

685W Advanced Clinical Plastic Surgery

Course Name Advanced Clinical Plastic Surgery

Course Director Nicole Conkling, MD

Elective at a Glance

Available: [X] UCI MS3 students [X] UCI MS4 students [X] Extramural Students

Duration: 4 weeks

Number of Students: 4

Grading: H / P / F

Periods Available: Throughout the year

1. Course Director, Coordinator and General Administrative Information

FACULTY AND STAFF

Name	Office Location	Phone	Email
Director: Nicole Conkling, MD	200 S. Manchester Ave, Ste. 650, Orange, CA 92868	714-456-5253	nconkli1@hs.uci.edu
Coordinator: Cindy Rodriguez	200 S. Manchester Ave., Ste. 650, Orange, CA 92868	714-456-5253	cynthgr2@hs.uci.edu

DESCRIPTION

During the Advanced Clinical Plastic Surgery elective students will evaluate and treat adult and pediatric patients with traumatic and other acquired deformities, congenital differences, head and neck tumors, skin tumors, and hand problems. Planning of excisional and reconstructive surgery and postoperative care are included. When possible, students will be given operative experience based on their knowledge base ability to evaluate and care for patients and on their technical facility.

PREREQUISITES: Surgery Clerkship, Extramural students must be in their final year of undergraduate medical education.

RESTRICTIONS: Clerkship students need department approval before enrolling.

COURSE DIRECTOR

Dr. Nicole Conkling is a board-certified plastic and hand surgeon and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, Irvine, with dual appointments in the Departments of Plastic Surgery and Orthopedic Surgery. She received her BA in Studio Art and BS in Biology at Washington and Lee University, and her medical degree from the State University of New York at Stonybrook. She completed her integrated residency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of

California San Francisco, along with a three-year NIH-funded research fellowship in Transplant Immunology. She finished her clinical training with an Orthopedic Hand & Upper Extremity Fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine before joining the UCI faculty in 2023.

At UC Irvine, she serves as the Associate Program Director for the Plastic Surgery Residency, as well as the Medical Student Director for the Department. She also has an appointment at the Children's Hospital of Orange County where she is the Plastics Hand section chief as well as the CHOC site director for the UCI Hand Fellowship. Her clinical practice comprises a mix of adult and pediatric hand surgery, nerve surgery, and breast and general reconstructive surgery. Her research interests include pediatric hand and brachial plexus, nerve, and breast reconstruction.

Cindy Rodriguez is the course coordinator for 685W course.

INFORMATION FOR THE FIRST DAY

Who to Report to First Day: Cindy Rodriguez

Location to Report on First Day: Department of Plastic Surgery, UCI Medical Center, Manchester Pavilion, 200 S. Mancheste Ave., Ste. 650, Orange, CA 92868

Time to Report on First Day: 8:00 am

SITE: UCI Medical Center & Affiliated Hospitals

DURATION: 4 weeks

Scheduling Coordinator: UCI students please email comsched@hs.uci.edu to make a scheduling appointment.

Extramural students enrolled at a U.S. LCME medical school must use VSAS to apply. To apply please refer to the [Visiting Students Learning Opportunities website](#).

Periods Available: Throughout the year. Third year clerkship students need department approval before enrolling.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS ALLOWED: Up to 4 per rotation

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD DO TO PREPARE FOR THE COURSE

Required reading: Essentials for Students, Plastic Surgery Education Foundation (PDF will be provided)

Watch the following videos before starting the rotation:

- Wound Healing
- Flaps and Grafts
- Hand Surgery
- Head and Neck Surgery

<https://plasticsurgeryresidency.ucsf.edu/plastic-and-reconstructive-surgery-videos>

COMMUNICATION WITH FACULTY

Questions about logistics should be directed to the Course Coordinator. Direct questions, comments, or concerns about the course can be directed to the Course Director. Contact information and office location are at the beginning of this document.

Students will meet with the course director at the beginning of the rotation to review expectations, goals, and objectives. The Course Director is also available to meet in person or virtually. Please email cynthgr2@hs.uci.edu to arrange an appointment. To ensure that your email will not be lost in the large volume of email received, please use the following convention for the subject line:

SUBJECT: COURSE NAME, your last name, your issue (e.g., 685W, Smith, Request for appointment)

2. Course Objectives and Program Objective Mapping

The following are the learning objectives for the 685W course. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in these areas in order to satisfactorily complete the course. In addition, the extent of a student's mastery of these objectives will help guide the course evaluation and grade.

Course Objective	Mapped UCI School of Medicine Program Objective	Sub Competency	Core Competency
Manage all aspects of a plastic surgery patient's care.	B-5. The ability to practice effective preventive medicine by identifying, addressing and advocating for strategies to maintain health and well-being, to identify and treat disease early where appropriate and to advise on lifestyle practices	Patient Management	Skillful
Demonstrate knowledge in the planning of basic reconstructive surgery.	A-3. Knowledge of basic clinical skills required to meet the skills objectives, including interviewing, physical diagnosis, communication and clinical reasoning processes	Basic Clinical Skills	Knowledgeable

Demonstrate skill in surgical procedures.	B-2. The ability to competently perform a complete and organ-system-specific examination including a mental health status examination	Physical Exam	Skillful
Demonstrate knowledge in the surgical treatment of traumatic and acquired deformities, head and neck tumors, skin tumors and hand problems.	A-2. Knowledge of the pathogenesis of diseases, interventions for effective treatment, and mechanisms of health maintenance to prevent disease	Disease Pathogenesis and Treatment	Knowledgeable

3. Course Resources

TEXTS AND READINGS: SUGGESTED

- Essentials of Plastic Surgery, 3rd Edition, 2023; Edited by Jeffrey Janis MD. *Full online access through UCI Library (Thieme)*
- Michigan Manual of Plastic Surgery, 3rd Edition, 2023; Edited by David L. Brown MD, Widya Adidharma MD, Geoffrey Eckerson Hespe MD.
- Grabb and Smith's Plastic Surgery, 9th Edition, 2024; Edited by Kevin Chung MD.
- Plastic Surgery (6-Volume Set), 5th Edition, 2024; Edited by Peter Neligan MD. *Full online access through UCI Library (ClinicalKey)*
- Plastic Surgery Indications, Operations, and Outcomes, Mosby, 2000
- Operative Plastic Surgery, Edited by Gregory Evans MD, McGraw Hill, 2000.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Learn How to Suture with Dr. Zenn:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL004UXX1Ux84S5nwzTaH06rBidjWnTYXZ>

4. Major Exams, Assignments and Grading

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

In order to complete the course, students are required to:

- Submit a log of cases/procedures during the rotation (template will be provided)
- Deliver a 5-minute presentation on a research or plastic surgery topic of choice

GRADING

Medical Students are graded using the following scale: Honors (H), Pass (P), Fail (F) and Incomplete (I). For further information, please review the [Grading Policy](#). The student will receive a grade of Honors, Pass or Fail. The student's final grade will be submitted on the standard UCI elective form. The student will be evaluated by attending and residents in the areas of interest, participation, completion of work undertaken, and quality of understanding, knowledgebase, and professionalism. If the student fails the elective, a grade of "F" will be permanently recorded on his/her transcript. The student can repeat the course for a second grade; however, the "F" will not be removed from the transcript.

You have 30 days from the date of the grade to appeal any aspect of this grade. Please contact your Clerkship/course Director should you have any questions.

Requirements for "Pass": To receive a grade of Pass, students must demonstrate successful performance in all the following areas:

- Knowledge
- Patient Care
- Practice-Based Learning
- Interpersonal & Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Systems-Based Practice

Requirements for "Honors": To receive a grade of Honors, students must demonstrate exceptional performance in all the following areas:

- Knowledge
- Patient Care
- Practice-Based Learning
- Interpersonal & Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Systems-Based Practice

Grounds for "Incomplete": You will not be issued a grade until all elements of the course have been completed.

REMEDIATION

Remediation, if needed, will be designed by the Course Director to suit the issue at hand.

Grounds for "Fail": You will receive a grade of "Fail" if the requirements for passing the course have not been met. Please refer to the [Grading Policy](#) for the impact of the "Fail" grade to the transcript.