MDY600 Independent Study – Survey of Medical Physics Research Projects Spring Semester

Course coordinator: Medical Physics Program Director

Course Description:

One credit hour independent study (MDY600 RUD) is required for first-year medical physics graduate students in the Spring semester. The primary purpose of the course is for students to explore research interests and identify potential advisors for their graduate study. Students are expected to meet with at least four faculty members to obtain basic knowledge of their research interests and research projects. They will then write a one-page summary for each of four projects and submit it to the course coordinator. Students should identify one research topic as their potential Master’s or PhD project\* and write a 2-4 page synopsis consisting of a discussion of the specific aims, background, and research methods for this project, along with a listing of relevant references. A presentation of this synopsis will be given at either the imaging or the radiation therapy seminar.

Objectives:

* To explore research interests and/or potential research projects.
* To identify potential advisors for graduate study.
* To present a synopsis of a potential research project at a medical physics seminar.

Recommended Timeline: \*\*

* By March 8: Contact and meet with 4 faculty members to discuss their research.
* March 15: Submit a one-page summary of research interests/topics for these 4 faculty members to the course coordinator.
* March 18 – April 22: Prepare a 2 to 4 page synopsis of the one selected research project.
* April 22 – May 3: Present the research project synopsis at a seminar
* May 7th: Final date to submit a 2 to 4 page written synopsis to the course coordinator

Grading:

Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory based on the feedback of faculty advisor(s) and the quality of the written submissions and the presentation.

Notes:

\*The student will not be bound to choose this project for their Master’s or PhD research or be precluded from changing such in the future.

\*\* Scheduling is to be arranged by the student