

Guidance for Pre-Med Students

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Project VVM

The vision for this project is to give some sort of guidance to undergrad students who are pursuing the pre-med track and need some guidance regarding how to gain clinical experience as well as what steps they need to take to remain on track to apply for medical school

Rationale for the Capstone

- I did not receive much guidance during my time at UTK of what I should be pursuing to be a successful pre-med student.
- “There is very little current research on the premedical experience”. (Lin)
- “Pre-meds do think about more than just grades”. (Horowitz)

Other's Solutions

The only thing that UTK recommends is to set up an appointment with a pre-health advisors.

Abstract

My proposed capstone project involves my experiences while working as an intern and part-time employee at the Tennessee Orthopaedic Clinic. I have chosen this project because it involves a problem that I have faced during my experience as an undergraduate student during my time at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. This Capstone project will hopefully be able to provide these undergraduate students with options and avenues to take in order to gain valuable clinical experience before beginning the process of applying to medical schools.

Possible Partners

- Tennessee Orthopaedic Clinic: Potential for future students to work in a clinical setting
- Pre-Professional Advisors: Hope to send students seeking out advisors ahead of time

First Three Steps

- 1) Find a passion and develop a VVM based off this passion
- 2) Share my experience working as undergraduate student in a clinical setting. Explain what I have accomplished, learned, and experienced.
- 3) Put together a deliverable that can guide students pursuing medical school during all four of their undergraduate years.

Project Status

I am currently working on putting together a deliverable that incorporates what I have learned through my own individual experiences and what I have learned based on scholarly articles that I have researched. This deliverable should be finished by the time that I have reached my graduation date. I also hope that others continue to take this project further so that it can impact more students at this university and others.

References:

Horowitz. (2009). It's Not Always Just About the Grade: Exploring the Achievement Goal Orientations of Pre-Med Students. *The Journal of Experimental Education*, 78(2), 215–245. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220970903352746>

Lin, K. Y., Parmani, S., Futrell-Fortis, A., Anschutz, R. R., Crawford, B., & De Viss, R. G. (2013). The undergraduate premedical experience in the United States: a critical review. *International journal of medical education*, 4, 26–37. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1752-7581-4-26>

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