

POINT-OF-CARE ULTRASOUND
Vertical Integrated Curriculum
Overview

The benefit of point-of-care ultrasound as an adjunct for diagnostic and treatment management has been clearly identified with an increasing utilization in clinical practice. This benefit spans across multiple specialties with a growing demand to teach point of care ultrasound earlier in the medical education. Stritch has acknowledged the importance of this skill by developing a 4-year vertically integrated curriculum in Point-of-Care Ultrasound that introduces students to basic ultrasound concepts, bedside ultrasound skills, clinical application protocols, and allows for the continued practice of physician-patient communication.

During the M1 year, students are taught in both lecture and workshop format foundational ultrasound concepts and normal findings to augment their anatomy and physiology courses. These skills are reinforced during the M2 year, with the additional introduction of pathologic findings. Clinical application of point-of-care ultrasound is achieved during the M3 and M4 years, which offers students the opportunity to continue honing their image acquisition skills and developing diagnostic and therapeutic plans based off their ultrasound data.