

Director's Survey for a New Elective or Subinternship

I. General:

1. Elective/Subinternship Title	Name of Elective/Subinternship
2. Departmental Codes	To be assigned by the Office of Student Affairs after approval.
3. Director	Benjamin Tolchin
4. Director's Email	benjamin.tolchin@yale.edu
5. Coordinator	Karen Kolb
6. Coordinator's Email	Karen.kolb@yale.edu
7. Telephone	203-214-8861
8. Student's Class Level	4 th and 5 th year
9. Any prerequisites for this Elective/Subinternship? (i.e. Completion of the first two years of medical school, completion of a different Elective/SubI, n/a)	Completion of all preclinical coursework and primary clinical clerkships
10. Maximum students/rotation block	1
11. Accept Visiting US Students: (Yes / No)	Yes
12. Accept Visiting International Students: (Yes / No)	No
13. Scheduling Restriction(s): (i.e. not offer during certain times of the year, n/a)	Generally offered September-May, dependent on director's availability
14. Report to Location (include any specific instructions)	Yale New Haven Hospital, Dana Clinic Building, Main Lobby
15. How many weeks is the Elective/Subinternship? (Check all that apply)	2 or 4 weeks
<i>Please describe any differences between your 2 and 4 weeks Electives, if applicable (The 4-week elective would be a longer more in depth experience of similar quality as the 2 week elective):</i> 4 week elective provides access to a broader range of clinical ethics consultations, greater opportunity to take part in planning and leading ethics team and family meetings, and the opportunity to be involved in planning and potentially running an ethics committee meeting.	

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II. Learning Objectives:

1. Please submit your learning objectives using the attached "Learning Objectives Template".

Note: The YSM Overarching Goals for Curriculum can found on the following site:

<https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/curriculum/competencies-requirements/competencies/>

2. Please provide a description of your Elective/SubI.

The Elective in Clinical Ethics provides 2 or 4 weeks of training and didactics in conducting clinical ethics consultations, organizational ethics consultations, and ethics committee meetings, as well as clinical ethics scholarship. The elective prepares medical students to elicit the perspectives of stakeholders in complex clinical cases, analyze the relevant bioethical principles, propose recommendations to support consensus shared decision-making, to communicate empathically and clearly, and to identify, support and respond constructively to emotional responses in challenging clinical cases. These skills prepare students to engage in clinical care as resident physicians and to participate on ethics consultation services and hospital ethics committees.

Students should expect to be in the hospital, engaged in consultation work, didactics, and/or scholarly projects from approximately 8:30am-5pm, Monday through Friday, with occasional ethics committee meetings, bioethics seminars, or late afternoon consultations until 6:30pm. Depending on scheduling of the elective, students may have the opportunity to attend an adult ethics committee meeting and/or a pediatric committee meeting at Yale New Haven Hospital, and/or an ethics committee meeting in a different delivery network of the Yale New Haven Health system.

Students will participate in morning rounds of active clinical ethics and organizational ethics consultations. Students will take the lead in investigating new clinical and organizational ethics consultations, will observe team, family, and committee meetings, and will write first-draft notes documenting evaluations and recommendations. Depending on the length of the elective, the number of consultations, student performance, and comfort, students may have the opportunity to participate in planning and leading some meetings. Students should plan to complete a scholarly project such as a literature review, essay, opinion piece, case write-up, case series, or chart review over the course of the elective, and may have the opportunity to present this work at an ethics committee meeting.

Grading and feedback is based 60% on clinical performance on the ethics consultation service, and 40% on the scholarly project. At a minimum, feedback will be shared verbally at the midpoint and end of the elective, and in writing at the end of the elective.

3. (*Subinternship Only*) If you are submitting this survey for a new subinternship, please address how this clinical experience will meet the following criteria:

A. *With appropriate supervision, assume patient care responsibility at the highest appropriate level possible within the specialty area, interfacing with the patient, the medical team, the nursing staff, and any other services.*

B. *Total immersion in day to day activities, tasks, and responsibilities of patient care.*

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C. A broadened patient case-mix and patient load with case assignment and schedule similar to 1st year resident.

D. An opportunity to solidify advanced clinical knowledge, skills and professionalism.

E. A level of independence appropriate to a 4th year medical student.

4. How will you inform the students, residents and faculty about the goals and objectives, performance expectations, scheduled conferences/clinics, rounding times, etc.? Please provide any written orientation materials.

Please see above or attached ethics elective application which contains a written overview of the objectives, expectations, and typical hours. Additional details will be shared on a daily basis by the elective director.

5. Does the educational committee within your department review objectives on a regular basis?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

III. Utilization:

1. Why should students take this Elective/SubI? Check all that apply.

☒ Career exploration

☒ Learn critical material

☒ Become better rounded clinicians

☐ Required for residency match

Other (please specify):

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2. Please provide suggestions for students of other specialties that they should consider if they are interested in a working in your career specialty (i.e. Internal Medicine subinternships, Emergency Medicine subinternships, Infectious Disease electives, etc.)

- Students of any clinical specialty may consider clinical ethics as an added focus.
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IV. Learning Activities:

1. How many Hours per week are spent in the following areas?

	Total Hours/Week
Clinical Setting	20
Conferences	1
Didactic Instruction	3
Other (scholarly project)	16

2. Do students take call? If YES, how often?

No

3. How many patient evaluations or cases are the students expected to do each week? Are students directly observed by faculty or attending at any point?

Students should expect to participate in 2-5 ethics consultations per week. Supervision shifts over the course of the elective. Initially students shadow and observe 1-2 consultations, then begin to take the lead on researching new ethics consultations, participating in case discussions, and drafting ethics notes for review by senior ethicists. Depending on student ability and comfort, duration of the elective, and availability of ethics consultations, students may have the opportunity to participate in planning and leading ethics consultations, though always with the direct supervision of a senior ethics consultant.

4. What self-study materials are recommended?

- ☐ Online Teaching Aids
- X Reading Lists/Journal Articles
- ☐ Textbooks
- X Other (please specify): Scholarly project

5. Are there any other learning activities we should know about? No

V. Assessment:

Grading Scale: 4-Week Electives/Subinternships [Honors, High Pass, Pass, or Fail]
2-Week Electives [Pass or Fail]

1. How does Elective/SubI assess whether or not students fulfill learning objectives?

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Direct clinical supervision, case presentations and discussions, and review of all draft ethics notes and scholarly projects, by the elective director and other senior ethicists.

2. How do you collect feedback about the Elective/SubI/SI from the students?

At a minimum of twice per elective, at the midpoint and end of the elective, there will be formal exchange of oral feedback involving the student and elective director. At the end of the elective there will also be an opportunity for students to share written feedback via an anonymous online survey (with results compiled periodically to allow deidentification).

3. Do students receive formative feedback (i.e. feedback early enough to allow time for remediation)? If so, how?

Yes, at a minimum, students will receive verbal feedback at the midpoint of the elective to allow remediation.

VI. Integration:

1. How is your Elective/SubI integrated with other components of the medical school curriculum for students?

The elective is offered for students who have completed all preclinical requirements and primary clinical clerkships, and who are in the 4th year or beyond, during their clinical electives.

VII. Learning Environment:

1. Do you have any concerns about the learning environment?

No

2. How do students explore career opportunities in your specialty during the Elective/SubI?

Students will have the opportunity to discuss careers in clinical ethics with the elective director and other senior ethicists, and to identify additional professional opportunities in clinical ethics here at Yale (such as ethics committee meetings, the Program in Biomedical Ethics, the Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, and the Institutional Review Board) and nationally (such as the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities).

3. Describe any faculty development (e.g. training in how to give feedback, performance evaluations etc.) your department has in place related to medical student education.

The neurology department provides regular training in formative feedback, evaluation, and pedagogy, in which the elective director participates.

VIII. General:

1. What type of administrative support do you receive for this Elective/SubI?

We have the support of senior administrator Karen Kolb through the Program for Biomedical Ethics.

2. Do you feel there are specific barriers to implementing the Elective/SubI curriculum? And if so, what are they?

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No

3. Is there anything else about your Elective/SubI you'd like to point out?

No

Note - Guideline of Approval Process for a New Elective/Subinternship:

- The Director of the new elective/subinternship must have approval from their Department Chair for the new elective/subinternship.
- The Director must complete a Director's Survey and create learning objectives. The completed Survey and Learning Objectives should be sent to the Director of Electives (Jessica Illuzzi).
- The Director of Electives will submit all documentation to the Elective Review Committee for approval consideration. The Director will be notified of the Committee's decision.
- If approved, the Director of Electives will notify the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) and the OSA will make the elective/subinternship available for student enrollment.