



"HARNESSING MEDICINE & HEALTHCARE"

Chartered and registered by:

The Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission (J-TEC),
Ministry of Education, Youth & Information – Jamaica (West Indies).
Registration Number: 2022082018

Accreditation by the University Council of Jamaica:
Stage 1 'Candidacy Status' approved.

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BIMS (SOM-HP)

FOUR-YEAR MD PROGRAM

The BIMS (SOM-HP) aims to provide:

An integrated and flexible curriculum that promotes the skill and art of medicine, critical thinking, and lifelong learning needed to succeed as a practicing physician.

BIMS SOM-HP'S educational program utilizes the most innovative and current methods for delivery of a medical education leading to the MD – Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree after Four (4) years of study:

FOUR YEAR MD PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The MD program further consists of a [162-week curriculum](#) that is typically completed within four calendar years:

- **Total Years = 4**
- **Total Weeks = 162**
- **Total Credits = 236**
- **Total Credit Hours = 708**

The Four-Year MD program is classified into two phases:

A. BASIC SCIENCES (PRECLINICAL):

Year 1 and 2 of academic years comprises a total of:

- Two years
- 80 weeks
- 156 Credits
- 468 credit hours of study at BIMS (SOM-HP) campus in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

B. CLINICAL TRAINING

Year 3 and 4 of academic years comprises a total of:

- Two years
- 82 weeks
- 80 Credits
- 240 credit hours of rotating through clerkships in the Clinical Sciences at BIMS (SOM-HP) associated teaching and participating hospitals principally in the United States, Jamaica, wider Caribbean and Asia

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BIOPRIST INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE, HEALTH SCIENCES & RESEARCH

BIMS United States office: 16192 Coastal Hwy, Lewes, DE-19958, USA.

Institution's location: 1211 Providence Drive, Ironshore Highway, Montego Bay – JAMAICA (West Indies).

Group Headquarters: Bioprist Knowledge Parks HQ – 1A Pimento Way, Freeport, Montego Bay, Jamaica (WI).

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CREDITS & CREDIT HOURS

A total of **708 credit hours** are required at BIMS (SOM-HP) to obtain the Doctor of medicine Degree, as follows:

- **Years 1 & 2:** Introduction to basic sciences with correlated subject wise teaching, incorporating basic and clinical sciences in the study of an organ system, **for a total of 468 credit hours.**
- **Years 3 & 4:** Clinical training is directed towards the area of clinical medicine that are important in family practice, **for a total of 240 credit hours.**

These are:

	Year I	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
	Semester 1	16 Weeks	30	90
	Semester 2	16 Weeks	32	96
	Semester 3	16 Weeks	37	111
TOTAL Year 1	Three Semesters	48 Weeks	99	297

	Year II	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
	Semester 4	16 Weeks	30	90
	Semester 5	16 Weeks	27	81
TOTAL Year 2	Two Semesters	32 Weeks	57	171

	Year III	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
	Internal Medicine	12 Weeks	12	36
	General Surgery	12 Weeks	12	36
	Paediatrics (Adolescent) Medicine	06 Weeks	06	18
	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	08 Weeks	06	18
	Psychiatry	04 Weeks	06	18
TOTAL Year 3		42 Weeks	42	126

	Year IV	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
	Family Medicine	04 Weeks	04	12
	Additional Electives	36 Weeks	34	112
TOTAL Year 4		40 Weeks	38	114

TOTAL for 4 Years **162 Weeks** **236 Credits** **708 Credit Hrs.**

DOR: 25 May 2024

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MEDICAL CURRICULUM

OVERVIEW

The medical curriculum offered at BIMS (SOM-HP) has adopted a flexible and an innovative trend in medical education with the delivery of a medical school curriculum which brings together the medical disciplines through integration of those branches but from a technology driven platform to:

- foster greater communication and cooperation among departments.
- develop a holistic perspective on the function of the human body in health and disease.
- develop an understanding of the basic sciences and find that the knowledge gained will be useful in the laboratory in the hospital or the physician's office.

The **four-year** MD Program is spread over four years (162 Weeks):

1. Years 1 and 2: **80 WEEKS** – BASIC SCIENCES (Preclinical)
2. Years 3 and 4: **82 WEEKS** – CLINICAL TRAINING
3. **GLOBAL HEALTH TRACK (GHT) PROGRAMME** - a four-year longitudinal track embedded into its curriculum.

- ❖ Year 1 and 2: Two academic years / 80 weeks of study at BIMS (SOM-HP) campus in Montego Bay, Jamaica and
- ❖ Year 3 and 4: Two academic years / 82 weeks of rotating through clerkships in the Clinical Sciences at teaching hospitals principally in the United States, Jamaica, Wider Caribbean and Asia.

The BIMS – SOM-HP aims to provide:

An integrated and flexible curriculum that promotes the skill and art of medicine, critical thinking, and lifelong learning needed to succeed as a practicing physician.

BIMS SOM-HP'S educational program utilises the most innovative and current methods for delivery of a medical education leading to the MD – Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree after Four (4) years of study:

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CLINICAL SCIENCES CURRICULUM

CLINICAL TRAINING

ACADEMIC YEARS 3 & 4 is GCCR - GRADUATE CLINICAL CORE ROTATION period.

- **YEAR 3:** CORE ROTATIONS (Concentrated clinical training)
- **YEAR 4:** ELECTIVES and SUB-INTERNSHIPS

The Clinical Years - Year 3 and 4 of academic years comprises a total of:

- Two years
- 82 weeks
- 80 Credits
- 240 credit hours of rotating through clerkships in the Clinical Sciences at BIMS (SOM-HP) associated teaching and participating hospitals principally in the United States, Jamaica, wider Caribbean and Asia.

These rotations are assigned by the Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs.

In the Years 3 and 4, while doing clinical rotations; students will also attend scheduled didactic sessions at assigned hospitals.

CLINICAL ROTATIONS / CLERKSHIPS / PRECEPTORSHIP

During these YEAR 3 AND 4 students will be required to successfully complete the entire clerkships or preceptorship.

Each of the clerkships is for a period of four weeks and is defined as one clinical rotation. Thus, in total it is 82 weeks.

Clinical training is directed toward the field of medicine that are important in clinical practice, for a total of 240 credit hours.

CORE ROTATIONS

YEAR 3 – CLINICAL TRAINING (126 Credit hours)

Year III	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
Internal Medicine	12 Weeks	12	36
General Surgery	12 Weeks	12	36
Pediatrics (Adolescent) Medicine	06 Weeks	06	18
Obstetrics & Gynecology	08 Weeks	06	18
Psychiatry	04 Weeks	06	18
TOTAL Year 3	42 Weeks	42	126

ELECTIVES & SUBINTERNSHIPS

YEAR 4 – CLINICAL TRAINING (114 Credit hours)

Year IV	Duration (Weeks)	Credits	Credit Hours
Family Medicine	04 Weeks	04	12
Additional Electives	36 Weeks	34	112
TOTAL Year 4	40 Weeks	38	114

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ALL ELECTIVES IN YEAR 4

1. RADIOLOGY	4 WEEKS
2. DERMATOLOGY	4 WEEKS
3. INFECTIOUS DISEASES	4 WEEKS
4. PREVENTIVE MEDICINE	2 WEEKS
5. EMERGENCY MEDICINE	4 WEEKS
6. HAEMATOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY	2 WEEKS
7. ANAESTHESIA, CRITICAL CARE & PAIN MANAGEMENT	4 WEEKS
8. ORTHOPAEDICS & REHAB	4 WEEKS
9. ENT	4 WEEKS
10. OPHTHALMOLOGY	4 WEEKS

- ❖ This listing does not indicate the sequence of clinical courses.
- ❖ The core rotation schedules are determined by the hospital at the time students are admitted into the clinical program.
- ❖ In general, students complete their core rotations before doing additional requirements and electives.
- ❖ Electives listed below are examples of the many options available. Elective choices and schedules are arranged individually by students, in consultation with the hospital administration.
- ❖ Hospitals have the option of requiring students to attend an orientation. This orientation can last up to a week and is a non-credit experience.
- ❖ Clinical rotations begin in January, July, and October.
- ❖ The calendar is subject to change.

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GLOBAL HEALTH TRACK

BIMS (SOM-HP) recognizes the importance of integrating the Global Health Track program as a comprehensive, four-year longitudinal track into its curriculum.

1. Global Health has been defined as "the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide" by the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.
2. Global Health addresses the health of populations in a global context and transcends the political boundaries of nations focusing on social determinants of health, healthcare disparities including infectious and non-communicable disease issues, human rights as well as economic development, and policy and system issues.
3. The Global Health program at BIMS (SOM-HP) is designed to support and guide students gaining knowledge of and developing skills in global health. The aim is to steer students to a subsequent career involving patient care, service, policy making, research and education at a global level.
4. Students at our BIMS (SOM-HP) will be introduced to the study of community and public health, primary care, epidemiology, and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases on a global basis. The program has as its themes:
 - A. Governance (Health Systems, Economics, Ethics, etc.)
 - B. Burden of Disease (Child Health, Women Health, and the health of other vulnerable populations, Communicable
 - C. Diseases, Non-Communicable Diseases, etc.)
 - D. Physical Mental & Social Wellbeing
 - E. Technology
 - F. Security (Environment, Complex Humanitarian Emergencies, Intelligence, etc.)
 - G. Climate Change
 - H. Medical Spanish
 - I. AHA BLS & ACLS instructor training.
5. The Global Health Track themes are woven into the Introduction to Clinical Medicine courses, the Biostatistics and Epidemiology and the Principles of Clinical Medicine courses during the PRECLINICAL / BASIC SCIENCES program.

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GLOBAL HEALTH TRACK

(BASIC SCIENCES COMPONENT)

6. The Global Health Track is a **Nine (9) Week course**, contained within the 2-year PRECLINICAL SCIENCES as:
- I. Four x 2-week blocks (spread before the completion of all the Semesters in Year 1 and 2),
 - II. One x 1-week block before the Basic-Science-Integration course and longitudinal coursework during YEARS 1 through 4.
- The course will be conducted by in-house and Adjunct faculty.
 - In addition, students will conduct field trips and exercises and are introduced to research methodology.
 - Students will also receive American Heart Association instructor training in Basic Cardiac Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support.
 - Students in the Preclinical Sciences will complete course, "an introduction to Medical Spanish". (Conditions apply)

Stringent regulation:

- ✓ **A minimum of 100% attendance is required to pass each block.**
- ✓ **No credits will be awarded for the course so there will be no effect on the students' overall GPA.**
- ✓ **But students will be graded as follows:**
 - **either a grade of "PNC" (Pass No Credit) or**
 - **"F" (Fail) accordingly.**

NB:

- To facilitate students' academic success, students who either choose or are required to repeat the term or year during the preclinical years will no longer be able to stay enrolled in the Global Health Track program (GHT) and may not re-join GHT after completion of a repeated semester or year.
- Additionally, students who voluntarily withdraw from the preclinical GHT will not be able to re-join later.

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GLOBAL HEALTH TRACK
(CLINICAL SCIENCES COMPONENT)

This is conducted at BIMS (SOM-HP) clinical sites in the USA and other BIMS affiliated clinical sites in Jamaica and other associated overseas territories.

1. Upon successful completion of requirements and acceptance by the graduate certificate program admission committee, students will participate in the ICM (1 – 4) - Introduction to Clinical Medicine rotation and the GCCR - Graduate Clinical Core Rotation Certificate Program.
2. After completion of the graduate clinical core rotation (GCCR) certificate program, students attend elective rotations through BIMS (SOM-HP) and its clinical sites in the US, Jamaica and internationally. Students can join BIMS (SOM-HP) faculty initiated international relief projects and to deepen their expertise in global health research.
3. The clinical component is supplemented by medical Spanish exposure (conditions apply).
4. 100% attendance is required during the clinical component.
5. At the completion of the program, a student should be able to:
 - Demonstrate understanding of social determinants of health, health equity, social justice, and governmental policy.
 - in terms of their impact on the distribution of health services and health outcomes in low-resource settings within the United States and internationally
 - Analyze the challenges facing the health and human rights issues specific to immigrant, migrant, internally displaced, and refugee populations.
 - Understand specific needs of vulnerable populations including the medically underserved and uninsured.
 - Demonstrate knowledge of effective advocacy strategies for health systems improvement within the global context
 - Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively and collaborate with the patient, family, and caregivers with sensitivity to sociocultural and health literacy issues so that the diagnosis and plan of care are clearly understood and pertinent to their specific situation.
 - Understand the epidemiology of global communicable and non-communicable diseases.
 - Identify and adapt evidence-based resources and tools for use in limited-resource health care settings.
 - Interact in a cross-cultural manner sufficient to deliver basic medical care, including working with translators.

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- Perform an efficient comprehensive physical examination when practicing supervised in an internationally located office, hospital, or skilled nursing setting, being mindful of cultural factors, including gender, modesty, and religious practices.
- Use clinical skills to appropriately diagnose and treat patients under supervision in the context of local resource availability.
- Select, perform, and interpret under supervision diagnostic procedures within the context of limited resource health care settings.
- Formulate a plan of care that is relevant and practical in a specific cultural setting.
- Demonstrate understanding of resources and issues pertinent to travel medicine, health risk prevention, health maintenance, and variations in health care services that are specific to international travel.
- Discuss treatment plans based on knowledge of global influences, utilizing resources that include local, state, federal, and international agencies, as applicable.
- Recognize his or her own practice limitations and seek consultation with other health care professionals and systems resources to provide optimal care within a global context.
- Understand the organization, financing, and systems health indicators of international health care systems.
- The student should develop attitudes that encompass: Commitment to lifelong learning and contribution to the body of knowledge about global health.
- Recognition of his or her own biases and stereotypes related to health care delivery in international settings.
- The need to balance compassion, humanism, realism, and practicality in the consideration of health care delivered in specific global settings.
- Respect for dignity and autonomy through self-care and self-determination within a cultural and global context.
- A desire to advocate for systems change to improve the health of the community in which he or she practices.

NB:

- Upon completion of the Global Health Track (GHT), completion of requirements of the GCCR - Graduate Clinical Core Rotation Certificate Program and all requirements for graduation from BIMS (SOM-HP) (including but not limited to passing all in-house and external exams and passing all required courses and clerkships) the student will receive the **MD degree** and the **Global Health Certificate** from BIMS (SOM-HP) as well as the certificate of completion of the Graduate Clinical Core Rotation Certificate Program from our clinical sites.

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AWARD OF DEGREE

To satisfy the requirements for graduation and obtain a Doctor of Medicine (MD degree), a student must:

1. Complete and pass all components of the Preclinical Sciences program.
2. Complete and pass all components of the Clinical Sciences program, including all core and elective rotations.
3. Pass USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK
 - a. Students must request the USMLE Certified Transcript of Scores for USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK from the ECFMG to be submitted to the Office of the Registrar as part of the degree audit.
4. Fulfil all financial and bursarial responsibilities assuring a "zero" balance.
5. Maintain good standing.

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