How to interpret an ophthalmologic consult note, and how to
residents and review the differential diagnosis of the "red eye,”
service. The students work closely with the ophthalmology
four weeks of their surgery clerkship on the ophthalmology
During the third year, students are given the opportunity to spend
receive a refresher lecture and lab on direct ophthalmoscopy
During the second year of the Legacy Curriculum, students will
are involved in that patient’s visit. During the Ophthalmology
rotations, medical students will often focus on longitudinal patient
care by following a specific patient from the time they arrive
until they leave and seeing how all health care team members
are involved in that patient’s visit. During the Ophthalmology
Procedural Immersion, students spend time in the University
Eye Clinic and in the pediatric and adult subspecialty clinics
and operating rooms, and they attend rounds with an inpatient
consult team. This early exposure to clinical experience helps
students to contextualize the classroom and clinical learning that
they continue with over the next two phases.

Legacy Curriculum: Second Year
During the second year of the Legacy Curriculum, students will
receive a refresher lecture and lab on direct ophthalmoscopy
as well as a lecture on ophthalmic manifestations of systemic
disease and primary ocular diseases.

Legacy Curriculum: Third Year
During the third year, students are given the opportunity to spend
four weeks of their surgery clerkship on the ophthalmology
service. The students work closely with the ophthalmology
residents and review the differential diagnosis of the "red eye,”
how to interpret an ophthalmologic consult note, and how to
handle ocular emergencies. During this rotation, there is again
emphasis on the use of the ophthalmoscope. Additional clinical
skills introduced to rotating students include the use of the slit
lamp and indirect ophthalmoscopy. All third-year students on
the ophthalmology rotation meet weekly for case presentations
with faculty and other medical students on the rotation. They
also attend lectures periodically throughout their month in
ophthalmology.

Legacy Curriculum: Fourth Year
The Ophthalmology Sub-Internship Rotation occurs during this
time. During the month of June prior to their fourth year, students
interested in pursuing a career in ophthalmology are encouraged
to complete this intensive four-week rotation. Students will have
personal indirect ophthalmoscopy lenses available for use on the
rotation. Formal didactic sessions and workshops will be used to
teach students how to perform a detailed ophthalmic history and
exam, including the mastery of advanced slit lamp techniques
and indirect fundoscopy. There will be an intense schedule of
both live and recorded lectures delivered by ophthalmology
faculty members, with post-lecture quizzes. Students will be
expected to perform daily required reading. Retention and
understanding of reading materials will be assessed by frequent
quizzes. Students are strongly encouraged to present a case
at the department's grand rounds. By the end of the rotation,
students will be expected to function at the level of a first-year
ophthalmology resident.

Curriculum Courses

M50 Ophth 801 Ophthalmology
This elective is for senior students who plan to apply for
a residency in Ophthalmology. In accordance with any
subinternship, medical students will be expected to function
at the level of a beginning first-year ophthalmology resident
on this rotation. The students will rotate through the resident
eye clinic and the subspecialty clinics of the full time faculty
of the Washington University Medical School Department of
Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (e.g., neuro-ophthalmology
service, cornea/external disease service, etc.). Students may opt
to check out indirect ophthalmoscopy lenses that may be used
for the month to facilitate the acquisition of fundoscopy skills.
During the rotation, the student’s responsibilities range from
observation to working at a resident level and completing full
eye examinations. There will be a rigorous academic curriculum
for the rotation, including a weekly case presentation, weekly
attendance at grand rounds, and a mix of medical student-
oriented and resident-oriented conferences. On day one,
students will receive a rotating call schedule for the entire month.
A medical student is expected to be present at all times to assist
the primary call ophthalmology resident during the rotation.
By the end of the four-week rotation, the student is expected
to be proficient in taking an ocular history and performing a
complete eye exam including slit lamp biomicroscopy and
indirect ophthalmoscopy. All students interested in this senior
elective must contact Course Director in March of year WUMS-
III. The final grade of the student is determined by input from the
director of the particular service(s) through which the student
rotated, plus the case presentations.
M50 Ophth 816 Away Rotation in Ophthalmology
This four-week elective is for senior students from medical schools across the United States who are in good standing at their home institution and who are planning to apply for a residency in ophthalmology. To enroll in this elective, students must first apply online for the elective via the visiting student application service (VSAS). These applications will be reviewed and invitations will then be sent to individuals to enroll in the elective. Due to large demand, not all eligible away students will be accepted for the rotation. The dates for this elective are not flexible. The students will rotate through the resident eye clinic and the subspecialty clinics of the full time faculty of the Washington University Medical School Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (e.g., neuro-ophthalmology service, cornea/external disease service, etc.). In exchange for a refundable deposit, students may opt to check-out indirect ophthalmoscopy lenses that may be used for the month to facilitate the acquisition of fundoscopy skills. During the rotation, the student's responsibilities range from observation (including observing surgery) to working at a resident level and completing full eye examinations. Didactics will include weekly case presentation sessions, weekly attendance at grand rounds, and a mix of medical student-oriented and resident-oriented conferences. Also, there will be medical student-oriented workshops to learn the basics of the slit lamp and indirect ophthalmoscopy. On day one, students will receive a schedule of conferences that they are expected to attend during the month. By the end of the four-week rotation, the student is expected to be proficient in taking an ocular history and performing a complete eye exam including slit lamp biomicroscopy and indirect ophthalmoscopy.

M50 Ophth 900 Research Elective - Ophthalmology
Research opportunities may be available. If interested, please contact the Department of Ophthalmology.