

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES



**P**As are health care providers who are nationally certified and state licensed to practice medicine. As a part of their responsibilities, PAs perform physical exams, diagnose illnesses, develop and carry out treatment plans, order and interpret lab tests, assist in surgery, provide patient education and prescribe medications. Upon graduation, PAs take a national certification examination developed by the National Commission on Certification of PAs (NCCPA). PAs are employed in virtually all types of health care settings including private offices, clinics and hospitals. PAs can practice in almost any field of medicine including family practice, surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry and orthopedics to name a few.

## **PA Studies at King's 5-Year BS/MS Program**

King's College offers a 5 year Master of Science Degree Program in Physician Assistant Studies. This program is composed of two parts: a three-year pre-professional phase and a two-year professional phase.

### **Pre-Professional Phase**

The first three years (six academic

semesters) of the 5-year BS/MS Program are considered the pre-professional phase. The pre-professional phase of the PA Program consists of core classes at King's and the pre-requisite sciences required to enter into the professional phase. Students in the pre-professional phase must meet or exceed the "progression criteria" in order to enter the professional phase of the PA program. Completion of 500 hours of patient care experience, including physician assistant shadowing, is part of the progression criteria. Once a student is interviewed and successfully satisfies the above progression criteria, they matriculate into the professional phase. The pre-professional phase is not part of the PA Program's continued accreditation status awarded by the ARC-PA (Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistant, Inc.). See below.

### **Professional Phase**

The term PA Program refers only to the Professional Phase of the Physician Assistant Program at King's College. The professional phase refers specifically to the full time twenty-four month training program. This program consists of ten and a half months of didactic instruction

followed by thirteen and a half months of clinical rotations. Upon completion of this phase, students will graduate with a Master's Degree in Physician Assistant Studies. The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC PA) has granted Accreditation – Continued status to the Physician Assistant Program sponsored by King's College. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards. Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date of the next validation review of the program will be March 2017. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards and ARC-PA policy.

"King's graduated its first PA class in 1977. Our graduates practice medicine in communities across the country", states Diana Easton, Director of the Physician Assistant Studies Program. "Our highly esteemed program provides these communities with competent caring physician assistants through the dedicated work of our faculty and the committed support of our clinical preceptors."

### **Placement Highlights**

Listed below are just a few of our many alumni who have found success:

- Jessica Frawley '09 and practices Dermatology at Dermatology Centers of NEPA.
- Sara Prislupski-Worsnick '07 and practices Cardiology at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA.
- Gloria Yablonsky '10 practices in the neurology department at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre PA

**To learn more about majoring in Physician Assistant Studies at King's College, please contact the Office of Admission at 1-888-KINGS PA or [admissions@kings.edu](mailto:admissions@kings.edu).**

# Physician Assistant (The Five-Year BS/MS Program)

## Suggested Sequence

- Use the information below as a guide when selecting courses.
- Consult your Academic Advisor prior to course registration.
- Refer to the King's College Catalog and/or website for course titles and descriptions.
- Choose one course from each CORE category as listed for Physician Assistant Majors
  - CORE courses may be taken in any order approved by the academic advisor with the following conditions:
    - CORE 100 and CORE 110 should be taken in the first year.
    - CORE 115 (or 116) should be taken within the first two years.
    - For students selecting a Foreign Language (CORE 14x), every effort should be made to register for that language in the first semester at King's.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PHASE (YEARS 1 – 3)					
1 <sup>st</sup> Year - Fall		cr.	1 <sup>st</sup> Year - Spring		cr.
BIOL 113 Evolution & Diversity		3	BIOL 210 Organisms & Their Ecosystems		3
BIOL 113L Evolution & Diversity Lab		1	BIOL 210L Organisms & Their Ecosystems Lab		1
CHEM 113 General Chemistry I		3	CHEM 114 General Chemistry II		3
CHEM 113L General Chemistry I Lab		1	CHEM 114L General Chemistry II Lab		1
CORE		3	MATH 126 Introduction to Statistics		3
CORE		3	CORE		3
CORE 090 First Year Experience		1	CORE		3
		15			17
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year – Fall			2 <sup>nd</sup> Year – Spring		
BIOL 213 Cell & Molecular Biology		3	BIOL 224 Biochemistry for Medical Studies		3
BIOL 213L Cell & Molecular Biology with Lab		1	BIOL 224 Biochemistry for Medical Studies Lab		1
CHEM 241 Organic Chemistry I		3	BIOL 314 Microbiology		3
CHEM 241L Organic Chemistry I Lab		1	BIOL 314L Microbiology Lab		1
CORE		3	CORE		3
CORE		3	CORE		3
CORE		3	CORE		3
		17			17
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year – Fall			3 <sup>rd</sup> Year – Spring		
BIOL 221 Anat. & Phys. I for Medical Studies		3	BIOL 222 Anat. & Phys. II for Medical Studies		3
BIOL 221L Anat. & Phys. I Lab for Medical Studies		1	BIOL 222L Anat. & Phys. II Lab for Medical Studies		1
BIOL 327 Immunology and Clinical Microbiology		3	BIOL 341 Topics in Biochem./Physiology/Genetics		3
BIOL 327L Immunology and Clinical Micro. Lab		1	NEUR 342 Drugs & Behavior		3
NEUR 211 Neuroscience I		3	CORE		3
CORE		3	CORE		3
CORE		3			
		17			16
PROFESSIONAL (DIDACTIC) PHASE (YEAR 4)					
Fall Semester	cr.	Spring Semester	cr.	Intersession Semester	cr.
PA 450 Diag. Methods I	6	PA 455 Diag. Methods II	4	PA 559 Clin. Medicine V	4
PA 554 Clin. Medicine I	3	PA 557 Clin. Medicine III	5	PA 510 Research Methods	2
PA 556 Clin. Medicine II	4	PA 558 Clin. Medicine IV	6		
PA 475 Basic Med Sci I	5	PA 476 Basic Med. Sci. II	3		
	18		18		6
PROFESSIONAL (CLINICAL) PHASE (YEAR 5)					
PA 515 Emergency Medicine	6	PA 525 OB/GYN	6	PA 535 Psychiatry	6
PA 520 Internal Medicine	6	PA 530 Pediatrics	6	PA 540 General Surgery	6
				PA 545 Family Practice I	6
				PA 550 Family Practice II	6
				PA 555 Elective	6
				PA 560 Capstone	4