

## **BSHS Criteria**

A Selective will be a three-week, full-time scholarly activity for 4th year medical students emphasizing the integral role of the sciences and humanities in the practice of medicine and involving a large measure of self-directed, independent learning. Selectives will meet the following additional criteria:

- A UTMB faculty member with appropriate expertise for supervision of the subject matter under study will be responsible for the direction of the selective, although other faculty (at UTMB or elsewhere) may participate in the course at the discretion of the selective director and the Selectives Course Committee.
- A Selective may be designed either by faculty or by student(s) in conjunction with a member of the faculty.
- The selective will be appropriately rigorous for a 4th- year student.
- It may be organized within a single department or interdepartmentally.
- It must result in a graded written product, such as a research paper, literature review, science or humanities-based clinical report, grant proposal, or other such written report, although grades may be based partly on examinations and oral presentations.
- Grades will be given according to a scale of Pass, Not Recorded (NR), or Fail in accordance with grading criteria specified by the selective faculty director. Such criteria must be communicated to the student prior to the start of the selective. A student must pass every evaluated component of the selective to receive a passing grade. A student producing highly meritorious work may be recognized through a letter of commendation to the Dean from the selective director. In the case of a failing grade, the selective director will determine whether a student receives an F or NR. When a student receives a grade of NR, remediation will be designed by the Selective faculty director with approval of the BSHS course directors and the Academic Progress Committee. In receiving an F, the student must repeat the entire selective or choose another selective.
- A course may serve simultaneously as a Selective and an Elective if it meets the criteria for a Selective, but students must choose in advance whether to take it for Selective or Elective credit.
- Selectives are optional for MD/PhD students.