



Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Office of Medical Education

Introduction to Ophthalmology

Enrollment Period:	Spring 2024
Course Dates:	4/3, 4/10, 4/24, 5/1 (Wednesdays, 6:00 – 8:00 pm)
Student Max:	20
Class Year:	MS1 Only
Course Directors:	Director: Evan Waxman, MD Email: waxmane@upmc.edu Co-Director: Matthew Pihlblad, MD Email: matthew.pihlblad2@chp.edu
Course Administrator:	Arman Zarnegar Email: ayz4@pitt.edu
Location:	Mercy Vision Institute
Registration:	Via Amp Up – You will receive an email with enrollment info
Course Description:	Ophthalmology is a unique medical field in which students receive little exposure during the course of medical school. However, eye complaints are prevalent in many clinical settings, and it is highly beneficial to have some knowledge about the most common eye problems, regardless of your future specialty. In this elective, we will teach students about the ophthalmic history and physical examination, and we will provide a basic introduction to the techniques of slit lamp, refraction, and retinoscopy. Students will also discuss common ocular pathology, such as cataracts, glaucoma, conjunctivitis, and retinopathies in a case-based format. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to gain exposure to ophthalmic surgery by spending time in the operating room, the wetlab, and on the EyeSi simulator. At the end of the course, we hope that students will have gained a strong foundation in basic ophthalmology.
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To review the basic components of an ophthalmic history, including the chief complaint, history of present illness, past ocular history, and a pertinent review of systems.2. To teach and practice proper eye examination techniques3. To teach and practice the appropriate format of ophthalmic patient presentations4. To give students a general overview of slit lamp, refraction, and retinoscopy techniques and uses in clinical practice5. To discuss common ocular pathology cases

	6. To introduce students to ophthalmic surgery through shadowing experiences in the operating room and hands-on practice in the wet lab
Pre-Requisites:	None
Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance and participation in all four sessions. • One day shadowing in the OR (students will be provided with a schedule of options) • Review all assigned readings in OphthoBook* (free online resource)
Texts:	* Root T. OphthoBook - the free ophthalmology textbook for new students. Tim Root - Virtual Eye Professor. https://timroot.com/ophthobook/ . Published 2017. Accessed August 3, 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

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Course Director:

Evan Waxman, MD, PhD
Professor of Ophthalmology

Course Co-Director:

Matthew Pihlblad, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Faculty:

Evan Waxman, MD, PhD
Matthew Pihlblad, MD
Resident: Amani Davis, MD
Student: Arman Zarnegar

Location:

Mercy Vision Institute

Session 1: Introduction to the Ophthalmic History and Physical Examination

1. The session will start with an overall introduction to the field of ophthalmology and its subspecialties. Students will be taught the basics of the ophthalmic H&P and will practice the exam on each other. The proper format of ophthalmology presentations will also be discussed.
2. **Recommended reading:** *OphthoBook* Chapters 1 & 2 ([Eye History and Physical, Anatomy of the Eye](#))

Session 2: Anterior Eye Pathologies

1. Students will discuss cases related to the anterior segment of the eye, such as cataracts, glaucoma, and corneal ulcers. Students will be taken to clinic rooms to learn how to perform slit lamp examination and refraction.
2. **Recommended reading:** *OphthoBook* Chapters 3 & 10 ([Introduction to Glaucoma](#), [Introduction to the Lens and Cataract Surgery](#))

Session 3: Posterior Eye Pathologies

1. Students will discuss cases related to the posterior segment of the eye, such as retinal detachment and diabetic retinopathy. Students will be taken to clinic rooms to learn how to perform the dilated fundus examination on each other, which will involve each student having one eye dilated.
2. **Recommended reading:** *OphthoBook* Chapter 4 ([Beginner's guide to the Retina](#))

Session 4: Eye Emergencies and Surgical Simulation

1. Students will discuss the evaluation of traumatic eye injuries and simple eye infections. Afterwards, students will be taken to the wet lab to have individual hands-on surgical simulation.
2. **Recommended reading:** *OphthoBook* Chapters 5 & 8 ([Eye Infections](#), [Common Eye Trauma](#))

Session 5: Operating Room Experience (Students will schedule individually)

1. Students will be paired with a current ophthalmology resident to shadow in the operating room. Students can also be provided with a list of available attending surgeons whom they can contact and arrange a time to observe on their own.
2. **Recommended reading:** Review any assigned material and chapters related to the scheduled case