OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL
The Clerkship is the culmination of the required experiences in Pediatrics, providing the student with the opportunity to apply the knowledge learned in the third year and gain additional experience in the direct clinical management of acutely ill patients in a critical care environment. This Clerkship is focused on the “acute” patient in the intensive care unit. The student will actively participate on a critical care team in a pediatric unit working with faculty and other care providers. The educational experience will include supervised clinical experiences, didactic lectures, case based learning and self-study.

OBJECTIVES
Students will:
1) Master the initial evaluation of an acutely ill patient
2) Gain experience in a critical care environment performing invasive diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
3) Develop higher level function in the management of the perioperative and intensive care unit patients

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES
Students will participate in all aspects of ICU care while practicing all infection control & universal precaution procedures. Learning the philosophy, priorities and techniques of initial resuscitation and evaluation of patients with injury, operative stress, respiratory failure and shock as well as understanding the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations & differential diagnosis of shock and understanding the principles of preventative ICU monitoring of unstable or potentially unstable patients (i.e. monitoring for neurologic deterioration, signs of hemorrhage, cardiac dysrhythmias, impending respiratory failure, etc.). Students will demonstrate their knowledge in patient care by recognizing, treating and preventing complications of injury, respiratory failure and shock learn the principles of managing patients in a complex, multidiscipline environment requiring effective communication between patients, multiple health professionals and families. Develop and implement plans of treatment of patients in shock, acute trauma patients and post-operative patients in the ICU while understanding the pathophysiology and clinical manifestations of pulmonary, cardiac, renal nutritional and multi-system organ failure. Students will learn the basic principles and commonly used modes of mechanical ventilation & be able to prescribe ventilator settings; understand the principles, indications, limitation and physiology of invasive monitoring techniques (e.g. arterial & central venous catheters, intracranial pressure monitors) and be able to interpret the information obtained. Students will perform emergency and daily physical examinations on critically ill patients and prepare progress notes in the ICU under supervision while working with ancillary personnel (nurses, lab & x-ray techs, etc.) in a collaborative fashion.

METHOD OF EVALUATION
Students have daily dialogs with the faculty and receive frequent formative feedback during the rotation. The mechanism for determination of students’ final grades is identical at all sites. The final grade reflects: Clinical Experience and Didactic Education. Students work as integral members of a critical care team providing patient care under the supervision of attending faculty. There are Core and Case-Based Learning lectures featuring both traditional and problem focused teaching experiences. Students will attend conferences and teaching rounds which include ICU, Case Conferences, Pediatric Grand Rounds, as well as Mentor conferences. Self-directed learning will require use of computer programs, internet resources, and textbooks. The final grade is decided by weighting the Faculty Global Assessment form (60%); the final OSCE (20%) and a Case Presentation (20%).