**UGS 1020 -001: Introduction to PreMed/PrePA (1 credit, CR/NC)**

**Fall 2019 Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Shelley Nicholson ([snicholson@advising.utah.edu](mailto:snicholson@advising.utah.edu)), 801.581.4923  
**Office Location:** Building 44, Room 203  
**Office Hours:** By appointment  
**Course Location:** BUC 211  
**Days/Time:** Monday & Wednesday from 10:45am – 11:35am (August 19-October 2)  
**Course Materials:** Notebook, PreMed or PrePA Information Summary, Syllabus

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**Course Description:**  
This course is designed for students who are exploring a career as a physician or PA. The primary focus is to explore the career through panels and presentations by practicing physicians, PAs as well as a continuous discussion on how to prepare for admission to medical or PA school. Students will not only learn about resources, but, also reflect on self within the context of this career.

**Course Outcomes:**  
This course is designed for motivated students who are strongly considering admissions to medical and PA schools after graduation. The main objectives are to expand on the traditional education by exploring the lived experience of physicians and PAs, the activities that shape applicants, and encouraging students to reflect on who they are as they consider these careers.

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- identify the six major components of extracurricular activities that are required by most US medical schools.
- identify the difference between physician and PA.
- identify at least three resources that enhance your undergraduate education at the University of Utah. (i.e. advising, campus agencies and volunteer organizations)
- begin to identify *who you are* and *why medicine*, and how this impacts your goal as a physician or PA.

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**Course Policies**

1. **Attendance and Punctuality**  
   To receive credit you must:
   - Be present for the entire course (no more than one unexcused absence)
   - Complete assignments on time
   - Complete and present the final project on October 2, 2019.

2. **Speakers**  
   This course will be presented by many speakers from the campus and the community. Your full attention to each presentation is required. **Cell phones must be put away.** No social media, text messaging or side conversations. Demonstrate your respect and maturity. Engage yourself in each presentation to get the most out of this course and to ensure that these speakers will share their experiences with future students.

3. **Assignments**  
   Every assignment that you submit in Canvas must be in **Microsoft Word format** (.doc or .docx). I will not accept any other format and you will not receive credit if you submit anything else. If you do not have Microsoft Word you can download it for free since you are a University of Utah student. Have a MAC? Don't worry, the MAC edition is free for students as well. You can download them here: [http://software.utah.edu/news/microsoft-software.php](http://software.utah.edu/news/microsoft-software.php) (Links to an external site.)

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**Grading Policy (Evaluation Methods & Criteria)**  
This course is graded as credit/no credit (pass or fail) based on your attendance, submission of your assignments and final project participation. CR/NC does not impact your GPA.
University Policies

1. **Americans with Disabilities Act.** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

2. According to the University of Utah Student Code ([http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php](http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php)), “Plagiarism” means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression.” Plagiarism or academic dishonesty is not expected and will affect the grade negatively and may affect your admissions to medical or PA schools.

3. **University Safety Statement.** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

4. **Addressing Sexual Misconduct:** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

5. **Undocumented Student Support Statement:** Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

6. **Drop:** If you drop a course before the drop deadline, there will be no record on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are not assessed. Drop deadline for this course is **Friday, August 23rd.**

7. **Withdrawal:** Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A W grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade of W is not used in calculating the student’s GPA. It is important for students to discuss this option with an academic advisor AND the Financial Aid and Scholarship office before they withdraw from a course(s). Withdraw deadline for this course is **Friday, September 13th.**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.19</td>
<td><strong>Welcome!</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Course policies, grading, syllabus, course objectives&lt;br&gt;- Overview of reflection and premed curriculum</td>
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<td>8.21</td>
<td><strong>Overview of premed activity requirements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read AAMC Core Competencies</strong></td>
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<td>8.26</td>
<td><strong>Visit Bennion Center – Jennifer Jones</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit your 4 year premed schedule</strong></td>
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<td>8.28</td>
<td><strong>Pediatric Psychiatry: Dr. Kristi Kleinschmit</strong></td>
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<td>9.2</td>
<td><strong>LABOR DAY – NO CLASS</strong></td>
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<td>9.4</td>
<td><strong>TBD</strong></td>
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<td>9.9</td>
<td><strong>Physician Assistant - Shaun Curran</strong></td>
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<td>9.11</td>
<td><strong>MD/PhD Program - Janet Bassett</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reflection Due</strong></td>
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<td>9.16</td>
<td><strong>(PMMC @ 10:50) Group Projects</strong></td>
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<td>9.18</td>
<td><strong>MAJOR EXPO: Union Ballroom</strong></td>
<td><strong>Attend Major Expo, sign in</strong></td>
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<td>9.23</td>
<td><strong>University of Utah School of Medicine: Medical Students</strong></td>
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<td>9.25</td>
<td><strong>Office of Undergraduate Research: Leslie Cepeda</strong></td>
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<td>9.30</td>
<td><strong>Family Medicine: Dr. Karly Pippett</strong></td>
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<td>10.2</td>
<td><strong>Final Poster Presentation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reflection Due</strong></td>
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- **Student Job Fair**: Wednesday August 21st 10am-2pm: Union Ballroom
- **Plaza Fest**: Wednesday August 21st 10am-2pm: Union Plaza
- **Legacy of Lowell Day of Service**: Saturday, September 21st 8am-12:30pm
  - Info and registration at [https://bennioncenter.org/events/legacy-of-lowell.php](https://bennioncenter.org/events/legacy-of-lowell.php)
- **Major Exploration Expo**: Wednesday September 18th 10am-2pm: Union Ballroom