



## **Course Description**

### **PAS2936 | Contemporary Issues for the PA | 1.00 credit**

In this course the student will examine current issues, challenges, and practices influencing leaders in the field of health care education. The student will learn to use evidenced based medicine to research topics including leadership perspectives on health care education and promotion; the changing nature of health care delivery in the United States; demographic, economic, ethical, and political factors influencing the practice of health education.

### **Course Competencies:**

**Competency 1:** The student will understand evolving models and practices within the healthcare system by:

1. Outlining the history of the PA profession and the evolution of the PA in the US healthcare system
2. Defining and explaining professional issues relating to the medical practice for the PA
3. Defining the characteristics of the physician assistant profession

**Competency 2:** The student will understand health care's social and ethical developments by:

1. Reviewing theories of ethical approach
2. Comparing and contrasting the professional relationships among health professionals and patients
3. Examining case studies related to critical thinking and ethical decision-making skills regarding the basic principles of health care ethics
4. Reviewing standards of care and related emerging social and ethical trends in health care

**Competency 3:** The student will examine major trends and issues within the health care delivery systems as they pertain to the PA profession by:

1. Comparing and contrasting the provision of health services of the various health professions
2. Comparing and contrasting health care reform policies that are currently debated by the federal government or at the state level
3. Researching legislative and governmental efforts to modernize the PA professional practice
4. Discussing the MD/PA team relationship

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures including global and historical perspectives
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society