

Duke Ophthalmology Virtual Elective

Summer-Fall 2021

Course Director: Jullia Rosdahl MD PhD (jullia.rosdahl@duke.edu)

Program Coordinators: Teresa Perry (teresa.perry@duke.edu) and Peggy Barnwell (peggy.barnwell@duke.edu)

Overview:

The Department of Ophthalmology at the Duke University School of Medicine is offering a 4-week, interactive program for fourth-year medical students interested in ophthalmology who are unable to come for an in-person clinical elective. This virtual elective consists of a semi-structured format designed to work around concurrent medical school rotations. We offer an opportunity for participation in departmental conferences, one-on-one faculty mentoring sessions, and engagement with residents and faculty. Six students per month will be accepted in the program for each of 2 sessions: **Session 1, August 23-September 18, and Session 2, September 20-October 16.** No course credit is offered for the virtual elective and all clinical content will be de-identified in compliance with HIPAA regulations. Note that letters of recommendation for residency applications based on experiences during the virtual elective will not be provided.

Requirements:

Students must be enrolled in their final year of medical school and have a computer capable of videoconferencing. Special considerations for conference attendance will be given to students based outside of east coast time zone. It is highly recommended that students participate in this virtual elective during a concurrent rotation with the flexibility to accommodate the activities offered.

Priority will be given to under-represented minority students and students at medical schools without home ophthalmology programs. Students who are coming to Duke for an in-person ophthalmology clinical elective are NOT eligible for participation in the virtual elective.

Structure:

Faculty Virtual Mentors

Students will be matched with clinical faculty who will serve as Virtual Faculty Mentors during the elective. We will work with students to find mentors that fit their interests or background; an additional virtual mentor from our research faculty may also be possible. Students will meet with mentors weekly at mutually agreeable times; recommended topics of discussion are: first meeting: discuss their clinical expertise, typical clinical cases, and career advice; second meeting: review 1-3 recent clinical cases in a Socratic learning style; third meeting: in-depth discussion of clinical topic of mutual interest. Outside readings and study are expected. Faculty mentors will offer guidance on the Case Presentation and Journal Club presentation, as needed.

Resident Virtual Mentors

Each student will be assigned a resident from the Duke Ophthalmology Residency to assist them during the rotation. There will be a group video conference with the students and resident mentors; suggested topics of discussion include information about the residency program and discussion of cases seen during resident call period. The resident may provide feedback on the prepared presentations and attend the Case Presentation and Journal Club conferences, depending on their availability and the needs of the student. Individual meetings will be scheduled based on resident and student needs and interests.

Journal Club Presentation

A journal club will be scheduled once during the session (likely during the second week). Each student will present a recent ophthalmology article in a short 5-minute presentation. Guidance on article selection and presentation preparation will be provided by residents and faculty as needed. The students and course director will identify the theme at the start of the session.

Case Presentation

During the final week of the elective, students will present a short 5-7-minute case presentation. The expectation is that cases will be from prior in-person clinical experiences since students will not have access to Duke clinical data and images during their virtual elective. This will be an opportunity to practice oral presentation skills, including fielding questions from residents, faculty, and other trainees.

Faculty Meetings

Introductory group meeting with the course director, Dr. Jullia Rosdahl, at the start of the session.

Group meeting about the Duke Ophthalmology Residency, with Dr. Pratap Challa, Ophthalmology Program Director, will be scheduled during the session.

Group meeting about research in the Ophthalmology Department, with Dr. Cathy Bowes-Rickman, Ophthalmology Medical Student Research Director, will be scheduled during the session.

Individual meetings with Dr. Rosdahl will be scheduled on the final Friday of the session.

Schedule:

Week 1:

First meeting with Faculty Virtual Mentor(s)

Choose article for Journal Club

Schedule Group Meetings with Drs. Challa and Bowes-Rickman

Schedule meetings the Resident Virtual Mentors (group and individual) to happen throughout the session.

Week 2:

Second meeting with Faculty Virtual Mentor(s)

Journal Club Presentation (time/date determined at the start of the rotation)

Week 3:

Third meeting with Faculty Virtual Mentor(s)

Group meeting with Resident Virtual Mentors

Preparation for Case Presentation conference

Week 4:

Case Presentation conference (time/date determined at the start of the rotation)

Individual meetings with Dr. Rosdahl on final Friday

Throughout:

Participation at Departmental Educational Conferences

Participation in virtual teaching conferences with medical students on the in-person clinical elective.

Application:

Complete the short on-line application:

https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2tT1KzsLkUJ3o1M

and send an email of interest with a current CV attached, to Ms. Teresa Perry

(teresa.perry@duke.edu).

Deadline for applications: June 18th

Announcement of accepted students: week of July 5th

Preference will be given to under-represented minority students and students at medical schools without an ophthalmology residency program. Please include which session(s) you are available and if you have any special circumstances that we should be aware of.