

# Department of Pathology & Immunology

Website: <https://pathology.wustl.edu>

## Courses

Visit online course listings to view offerings for M60 Path (<https://courses.wustl.edu/CourseInfo.aspx?sch=M&dept=M60>).

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### M60 Path 523 Immunology

The course consists of lectures, laboratory exercises and clinical correlations. It covers all aspects of the immune response - general properties of the immune system, effector molecules, cells and their function, cellular interactions, vaccines, and immunological diseases. Two laboratory exercises focus on blood typing and allergy. Students will also meet in groups (20-25 students) with clinicians to discuss a variety of clinical cases that relate to the course material.

Credit 37 units.

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### M60 Path 665 Pathology

This course is a comprehensive survey of the biology and morphology of human disease through a combination of lectures and laboratory sessions. The year begins with a review of basic disease mechanisms at the cellular and molecular level. Subsequently, the pathogenesis and characteristics of important diseases involving each organ system of the body are presented. During the year, students will become familiar with the methods of contemporary pathologic analysis. They will also learn how the results of pathologic studies are used in the clinical setting to establish diagnoses, to assess prognosis and response to therapy, and to evaluate the quality of patient care.

Credit 115 units.

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### M60 Path 702 Laboratory Medicine Clerkship

This elective is designed to teach the student how clinical laboratory assays are used in the diagnosis of disease and to understand the quality assurance tools the laboratory utilizes to assure the reliability of tests. The two-week elective includes rotations through laboratories in clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, transfusion medicine, molecular diagnostics and hematopathology. During the elective the student will have a daily schedule, which includes didactic sessions with senior staff and house staff. Particularly useful clinical skills to be acquired include: morphology of peripheral blood smears and bone marrow biopsies; interpretation of coagulation tests, biomarkers of cardiac damage and serum protein electrophoresis patterns. Also covered are appropriate use of blood component therapy, and therapeutic apheresis and identification of infectious organisms. Students will attend quality assurance meetings with senior staff, participate in microbiology rounds and present case discussions during this elective.

Credit 77 units.

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### M60 Path 750 Surgical Pathology Clerkship

This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of surgical pathology and to encourage the development of basic skills in gross pathology and histopathological interpretation. The Laboratory of Surgical Pathology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical biopsy material in addition to specimens derived from the busy surgical subspecialty practices. As a result, this elective is beneficial not only for students considering a career in pathology, but also for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, radiation oncology and dermatology. Students on this elective will (1) Learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) Acquire skills in the gross examination and microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation and (3) Learn the role of the pathologist in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care and management of patients. Students will function as junior house staff managing their own cases with supervision from residents, fellows and attending pathologists. Students may also wish to participate in ongoing research projects within the Department as time, and interest, allows. The daily schedule for students begins at 8:00 a.m. with morning conference. In general, the student will be able to complete all gross examination and sign-out activities by 4:30 p.m. Students are welcome to stay beyond 4:30 p.m. to participate in any of the academic or other working activities of the Division. Student time distribution: Clinical duties 85%, Conference/Lectures 15%; Major teaching responsibility: Attending staff, residents and fellows; Patients seen/weekly: N/A; On call/weekend responsibility: None

Credit variable, maximum 77 units.

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### M60 Path 805 Autopsy Pathology

This elective is designed to introduce students to autopsy pathology. Students will assist in performing autopsies, and together with the first-year pathology residents, will participate in all of the activities of the Autopsy Service including brain cutting, specialty microscopic conferences, and weekly autopsy case conferences. Students will be under the direction of senior pathology faculty. Note that this elective is not available during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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### M60 Path 807 Dermatopathology

The student will be involved in all activities of the dermatopathology service. These include review, discussion, and signout of microscopic skin specimens. Signout occurs each day with a team that includes an attending, fellow, and residents from both dermatology and pathology. The medical student will work closely with the residents and fellow to preview cases prior to signout. Dermatopathology Grand Rounds is held Thursday mornings and is mandatory. In addition, dermatopathology slide review conferences are held most Tuesday mornings and are mandatory (schedule will be provided). Other learning opportunities include informal unknown slide sessions and consensus conferences. The primary goal of this elective is to acquire basic competence in the diagnosis of skin diseases at the microscopic level.

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### M60 Path 812 General Cytopathology

This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of Cytopathology and to encourage the development of basic skills. Cytopathology impacts many different areas of patient care and medical practice. The Cytopathology Laboratory at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical cytology material involving fine needle aspiration biopsies

(FNA), body fluids and Pap tests. As a result, the elective is beneficial for students considering a career in pathology and for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, OB/GYN, ENT, and radiology. The focus of the experience can be customized based on the interest of the student. Desk space and a microscope are provided. Students on the elective will (1) learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) acquire skills in the microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation, and (3) learn the role of the cytopathologist in the care and management of patients. Students will have the opportunity to function as junior house staff managing their own cases with supervision from residents, fellows, and attending cytopathologist. There are text books and extensive study sets to permit students to focus on specific areas of interest. The daily schedule for student begins previewing the cytology cases at 8:00 am. The student will attend daily pathology noon didactic conferences. In general, the student will be able to complete sign-out activities by 4:30 pm.

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#### **M60 Path 813 Molecular Pathology**

This elective is designed to introduce students to the field of Molecular Pathology, including established molecular diagnostics and Next Generation Sequencing clinical assays. Students will learn through observation in the laboratory, didactic sessions, resident and fellow presentations, sign out with attending pathologists, and clinical informatics workshops. Opportunities for assay validation as well as additional instruction in cytogenomics are available and tailored to student interest. Students will work with residents/fellows on the rotation and participate as part of the team.

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#### **M60 Path 815 OB/GYN Pathology**

This elective is a subinternship in Ob/Gyn pathology. The expectation is that the student participate in the service along with house officer rotating on the service. The elective stresses the principles of anatomic pathology when applied to operative material in obstetrics and gynecology. The sub-intern will examine gross and microscopic specimens in the Ob/Gyn Pathology Lab and review the histology along with pertinent literature with a senior pathologist. The elective is appropriate both for students intending a career in pathology, and those intending careers in other specialties. The student will gain familiarity with the diagnosis of more common OB/Gyn diagnoses, including malignancy, and premalignant conditions, as well as placental conditions. Ample time will be available for attending conferences in both OB/Gyn and Pathology.

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#### **M60 Path 820 Surgical Pathology**

This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of Surgical Pathology and to encourage the development of basic skills in gross pathology and histopathological interpretation. The Laboratory of Surgical Pathology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical biopsy material in addition to specimens derived from the busy surgical subspecialty practices. As a result, this elective is beneficial not only for students considering a career in pathology, but also for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, radiation oncology and dermatology. Students on this elective will (1) learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) acquire skills in the gross examination and microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation, and (3) learn the role of the pathologist in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care and management of patients. Students will function as junior house staff, managing their own cases with

supervision from residents, fellows, and attending pathologists. Students may also wish to participate in ongoing research projects within the department as time and interest allow. At the end of the rotation, students are required to do a formal case presentation for the residents, fellows, and attending staff. The daily schedule for students begins at 8:00 am with morning conference. In general, the student will be able to complete all gross examination and sign-out activities by 4:30 pm. Students are welcome to stay beyond 4:30 pm to participate in any of the academic or other working activities of the Division.

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#### **M60 Path 825 Introduction to Neuropathology**

The course is structured to give the student a full-time immersion in the specialty of Neuropathology, including both Neurosurgical and Neuroautopsy derived material. The course is structured to give the student a full-time immersion in the specialty of neuropathology, including both neurosurgical and neuroautopsy derived material. There are daily didactic sessions that cover the spectrum of neurological diseases, review gross and microscopic neuro-anatomy, discuss approaches to the diagnosis of nervous system disease, and point out the interrelationships of research to clinical problems. Multiple clinical conferences and diagnostic working sessions complement reading, use of a large microscopic divisional study set and project work.

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#### **M60 Path 860 Clinical Laboratory Medicine**

This elective rotation is designed to teach the student how clinical laboratory assays are used in the diagnosis of disease and to understand the quality assurance tools the laboratory utilizes to assure the reliability of tests. The elective includes rotations through a variety of clinical laboratories including clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, hematopathology, molecular pathology, and transfusion medicine. During the elective the student will have a daily schedule, which includes didactic sessions with faculty and regular interactions with house staff. Some examples of useful clinical skills acquired during the experience include: morphologic review of peripheral blood smears and bone marrow biopsies; interpretation of coagulation tests, biomarkers of cardiac damage and serum protein electrophoresis patterns; identification of infectious organisms; and appropriate use of blood component therapy and therapeutic apheresis. The rotation culminates with a case discussion presented by the medical student which focuses on application of clinical laboratory evaluations to direct patient care.

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#### **M60 Path 900 Research Elective - Pathology**

Research opportunities may be available. If interested, please contact the Department of Pathology and Immunology.

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