

FOURTH YEAR ELECTIVE TITLE Health Care for Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities		COURSE NUMBER PEDS 9254A	LOCATION The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities with clinical opportunities at various sites across NJ
ELECTIVE DIRECTOR DEBORAH SPITALNIK, PhD Professor of Pediatrics CAROLINE COFFIELD, PhD Assistant Professor of Pediatrics	ELECTIVE FACULTY SITE DEPENDENT	ELECTIVE CONTACT CAROLINE COFFIELD, PhD BOGGS CENTER ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 335 GEORGE ST, Suite 3500 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08091	CONTACT INFO PH: (732) 235-9329 FAX: (732) 235-9330 EMAIL: Carrie.coffield@rutgers.edu
BLOCKS AVAILABLE ALL	DURATION/WEEKS MIN: 2 MAX: 4	HOURS PER WEEK 40	STUDENTS MAX: 2
LECTURES/SEMINARS YES	OUTPATIENT YES (80%)	INPATIENT YES	HOUSESTAFF SITE DEPENDENT
NIGHT CALL NO	WEEKENDS NO	LAB NO	EXAM REQUIRED NO

Upon acceptance to the course, students will be contacted by the Elective Director/Contact to select from several available clinical activities, to shape their Elective experience.

OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL OF ELECTIVE:

To increase students' sensitivity to the complex and multi-faceted nature of providing health care to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To increase students' understanding of intellectual and developmental disabilities, including strategies to communicate with individuals with disabilities.
- To learn about the varied settings and providers who provide health care for individuals with disabilities.
- To familiarize students with important issues and best practices in services and supports for individuals with disabilities and their families.
- To understand the importance of collaboration with an interdisciplinary team in managing the care of patients with disabilities.
- To experience the elements of family-centered care in practice.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Students will spend time at several locations where children and/or adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities utilize and receive health services. Inpatient and outpatient opportunities are available, and students will be encouraged to spend time at multiple sites to maximize the scope of their elective experience. Students will spend time primarily in medical settings, but will also attend other relevant planning meetings, such as Early Intervention service evaluation meetings, individualized

education plan (IEP) meetings, and adult service plan meetings, as appropriate to the individual student's interest and the scope of their elective. Students will also have opportunities to learn about communicating with family members, guardians and/or other substitute decision makers. Elective activities will be designed to address health care delivery issues across the lifecourse, including developmental evaluation and diagnosis, the transition to adult health care, and the relationship between acute care and long-term care. Attendance at relevant in-state professional lectures, conferences, and training seminars is also encouraged, depending on availability during the elective period. Prior to the start of the elective, students will be contacted by the Course Director to discuss their individual goals for the elective and to customize their elective experience. The Course Director and the student will develop a calendar of experiences that best accommodates the student's interests and provides a comprehensive exposure to the support needs and experiences of people with disabilities and their families. In addition to clinical activities, students will be asked to complete several interactive and written exercises, brief weekly reading assignments, and weekly journal reflections, integrating their readings and clinical experiences.

Clinical site locations may include, but are not limited to:

- Children's Specialized Hospital
- Family Medicine at Monument Square
- The Matheny Center of Medicine and Dentistry

Additional clinical sites/activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Arc of Monmouth, residential group homes
- Arc of Monmouth, mental health clinic
- The Matheny School
- Metro Developmental Services/NYSOPWDD, AHRC
- Autism Interdisciplinary Team Diagnostic Evaluation (CSH)
- ABA program at Children's Specialized Hospital
- Early Intervention Team, In-Home Evaluations
- Individualized Education Plan Meetings
- Family Support Coalition Meetings
- Attend meetings with staff from NJ Bureau of Guardianship

METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION

This elective does not have formal examinations. Students will be evaluated based on their successful completion of the elective requirements, including written exercises and journal reflections. Students will also be evaluated through direct observation of their professionalism, clinical knowledge, and interpersonal skills at the various clinical sites. Upon completion of the elective, students will complete an Exit Interview with the Course Director.

Are there any prerequisites for this elective? No. Pediatrics is preferred, but not required.

Is this elective available to third year medical students as well? Yes

Students with questions regarding this elective are encouraged to contact the Elective Director.