

# SOMA Curricular Goals and Courses

The SOMA curriculum is aligned with the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Seven Osteopathic Core Competencies for Medical Students. Under each of these competency domains, there are measurable curricular goals which, upon student attainment and completion, indicate competence in the domain. These curricular goals broadly shape and define the courses & clerkships within the 4-year SOMA curriculum. For each curricular goal, there are accompanying learning activities, whose purpose is to help students achieve the goal and learn course content. Each learning activity is guided by a set of specific, measurable learning objectives that state what the student will accomplish during the activity.

## I. Osteopathic Principles & Practices

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Graduates must demonstrate knowledge of osteopathic principles and practice (OPP), and they must exhibit and apply knowledge of somatic dysfunction diagnosis and osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) in clinical settings.

1. Demonstrate and communicate knowledge of:
  - a.) OPP;
  - b.) the basic science, mechanisms of action, and physical findings of somatic dysfunction; and
  - c.) the mechanism of action, indications and contraindications, and basic application of OMT.
2. Perform and document a complete and appropriately focused structural examination in a respectful, logical and organized manner.
3. Apply osteopathic principles and OMT into an appropriate patient care plan.
4. Demonstrate sufficient depth of knowledge and skills to integrate osteopathic principles and practice into all aspects of whole person healthcare.

## II. Clinical Skills & Osteopathic Patient Care

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Graduates must demonstrate effective use of motor and cognitive skills in diagnosis, management and prevention of common health problems encountered in patient care within a variety of clinical settings and across the lifespan.

1. Elicit a comprehensive and appropriately focused history and generate a list of a patient's concerns in a respectful, rationale and organize manner.
2. Perform a complete & appropriately focused physical examination in a respectful, rationale and organized manner; and correlate abnormal findings to clinical presentations and disease processes.
3. Perform basic clinical procedures essential for general osteopathic medical practice.
4. Utilize clinical reasoning strategies to accurately diagnose medical conditions originating from common clinical presentations.
5. Determine and implement evidence-based clinical intervention plans and management strategies, while monitoring their effectiveness and adjusting appropriately

6. Incorporate health education counseling, preventive medicine approaches, and health promotion strategies during patient encounters.

### III. Medical Knowledge

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Graduates must demonstrate knowledge and application of osteopathic, biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, biomechanical, social and behavioral sciences in the context of patient-centered care.

1. Recognize and explain normal structure and function across the lifespan.
2. Identify and explain the molecular, biochemical and cellular mechanisms that support normal structure and function.
3. Distinguish between the mechanisms of disease pathogenesis, describe their impact on the body, and relate them to patient signs and symptoms.
4. Explain and apply principles of contemporary therapeutics, including osteopathic, surgical, pharmacologic, molecular, biologic, behavioral and contemporary/alternative.
5. Interpret diagnostic studies and correlate abnormal findings to disease states.
6. Describe the epidemiology of common disease states within a defined population, and the systematic approaches useful in reducing the incidence and prevalence of those disease states.

### IV. Professionalism

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Graduates must demonstrate through knowledge, behavior and attitudes, a commitment to the highest standards of competence, ethics, integrity, and accountability to patients, society and the osteopathic profession.

1. Demonstrate respect, altruism, compassion, interest, integrity, honesty, accountability and trustworthiness in all interactions with patients, their families, faculty, staff, peers and colleagues.
2. Apply ethical decision making in all aspects of professional practice.
3. Demonstrate awareness, sensitivity and responsiveness to culture, socio-economic status, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, and mental/physical disabilities of patients, their families, faculty, staff, peers and colleagues.
4. Demonstrate professional work behaviors such as punctuality, appropriate appearance, accepting responsibility for errors, and maintaining professional boundaries.
5. Demonstrate a commitment to continuous professional development, learning, and internal & external assessment.

## V. Interpersonal and Communication Skills

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Graduates must demonstrate the knowledge, behaviors and attitudes that facilitate accurate and efficient information gathering, empathetic rapport building, and effective information giving in interactions with patients, their families and colleagues of the inter-professional health care team.

1. Document and record patient information in an accurate, organized, and confidential manner appropriate to the clinical situation and present relevant aspects of a patient's case in a logical, articulate fashion both orally and in writing.
2. Work effectively and collaboratively with patients, their families and colleagues of the inter-professional healthcare team in providing whole person healthcare.
3. Demonstrate effective and appropriate active listening, verbal, non-verbal, and written and electronic communication skills when dealing with patients, their families, faculty, staff, peers and colleagues of the inter-professional health care team.

## VI. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

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Graduates must demonstrate the ability to apply scientific theory and methodology and exhibit the critical thinking skills essential for integrating evidence-based principles and practice into patient care.

1. Apply fundamental biostatistical and epidemiologic concepts to practice-based learning and improvement.
2. Conduct a systematic review of literature on basic and clinical science research and critically synthesize the results for relevance and validity.
3. Describe the clinical significance of and apply strategies for integrating best medical evidence into clinical practice.
4. Identify, describe and apply systematic methods relating to continuous evaluation of osteopathic clinical practice patterns, practice-base improvements, and the reduction of medical errors.
5. Integrate technology into the practice of medicine and the delivery of healthcare services

## VII. Systems-Based Practice

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Graduates must demonstrate awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and systems of health care, and effectively identify system resources to advocate for and maximize the health of the individual and the community or population at large.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of health delivery systems that affect the practice of an osteopathic physician and how delivery systems influence the utilization of resources and access to health care.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of how patient care and professional practices affect other health care professionals, health care organizations, and society.

3. Demonstrate the ability to work effectively in a variety of health care systems (with an emphasis on community health care) and provide quality patient care while advocating for the best interests of patients.
4. Demonstrate the ability to implement safe, effective, timely, patient-centered and equitable systems of care in a team-oriented environment.

# Courses

## First year: Fall Semester

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- HEAL 5001 - Health and Healing 14 credit hours
- MEDS 5080 - Medical Skills I 3 credit hours
- NMSK 5002 - Neuromusculoskeletal and Senses 15 credit hours
- OSPP 5090 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice I 3 credit hours

## First year: Spring Semester

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- CARD 5003 - Cardiovascular 7 credit hours
- GAST 5006 - Gastrointestinal 7 credit hours
- MEDS 5081 - Medical Skills II 4 credit hours
- OSPP 5091 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice II 3 credit hours
- PULM 5004 - Pulmonary 7 credit hours
- RENA 5005 - Renal 7 credit hours

## Second year: Fall Semester

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- ENRE 6002 - Endocrinology and Human Reproduction 14 credit hours
- EPID 6200 - Epidemiology 4 credit hours
- HEME 6001 - Hematology and Oncology 9 credit hours
- INTE 6004 - Integrative I 7 credit hours
- MEDS 6090 - Medical Skills III 6 credit hours
- OSPP 6100 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice III 2 credit hours

## Second year: Spring Semester

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- BIOS 6210 - Biostatistics & Preventative Medicine 4 credit hours
- MIND 6003 - Human Mind and Behavior 14 credit hours
- INTE 6005 - Integrative II with Comprehensive Osteopathic Medicine 14 credit hours
- MEDS 6090 - Medical Skills III 6 credit hours
- OSPP 6101 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice IV 2 credit hours

## Year 3 Clerkships and Courses

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- ELECT 7049-7132 - Electives I 16.5 credit hours
- ELECT 7049-7132 - Electives II 16.5 credit hours
- CORE 7000 - Family Medicine I 22 credits
- CORE 7001 - Family Medicine II 22 credits
- CORE 7006 - General Surgery 11 credit hours
- CORE 7002 - Internal Medicine I 22 credit hours
- CORE 7003 - Internal Medicine II 22 credit hours
- CPSL 7010 - Maternal and Child Health 11 credit hours
- CPSL 7011 - Maternal and Child Health 11 credit hours
- CPSL 7012 - Maternal and Child Health 11 credit hours
- CPSL 7013 - Maternal and Child Health 11 credit hours
- CORE 7005 - OB/Gyn 11 credit hours
- CORE 7008 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice V 2 credit hours
- CORE 7009 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice VI 3 credit hours

- CORE 7004 - Pediatrics 11 credit hours
- PCSL 7014-7048 - Patient Care Selectives 11 credit hours
- CORE 7007 - Psychiatry 11 credit hours

## Year 4 Clerkships and Courses

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- CORE 8000 - Cardiology 11 credit hours
- CORE 8001 - Critical Care 11 credit hours
- CORE 8003 - Emergency Medicine 11 credits
- ELEC 8091-8175 - MS4 Elective I 11 credit hours
- ELEC 8091-8175 - MS4 Elective II 11 credit hours
- ELEC 8091-8175 - MS4 Elective III 11 credit hours
- CORE 8002 - Neurology 5.5 credit hours
- CORE 8004 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice VII 1.8 credit hours
- CORE 8005 - Osteopathic Principles and Practice VIII 1.8 credit hours
- SELE 8006-8090 - Selective I: Medicine 11 credit hours
- SELE 8006-8090 - Selective II: Medicine, Research, or Academic Study 11 credit hours
- SELE 8051-8061 - Selective III: Pediatrics 11 credit hours
- SELE 8078-8058 - Selective IV: Surgery 11 credit hours

## Other Courses

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- SELE 8177 - Selective II: Public Health [for SOMA DO/MPH dual degree program only] 11 credit hour
- DRS 5000 - Directed Studies 1 credit hour per week
- DRS 6000 - Directed Studies 1 credit hour per week
- DRS 7000 - Directed Studies 1 credit hour per week
- DRS 8000 - Directed Studies 1 credit hour per week
- ELEC 8125 - Medical Spanish 11 credit hours
- ELEC 8178 - Public Health Practicum: Elective I, II, and III [for SOMA DO/MPH dual degree program only] 11 credit hours