

## **Clinical Research for Health Professionals (CRHP) – Research Project**

### **Rationale**

CRHP is a non-thesis MS program. It is consistent with a master's level education that students be challenged to clearly express well-organized thoughts in written form. The collection, analysis and refinement of scientific information to produce a professional-level written document are crucial skills for those in the health professions. This requirement will expose students to the entire process of developing a research project and reporting on that research project up to and including experiencing a facsimile of the peer review and re-submission process.

It is anticipated that each student will conduct a minimum of 9 hours research/week for 3 credits per semester. Research may include a broad spectrum of clinical studies such as: retrospective studies; bench-top studies in conjunction or not with pharmaceutical companies; development of new clinical methodologies/techniques; or, development/evaluation of new clinical devices. Research mentors must be established researchers with a doctoral degree. A curriculum vitae of the proposed research advisor must be submitted with the student's application. The appropriateness of the mentor will be evaluated by an Ad Hoc committee whose members come from both the Office of Professional Studies and the Drexel University College of Medicine clinical faculty. The student must submit a 7-10 page journal-format paper at the end of each semester documenting their research and demonstrating that each successive semester's work builds upon their prior work.

### **Objective**

The research project will provide students with the opportunity to develop, test and report on research hypotheses. Under the guidance of an established researcher serving as a mentor, students will develop projects suited to their areas of interest and gain practical experience in the development and critique of research.

### **Requirements**

#### **A. Topic/Subject:**

Research may include a broad spectrum of clinical studies such as: retrospective studies; bench-top studies in conjunction or not with pharmaceutical companies; development of new clinical methodologies/techniques, and; development/evaluation of new clinical devices. A Research topic must be proposed and approved prior to enrolling in the research course of the CRHP program. The student must submit a 7-10 page journal-format paper at the end of each semester documenting their research and demonstrating that each successive semester's work builds upon their prior work.

#### **B. Format:**

Papers should be a minimum of 7-10 double-spaced, typewritten pages exclusive of title page, abstract, illustrations, references, tables, figures and appendices. No fewer than 10 references should be used, of which at least 6 must be primary references (i.e., original

articles, books, or chapters). All referencing should follow APA format, as per University guidelines.

C. Structure/Organization:

1. Title Page
2. Abstract
3. Introduction and statement of problem or hypothesis
4. Background
5. Body of Paper (including Materials and Methods and Data and Results sections)
6. Discussion
7. Conclusion
8. References
9. Appendices (Optional)

**Advisement**

Guidance during the conduct of the research and writing of the papers will be responsibility of the research mentor. After review and approval by the mentor, the papers will be evaluated by a committee composed of two doctoral-level members of the Office of Professional Studies in the Health Sciences.

**Institutional Approvals**

Any research that uses human or animal subjects must have documented approval from the student's IRB and/or IACUC institutional committees

**Evaluation**

Students will receive a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade for each journal-type paper.



