The Surgery clerkship is designed to teach students the role of surgical care in the overall management of patients. Specifically, the students are expected to learn the work-up and evaluation of surgical patients, as well as the indications and contraindications for expected results, risks and complications of specific operations. Students are expected to scrub on a number of operations and will follow patients from presentation, work-up, and treatment, including operations and post-treatment/postoperative care.

The Surgery Research Elective is designed to encourage students to participate in active research with a faculty member or community faculty member and to understand all aspects involved with current research protocols and steps taken to achieve research goals. The student should be able to feel confident at the completion of the elective with the research process. The student will have research experience and will be able to include this in their CV in order to support their future career opportunities.

During this rotation, students will broaden their experience in evaluating surgical patients and increase their understanding of the different environments in which surgery is performed. The SURG Dept assigns students to a specific site/specialty. The SURG Dept will query registered students shortly before the block begins and notify students which specialties are available. SURG assigns specialties on a first-come, first-served basis. SOM Student Affairs does not have the ability to assign students to specific sites/specialties or to determine which sites/specialties might be available. Students must be enrolled for SURG3120 to fulfill the outpatient surgery requirement. Students may not request retroactively that an elective fulfill the outpatient surgery requirement.

This is a four-week course creating an intense and comprehensive surgical experience. This course will be limited to 4th year medical students. Such students will be chosen/accepted to this course based on high evaluations during their core surgery rotations and have demonstrated an aptitude and interest in a surgical career. The course will consist of the following: Dedicated lectures by selected faculty, which will encompass topics including surgical diseases, innovative surgical procedures, introduction to academic research, career planning and litigation issues; student presentations on specific surgical issues and procedures; dedicated simulation training including “Intern BootCamp” that Tulane surgical interns currently undergo; an introductory course and simulation training on the DaVinci Surgical Robotic system by residents and faculty; an animal lab over two/three days where the students will perform surgical procedures themselves with supervision and feedback; individual time to meet and discuss career goals, resume/personal statement review and interview preparation with faculty members. The overall goal is to help prepare these students to become outstanding interns at the start of their surgical residency. The course will be Pass/Fail, and students may use this to help strengthen their residency applications by stating they were chosen for, and passed the Tulane Honors Surgery Course.

Students on senior electives in surgery will advance their clinical skills and knowledge by focusing on a specific area of surgical practice with a particular surgery service. The students will strengthen their clinical skills in perioperative patient assessment and management, in the use of diagnostic studies pertinent to the surgeon’s practice, and assisting or performing procedures under direct supervision. Students are expected to participate in the operating room, clinic, wards fully including taking night or weekend call.

Students on senior electives in surgery will advance their clinical skills and knowledge by focusing on a specific area of surgical practice with a particular surgery service. The students will strengthen their clinical skills in perioperative patient assessment and management, in the use of diagnostic studies pertinent to the surgeon’s practice, and assisting or performing procedures under direct supervision. Students are expected to participate in the operating room, clinic, wards fully including taking night or weekend call.

The student will receive in-depth exposure to critical care patients in either the surgical or trauma critical care units that will strengthen their clinical skills in perioperative assessment and management of critically ill patients. This will be accomplished by working as a member of a surgical resident team, including approximately weekly night/weekend call. Students will be expected to participate in all rounds, seminars, and resident teaching lectures.
SURG 4540 SICU (4 Credit Hours)
The student will receive in-depth exposure to critical care patients in either the surgical or trauma critical care units that will strengthen their clinical skills in perioperative assessment and management of critically ill patients. This will be accomplished by working as a member of a surgical resident team, including approximately weekly night/weekend call. Students will be expected to participate in all rounds, seminars, and resident teaching lectures.

SURG 5500 Clinical Preceptorship - Surg (1 Credit Hour)
Preceptorships are available to T1 & T2 students who are interested in the specialty. Students must identify a physician to shadow. Students must have their preceptorship approved in advance by the Senior Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs.

SURG 5540 Surgery Research (1 Credit Hour)
5000-level research opportunities are available to T1 & T2 students who are interested in the specialty. Students must identify a faculty member with whom to conduct research. Students must have their research prospectus form approved in advance by the Senior Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs.

SURG 5550 Surgical Pathways (1 Credit Hour)
This elective is designed to give you an up close look into the life of a surgeon and that of an academic center’s clinical surgical program. We have redesigned the elective in hopes that all of you are able to gain new knowledge while still maintaining your duties and obligations of being a T1/T2 pre-clinical student.

SURG 5640 Plastic Surgery Research (1 Credit Hour)
5000-level research opportunities are available to T1 & T2 students who are interested in the specialty. Students must identify a faculty member with whom to conduct research. Students must have their research prospectus form approved in advance by the Senior Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs.

SURG 9000 Surgery Visiting Student (4 Credit Hours)
This rotation is available only to visiting MD students, from US schools of medicine, in the clinical phase of their training: Tulane SOM does not accept visiting students from international schools of medicine. Visiting MD students must apply through AAMC's VSAS system to be eligible to enroll; pre-clinical visiting MD students are not eligible.

SURG 9020 Surgery Visiting Student (2 Credit Hours)
This rotation is available only to visiting MD students, from US schools of medicine, in the clinical phase of their training: Tulane SOM does not accept visiting students from international schools of medicine. Visiting MD students must apply through AAMC's VSAS system to be eligible to enroll; pre-clinical visiting MD students are not eligible.