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How does your school incorporate Medical Spanish into your curriculum?

NYMC

Student can take a night course on Medical Spanish during 1st and 2nd years.

University of Toledo

At the University of Toledo College of Medicine, we have medical Spanish courses as electives available during any of the four years of medical school. Introduction to Medical Spanish and Advanced Medical Spanish is taught through our school's AHEC department and it meets once a week for 2 hours in the evenings. Each course lasts the equivalent of a semester and is worth 3 elective credit hours. Another course, Medical Spanish for Healthcare Professionals is taught by a Spanish-speaking professor from a basic science department and it is an intensive 6 week course that meets 3 times per week for 2 hours each. As I mentioned, both of the courses are elective so they are not in the curriculum, but many students (about 40 total) utilized the courses throughout the year. Though I do not know the survey data on the reception of the courses by students, I do know they are very popular and voluntarily attended in large numbers.

In addition to that, our Spanish Club offers opportunities to practice medical Spanish on a regular basis. Examples of events this year included interviews of standardized Spanish-speaking patients, making health education packets in Spanish, and working at the migrant camp mobile free clinic in which we treat Toledo area migrant-workers. Finally, we have numerous medical mission trips each year that travel to Latin American countries such as Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua in which medical Spanish is an important asset, so students get invaluable experience speaking different Spanish dialects. Buena suerte!

University of Southern California:

It's not incorporated into our curriculum, rather it's almost an extra-curricular, optional. In general it's received pretty well by the students, the ones who take it want to learn Spanish because we have so many Spanish-speaking patients here, and it's important to learn. I'm not sure if you have access to our LCME, but the students all commented on what was good and bad about the course.

Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science:

It is offered as an elective course for those who wish to take it in their 2nd year. Many students find it to be useful.

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

It is an elective course available to only medical/health professional students (medical students, nursing, pharmacy, etc.). It's received well by students and is always a popular course. Though one thing that students complain about is the fact that you need to be fairly far along in Spanish (think undergrad 6th semester or further) to be eligible to take the medical Spanish course.

Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences:

It is a preclinical elective. Students with beginning knowledge of Spanish find it too hard and those with advanced Spanish degrees find it to be easy.

Cornell:

Is an extracurricular. Well received by the students

UT San Antonio:

At UT San Antonio, there are beginner, intermediate, and advanced level classes. Each level is offered one day/week during lunch. Classes are 1 semester long, and students can re-take classes as many times as they like. A one-time elective credit is offered for each class, and given based on attendance. The class materials (book/packet) are provided by the school. The main instructor for each class is a student, who is paid by the school as well. Standardized patients who know how to speak Spanish come to each intermediate and advanced class to practice

with the students. Beginner classes use native speaking and advanced class students as TAs. When I took the intermediate and advanced classes, each class day was devoted to a different organ system.

Vanderbilt:

At Vanderbilt we have a fantastic program called "Vamos" which is a medical Spanish education curriculum but also a Spanish culture advocacy group. It has been very well received amongst our students and has developed into a multifaceted program.

Northwestern

At Northwestern we don't have a formal medical Spanish course. Two or Three years ago there was an attempt to start such a course as an extracurricular activity. There was an advanced level and a beginner level courses which would meet approx 2 times/week for 1 hour each. Initially both courses filled up very quickly. However the majority of students that signed up were M1s and as soon as classes became more difficult lots of students stopped attending the Spanish class. I am not certain if there have been any further attempts since that time for such a class or if they have had any different outcomes.

Brown

Brown offers medical Spanish as an elective course (~1-2 hours/wk) during the first 2 years. It is structured, but pretty informal.

Johns Hopkins

Elective course offered in evenings. People who take it have liked it, but not taught by native speaker.

University of Wisconsin:

It is a one-credit elective offered one evening of the week for one semester. It is generally well received. However, I think people tend to deprioritize their medical Spanish studies in favor of studying for their real med school course. Thus, I question its utility as most people just kind of show up for an hour or two each week and don't really invest themselves in it. But it is indeed popular.

University of South Florida:

University of South Florida offers an optional medical Spanish course in the break between first and second year. It has been well received by the students, partially because there is a wide range of Spanish speaking ability at our school and it would be difficult to have an appropriate class for everyone.

University of Chicago:

The medical Spanish options at the University of Chicago (Pritzker) are offered through two main forms. 1) The school has contracted with a private company to bring in Spanish tutors during the spring quarter that hold three different skill level Spanish courses (beginner, intermediate, advanced). The class meets once or twice/week for ~8 weeks. The majority if not the entire enrollment are 1st year med students considering they have the most time to enroll in this elective. Because the school is paying the company to teach these courses, they have mandated a strict attendance policy such that >1 missed class will result in the student having to pay the cost of the course. Otherwise, the course is free to take. 2) We have a student organization with an expressed interest in practicing medical Spanish dialogue. This is a recent initiative started by the class of 2012. They have purchased medical Spanish readers and materials to review with med students that participate in group meetings. The school has agreed to fund the purchase of several medical Spanish texts, computer software, and other printed material to help the group get started.

Quillen College of Medicine:

It's offered separately as a pass/fail optional night course with 3 different levels at 4:30, 5:00 and 5:30 pm. As long as you attend half of the weekly sessions, you receive credit. Very well at first but as the semester progressed, attendance went down and some people decided not to go anymore. It works well for students really motivated to learn the language.

UCSD School of Medicine:

It is an elective that you can sign up for. Medical Spanish is a very popular elective; many students take the class. I've heard mixed reviews about how helpful students have found it after the fact, however, since the class covers mostly how to ask medical questions, and not much everyday conversation.

University of Minnesota:

It is an elective class offered at 2nights/week for MS1 and MS2, class tuition is paid for. It is well received but difficult for students to balance both medical school and Spanish classes

Southern Illinois:

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine just started its Medical Spanish course. It is an elective offered once a week for 8 weeks during your fourth year. We have not yet had the opportunity to receive feedback from students.

UCSF

Yes, it's an elective. There is beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Usually only MS1s and 2s have time, but older students can enroll. They get credit, and usually meet 1-2x/week. Received very well by students, the class is often oversubscribed, and MS2s get priority.