Course Syllabus

PYDI 5190
PHARMACY PRACTICE EXPERIENCE II

I. Course Description
The Pharmacy Practice Experience Sequence. This course is the second of a six-semester course sequence that involves the student in early, continuous experiential activities. Students are given an opportunity to practice the knowledge, attitudes and skills learned in their didactic coursework in a "real-world" environment, and subsequently gain confidence in their abilities. These experiential activities focus on establishing relationships with and providing basic pharmaceutical care to individuals within the community. Because the majority of their learning opportunities take place within the community environment, students will realize that a pharmaceutical care practice does not necessarily have to take place within the four walls of a pharmacy or institution.

As the students progress through this six-semester sequence, the level of pharmaceutical care practice will increase in proportion to the knowledge base of the student. During the final year, student responsibilities will eventually grow to include performing drug therapy assessments; developing, implementing and monitoring drug therapy plans; and participating in pharmacotherapy decision making. The abilities developed in this course sequence will prepare the future pharmacist to be a cornerstone in the community by collaborating with others to identify and meet health care needs.

Students will continue to be members of a Pharmaceutical Care Team under the guidance of faculty mentors. The Team will meet weekly to review patient cases, make assignments for the upcoming week, and reflect upon and learn from their combined experiences.

Each team will collectively be assigned a group of patients that will become the Team’s "Patient Caseload". The team will determine which members have primary and secondary responsibility for each patient (i.e. which member will initially be responsible for meeting the patient, conducting the patient interview, and presenting the findings to the team), but all members share responsibility for the overall care of the patient. Individual students will be expected to regularly update the team on the progress of the patient(s) they have been assigned by the team (comparable to "morning report" only occurring on a weekly basis). Each team will continuously determine the needs of each patient in their caseload and decide how to best follow-up and provide care for these individuals.

A. Purpose of Course
The purpose of this course is to promote the professional development of pharmacy students by providing real opportunities in which both personal skills (awareness, self-esteem, empathy) and basic pharmaceutical care skills (e.g. communication, caring) can be applied. In PYDI 5190, you will further develop your relationship with your patient(s) and expand your database to include additional socio-behavioral data, medication history data, and health and wellness patient assessment data (e.g., blood pressure and other vital signs, body fat, nutritional status). Your responsibilities will grow to include performing more in-depth patient assessments. During this course, you will continue to assume team responsibilities, professional roles and responsibilities, and responsibility for self-learning.

B. Course Philosophy as it Relates to Pharmaceutical Care
Pharmaceutical care involves being responsible for the drug therapy outcomes in order to improve a patient’s quality of life. As a first year pharmacy student your knowledge about medications and the practice is limited; however, you can still practice components of pharmaceutical care (e.g. caring, communicating, demonstrating responsibility and enhancing quality of life). In PYDI 5190 you will continue to participate in the introductory aspects of pharmaceutical care by expanding your relationship with the patient(s) you worked with last semester. You will also continue to expand your knowledge about the person and update the patient database as necessary. In addition, you and your Team will enhance the health and wellness within the community by completing a group project during the Spring semester.