



The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

Approved on: May 2, 2023
Effective on: immediately
Last Approval/Revision: August 5, 2025
Expires: on revision

Applicable to: All Students
Approved by: COC
Category: Curriculum
Context:

Elective & Selective Credit Policy

This policy outlines which courses will satisfy the selective and elective requirements within the MCG 3+ Curriculum. Courses which do not fulfill these requirements for any reason may still be taken time permitting and will be reported on the transcript even though they do not count toward degree progress.

A. Definitions:

- a. **Selective** – course category required for graduation with a specific list of 4 weeks courses that fulfill the requirement
 - i. **Clinical Selectives** – Sub-Internship, Critical Care, Ambulatory
 - ii. **Enrichment Selectives** – Scholarly Project, Integrated Science, Advanced Clinical Elective
- b. **Elective** – course category required for graduation with multiple different course options to fulfill the requirement
- c. **Course Categories**
 - i. *Clinical* – any course that involves direct patient interaction or interaction with clinical teams involved in the delivery of care – example: Cardiology Clinic (direct patient interaction) or Radiology (clinical team involved in delivery of care)
 - ii. *Non-Clinical* – courses that do not fit into the above category – example – History of Medicine
 - iii. *Advanced Clinical Elective* – a clinical elective that that is 4 weeks in length including Off-campus courses
 - iv. *Research* – research-based elective
 - v. *Off-Campus* – any elective that does not occur on one of the MCG campuses or at an MCG affiliated site
 - vi. *International* – any elective that occurs outside of the United States.



The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

B. Selective Credit Policies

a. Clinical Selectives

- i. All students must complete a Sub-Internship, Critical Care, and Ambulatory selective (see electives bulletin for list of courses which fulfill each selective)
- ii. These courses all must be completed on campus with the exception of military students who may take either Critical Care or Sub-Internship off campus during one of their required military rotations. If they choose to count an off campus course as their Sub-I or Critical Care it should be registered as an MCG Sub-I or Critical Care course and cannot be counted towards elective requirements.
- iii. These courses must be taken after the completion of the clerkship phase

b. Enrichment Selectives

- i. Students in the Advanced Residency Prep Pathway must complete twenty weeks of Enrichment Selectives. At least four weeks of a Scholarly Project, four weeks of Integrative Science, and four weeks of Advanced Clinical Elective. The remaining eight weeks may be any combination of Advanced Clinical Elective and Scholarly Project.
- ii. Scholarly Project courses and Advanced Clinical Electives may be completed during the clerkship or enrichment phases. Integrative Science courses must be completed during the enrichment phase

- c. **Multiple Selectives** – students may take more than one selective course. Any additional selective not needed to fulfill a requirement will count towards graduation *elective* requirements (Sub-I, Critical Care, Ambulatory Selectives). Students are guaranteed one of each clinical selective in the M4 lottery, but opportunities for additional selectives may be limited by availability and the student's declared department/s.

C. Elective Credit Policies

- a. **Core Elective Requirement:** All students must complete 6 weeks of electives (see elective bulletin for list of electives).
- b. **Enrichment Elective Requirement:** Students in the Advanced Residency Prep Pathway must complete an additional 8 weeks of electives.
- c. **Off-Campus Electives** – students may count up to 12 weeks of off-campus (away) electives towards graduation elective requirements (general electives/advanced clinical electives). Students may take off-campus electives that are sponsored by different MCG departments. Off-Campus electives are registered under an MCG course number that corresponds to an MCG department and must be approved by that department as well as the Associate/Assistant Dean for Curriculum.



The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

- d. **International Electives** – students may count up to 4 weeks of international elective time towards graduation elective requirements. The international elective counts as 4 weeks of the students' allotted 12 weeks total off-campus elective time. Except for specific recurring international electives, international electives are registered as EMED 5007- International Medicine- regardless of sponsoring department or faculty involvement. Students must apply through the Curriculum Office, the Global Health Director and Study Abroad Office, and must obtain approval from all three offices to earn credit for the international elective.
- e. **Research Electives** – In addition to the Scholarly Project students may count one 4-week research elective towards graduation elective requirements. The subject of the research elective must be *different* than that of the student's required scholarly project. To continue scholarly project work.
- f. **Repeating Courses** – With the exception of Off-campus Electives and a few selected courses, students may not repeat a course with the same course number and receive credit a second time without special permission from the department and from the Assistant Dean for Enrichment Curriculum or the Associate Dean for Curriculum. If permission is granted the expectation is that the student experience will be sufficiently different on each of the two courses such that they are in effect two different courses.