



University
of
Pittsburgh

School
of
Medicine

Office
of
Medical
Education

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Being a Physician Mini-Elective FALL 2020

Course Dates: Thursday, October 1st, 3:00 – 5:00pm
Thursday, October 15th, 3:00 – 5:00pm
Thursday, October 22nd, 3:00 – 5:00pm

Maximum Students: 10

Class Year: MS1 and MS2

Course Directors: Ritu Thamman, MD and Gaetan Sgro, MD

Contact Information: Gaetan.Sgro@va.gov ; RIT9@pitt.edu

Registration: Denise Downs, Office of Medical Education
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Description:

This mini-elective will employ various narrative medicine techniques including close reading, reflective writing, artistic expression, and prompted reflection to explore themes of professional identity formation, resilience, wholeness, and purpose. Students will meet once a week for 3 weeks in small groups consisting of no more than five students per faculty member. Individual session descriptions follow.

Objectives:

Requirements: None

Pre-Requisites: None

COURSE OVERVIEW

Being a Physician

Course Dates:

- Thursday, October 1st, 3:00 – 5:00pm
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- Thursday, October 22nd, 3:00 – 5:00pm

Course Location:

Sessions will run remotely. Info. TBA

Course Director:

Dr. Ritu Thamman, Gaetan Sgro, MD

Texts: None

Session Descriptions:

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Session 1, Thursday October 1st, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

This session will address themes of self-awareness and self-esteem, states of being, transformation, professional identity formation, and maintaining integrity.

Introduction – 5-minute centering exercise

Artistic exercise – Who are you?

Students will create mixed-media artwork that expresses their sense of self. Each student will have the opportunity to present their artwork to the group.

Narrative exercise —“How to Be a Medical Student”

Students will read and respond to Jamaica Kincaid’s short story. “Girl.” Following the discussion, students will each write instructions for “How to Be a Medical Student.”

Discussion - Maintaining Integrity

What threats to your integrity/ sense of self have you experienced, or do you expect?

How will you face them?