

## Brown Bag Academics: Zoom Chat (Organized)

12:10:02 From Adam Magera : Good afternoon! Does UCLA have any plans to test/implement a 3 Year MD degree program?

12:13:20 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Adam! At this time, we've been focused on the 4-year curriculum redesign and implementation efforts so we have not been devoting time in that space. That said, we are always innovating, so definitely keep checking back on our website to follow our additional Curriculum efforts!

12:14:36 From Amy Mora : Good afternoon! Do UCLA/Drew students share the same curriculum as UCLA MD students? Thank you.

12:17:41 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Amy! Yes, UCLA/Drew students share the same curriculum, but Drew also has also has specific program requirements that align with the mission.

12:12:53 From You Min (Evelyn) Lee : How does the new curriculum incorporate specific contents that focus on social and structural inequities in healthcare? Thank you for your time!

12:16:24 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi You Min! With the new curriculum we actually updated our Graduation/Program Competencies to include a 9th category for Social Justice and Advocacy: [https://medschool.ucla.edu/workfiles/CurriculumRedesign/UCLA%20DGSOM%20Program%20Competencies%20and%20Objectives\\_Final%20-%20MEC%20Approved.pdf](https://medschool.ucla.edu/workfiles/CurriculumRedesign/UCLA%20DGSOM%20Program%20Competencies%20and%20Objectives_Final%20-%20MEC%20Approved.pdf). We'll be teaching and assessing skills in that area.

12:18:54 From Kathleen O'Connor : Thank you so much for hosting these session to answer questions. Are there any early authentic experiences that focus on underserved communities?

12:21:45 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Kathleen! Yes! We have a variety of sites for EACE! Some of our students choose to opt-in to non-traditional experiences which allow them to work off-hours with our underserved populations here in LA.

12:20:50 From Audrey Aitelli : Hello! With the new discovery year, can students complete an MD/MBA in 4 years or would this still be a 5 year degree?

12:23:13 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Audrey! You could complete your MBA during the discovery year if you pursue this degree at Anderson (at UCLA)

12:20:39 From Serinee Tran (she/her/hers) : Good afternoon! Given the new curriculum, when are your students given dedicated study time to study for step 1 and taking the exam? Thank you for answering our questions today!

12:24:08 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Serinee! Great question! We've added in study time for USMLE after your clerkships So for this group of admits, that would be in August 2024. ;)

12:24:54 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Serinee! There is blocked out time for Step 1 prep at the end of the clerkship year

12:18:14 From Alaa'I Ahamed : Hello, thank you for your time. In regards to hands-on learning, how are students evaluated academically and in the clinic? Do students get to rotate in different clinical settings - hospital, free-clinic, private, and rural?

12:33:06 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Alaa'I! I think that one of the strengths of the curriculum is that students have the opportunity to rotate through a wide variety of clinical settings...County hospitals...RRMC which is a tertiary and quaternary care center...HMO hospitals...private hospitals...VA hospitals...free clinics...clinical experiences in the Central Valley of California, etc.

12:22:23 From Ye Jin Shin : When you have your discovery years are there breaks as well?

12:27:05 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Ye Jin! For every class we protect the two week winter break but other than that, it would really depend on your AOC/program.

12:24:10 From Danika Knight : Thank you so much, Dr. Napolitano and Dr. Ha for answering my first question. My second question is for student that complete the travel abroad component of the Global Health Equity Pathway e.g. the team that travelled to Peru, would that be considered the scholarly project for the Discovery Period or would we have the option to complete other research as our scholarly project?

12:28:59 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Danika! The students that traveled to Peru (in the video) were participating in a MS4 clinical elective. This may be in a different setting than what students in the Global Health Equity Pathway may choose to pursue their Discovery Year.

12:30:19 From Christina Bae : Good afternoon, thank you for your time hosting this Brown Bag. I have a question about the Discovery year/what we pursue during this time period - are there avenues of funding that we can pursue for this year? If we were to concentrate on research or dive deep into a global health experience like the team that went to Peru, would we be able to receive support for this financially speaking? Thank you!

12:35:42 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Christina! For students pursuing a global health experience for the Discovery Year (i.e., for students in the Global Health Pathway who elect to spend part of the year on a project abroad), there is funding from the Dean's Office to support these experiences?

12:32:30 From Emily Sirotych : Thank you for the opportunity to ask questions! Does UCLA provide additional resources for preparing for Step 1 and 2 exams (ie. study groups, mentors, academic advising)?

12:34:02 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Emily! There is a very strong Academic Support Team that provides tremendous support for students as they prep for Step 1 and Step 2 CK!

12:34:52 From Siemer, Ashley : Our Academic Support office (and team) is amazing! <https://medschool.ucla.edu/current-learning-skills-office>

12:34:46 From You Min (Evelyn) Lee : What are some ways that students can get involved in developing or improving the curriculum? Thank you!

12:38:45 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Evelyn! We have formal student representation on all of our curriculum committees but we also read every evaluation that our students submit. We're constantly reviewing and evaluating the feedback and making changes (short- and long-term).

12:35:42 From Scott Herrod : Thanks for answering our questions! I am intrigued by the new curriculum and the flexibility it offers. I am wondering how the current MS1's are performing on exams compared to past cohorts that were on the old curriculum? Also, what their general feedback has been on the curriculum since they are the first to go through it. Thanks!

12:44:57 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Scott, great question! Our philosophy of a long on-ramp also comes with micro-assessments, feedback, coaching, and Assessment weeks. We were very proud of how the students performed during Pit Stop 1 in all of our domains!

12:45:49 From Siemer, Ashley : Those domains are: Affective, Cognitive and Psychomotor.

12:36:36 From AlaaI Ahamed : Hi Thank you for taking the time to answer my question. I'm glad there's diversity in the experiences students can have in their clinical years. Do students have the opportunity to choose their clinical setting or do they rotate during their discovery year?

12:38:58 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi again Alaa-I! For clinical clerkships in the MS2 year, there is a lottery, and most students have a ricks diversity of experiences. In the MS4 year, students can tailor their schedule to do MS4 electives at any site in the UCLA system. During the Discovery Year, there will also be a longitudinal clinical experience throughout the year.

12:39:59 From William Shin : Thank you for hosting this! For students who are interested in being a medical educator in the future, can older students have the opportunity to be a part of teaching younger medical students in classrooms/lab simulations/small groups? Could students have the chance to do this during their Discovery Year?

12:42:57 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there William! So many opportunities for teaching! Lots of opportunities for tutoring, teaching in small group, electives in medical education...Lots! I'm excited that you're so enthusiastic about this!

12:40:18 From Shiv Gupta : Thank you for setting up this meeting. I was wondering how the curriculum, both clinical and preclinical have been modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic and given the unpredictable nature of the pandemic, how it may continue to be modified?

12:54:14 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Shiv, great question! Luckily our numbers here in LA, have allowed us to continue our training in-person. We're always ready to adapt (small groups additional labs, etc.), but we have found that the collaboration, teamwork and leadership built by in-person sessions work best for our curriculum.

12:44:53 From Madison Laird (she/her) : Thank you for this very special Q&A time! Many MS1 students at DGSOM mentioned how responsive faculty are to feedback about the new HEALS curriculum. I am curious if this feedback system will continue at the same level into next year?

12:46:35 From jnapolitano : @ Madison, the current evaluation and feedback structure will continue indefinitely. We always love and benefit from feedback from students

12:48:55 From Siemer, Ashley : Hi Madison, Yes! Feedback is so important; not only for your current class, but we believe in a "pay it forward" approach where your experiences can influence future years to come!

12:47:14 From Emma Archuleta : Hello! Thank you for offering this opportunity to answer our questions. For UCLA/Drew students (not part of PRIME), would we be able to acquire an MPH during the Discovery Year?

12:48:14 From jnapolitano : @Emma. Absolutely, anyone can apply to do a Masters during Discovery year

12:50:57 From Miller, Lee T. : Great question Emma! Absolutely, UCLA/Drew students will have the same opportunities during the Discovery Year

12:47:48 From Humza Siddiqui (he/him/his) : Thank you for answering our questions, everyone! Something I have been thinking about a lot recently is the graduated autonomy that is afforded to medical students at, say, county or community hospitals - sometimes seemingly at the expense of low-income or minoritized patients who frequent these spaces first and foremost. I want to be able to train apprentice-style in diverse settings, but I want to be sure that I am doing my best to improve access, availability, and affordability of healthcare resources to these same patients as well, ensuring that they don't **\*\*feel\*\*** like they're in some condition of dependency. How does DGSOM balance that moral quandary in our curriculum and training?

13:02:17 From jnapolitano : @Humza; Wonderful question. You are supervised by UCLA faculty at our county sites. They know the expectations for third and fourth year medical students. If students feel they are being asked to do things that are not equivalent with their skill set, they can give us feedback and we can intervene with the site immediately

12:57:03 From Kate Kutzer : Thank you for this opportunity! Is it possible to potentially take 2 discovery years to pursue both a Master's degree and research?

12:58:49 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi Kate! You could certify add another year: research during Discovery Year and then an additional year for to pursue a Master degree anywhere!

12:57:54 From Sina Sobhani (He/Him) : Thank you so much for taking time to arrange this meeting. With the new curriculum, given all of the research opportunities at UCLA, what does the school do uniquely to help students find the right mentor, whether that is for a longitudinal project or during the discovery year?

12:59:44 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi Sina! Lots of folks to help you navigate research opportunities; Society Deans; Associate Deans; Specialty Advisors for Career Exploration; etc!

12:59:35 From Ye Jin Shin : I was wondering if there are project opportunities to work in interdisciplinary team settings, such as with nursing pa dental etc student

13:00:58 From Miller, Lee T. : Hi there Ye Shin! There is actually a team looking now at exploring more opportunities for interdisciplinary activities. More to follow on this!