

Proposal for a Medical Student Certificate in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Health

Sponsored by the Program for LGBTI Health, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

The Medical Student Certificate in LGBT Health comprises four elements.

1. Multidisciplinary seminar, *LGBT Health –Theory and Practice*. This will be a 3 credit hour experience offered in the Fall and Spring semester on Wednesday evenings. The course will be led by Drs. Jesse Ehrenfeld and Sara Fogel.
2. Research Clerkship in LGBT Health. This research experience will enable the student to select a research topic within the realm of LGBT health. This may include selecting a topic within a clinical specialty, for example, adolescent medicine, infectious disease, psychiatry, or surgery. Projects may combine empirical and conceptual work with mentorship provided by designated mentors.
3. Sex, Sexuality, and Sexual Health Elective. The Sex, Sexuality, and Sexual Health elective is an interdisciplinary course focusing on sexual health in the general population and the specific healthcare needs of sexual and gender minorities. In addition to the basic sciences underlying the pathophysiology of health in these populations (ex. HPV infection, HPA dysregulation with chronic stress), clinical specialties highlighted in the course include Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, OB/GYN, Psychiatry, and Internal Medicine with content threads from ethics, medicolegal healthcare, human development and chronic care. The course content will be divided into three blocks: (1) Human Sexuality, (2) Sexual and Gender Minorities, and (3) Human Reproductive Health. Each block will end with a concluding session that evaluates competency attainment of students in order to be successful during their residency training (i.e. reproductive health needs for students going into emergency medicine vs. general surgery). This course is a month long experience currently offered during the Immersion Phase.
4. Capstone project. Each student will complete a capstone project related to LGBT Health. This may include development of patient education materials, providing a community or staff training, or implementation of a QI project. The capstone is expected to enable students to demonstrate proficiency and acquired knowledge in the area of LGBT Health.

Each element may be taken separately, but completion of the Certificate in LGBT Health requires successful completion of all four elements.

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