POM3 Project Elective

You must submit a POM3 Project Elective proposal at least 30 days before the period in which you will register for the course. If you opt to do the work before that block, that is up to you, but your faculty supervisor will need to submit a grade for you at the end of the registered block so you need to have the work finished by then.

1. It takes a student approximately 60 hours to participate in POM3 – 5 hours per month for reading, writing and the small group. Since you put in 60h for POM3 without receiving credit, you are only require 60h work minimum to complete the elective. Combined, they add up to the 120h required as a minimum for an elective. You will need to explain how your time will be allotted, to justify receiving credit.

2. The POM3 project elective was created for students who really wanted to further explore one of the topics of the course. The topics for the POM3 course are so-called “orphan topics” important for the practice of medicine but not clearly linked to one of the classic clerkship disciplines. The topics include: healthcare teams, healthcare finance, medical errors, professionalism, cultural competence and disability, images of medicine, types of practice, domestic violence, burnout and the impaired physician, billing, coding and documentation, legal issues in medicine, and finding joy in medicine. Very cool projects have resulted. Examples include working with a Texas county to help establish a child advocacy center (related to the domestic violence topic), writing a paper comparing medical care in Iran to the US (cultural competence), creating a teaching module about medical student burnout with resources (now used in the POM1 course), writing and producing a one act play about med student experiences (images of medicine).

3. Your proposal will also need to explain what the “deliverable” will be – it could be a paper, a website, a PowerPoint, a presentation, etc., and the timeline for completion. You must have a faculty mentor for the project – you need to find that individual and discuss your plan before you submit your proposal. Your past POM3 facilitator is a good start, or a person on campus you know has expertise in the area your project includes.

4. These are not research projects – those should be research electives. These are not simply putting in volunteer hours. This is a new undertaking, not something you already get credit for or something you do on your off time and want credit for. This is an opportunity to explore a topic you are passionate about.

The proposal is submitted on a brief form at least one month before the period begins. The website for the form is: [https://ar.utmb.edu/som/POM3RForm/RFlogin.asp](https://ar.utmb.edu/som/POM3RForm/RFlogin.asp). The information you will need to include:

1. Relation to POM3 themes
2. Feasibility – what are you going to do and how?
3. Will take at least 60h – how will your time be allotted?
4. Has a clear “deliverable” that will allow judgment that the project was completed in a satisfactory manner
5. Has an identified faculty mentor
6. Is not already getting you credit some other way
7. Timeline for completion is agreed upon by student and mentor