL?** No