Organization

The first-year academic program is divided into two semesters of instruction as indicated below:

**Semester I (21 credit hours)**
- Anatomy I - 3 hrs.
- Embryology - 2 hrs.
- Biochemistry - 3 hrs.
- Histology I - 2 hrs.
- Introduction to Human Disease I - 1 hr.
- Physiology I - 3 hrs.
- Medical Statistics - 2 hrs.
- Medical Genetics - 2 hrs.
- Immuno/Micro I - 3 hrs.

**Semester II (18 credit hours)**
- Anatomy II - 3 hrs.
- Biochemistry (1st half of sem.)-1hr.
- Histology II - 1 hr.
- Introduction to Human Disease II -1 hr.
- Physiology II - 3 hrs.
- Neuroscience - 4 hrs.
- Behavioral Science - 2 hrs.
- Immuno/Micro II - 3 hrs.

Lectures

Lectures, laboratory sessions, and small group sessions are the principal vehicles of instruction at UICOM-UC. Lectures serve primarily to highlight important aspects of the written or online curriculum. In addition they often provide more up-to-date information, assistance in working with aspects of a discipline that are often found to be troublesome, and an example of how a skilled professional looks at a subject. Every effort is made to keep the number of lecture hours at a minimum, and the faculty seeks to provide lectures in areas where experience indicates that they are required. Although attendance at lectures is not required, it is expected. Additional instruction is presented in small group settings. With the use of I-clickers, it will be possible for faculty to give in-class quizzes and take attendance.

Laboratories

Laboratory instruction during the fall semester is provided in gross anatomy, histology, immuno/micro, and physiology. In the spring semester, laboratory work is offered in gross anatomy, histology, immuno/micro, and neuroscience. Consult the instructional schedule for dates and times that you are assigned to laboratories.
Clinical Preceptorship Program

You may elect to participate in the Clinical Preceptorship Program (CPP). This program is staffed by a group of area physicians who serve as advisors and whose offices you will visit as an observer. In the past, most first-year students have elected to participate in this program, and many have found the experience valuable in integrating aspects of the basic medical sciences with clinical situations. Details about the CPP program will be presented early in the year.

Lifelong Learning Strategies

You may elect to participate in the Lifelong Learning Strategies elective course (for credit) that begins after the first examination. The goal of the course is to help students develop an individual learning plan that aids in their effective and efficient learning during medical school and beyond. This course is taught by faculty from Urbana, Peoria and Rockford and Dean Kies is the discipline coordinator. You can register on-line for the course on the Academic Affairs web page.

Examinations

Progress Examinations and Final Examinations
During the fall semester there are three sets of examinations that contribute to a final grade in the fall semester courses and to the semester cumulative score for the all-year courses. The first of these examinations is administered in late September and the second examination occurs in late October. Final examinations in December cover material from the entire semester.

In the spring semester examinations are spread out across the semester. Biochemistry ends during the first week of March. More specific information is presented in the Examination Schedule on the next page.

Anatomy has 7 exams spread throughout the academic year. The written exams are integrated with the 7 skills exams, and are taken in the morning and skills exams are given in the afternoon of the same day. During the Fall semester the medical statistics exams will be taken with the three anatomy skills exams. During the Spring semester, various courses are paired with the morning Anatomy exams. Again, refer to the Examination Schedule for more specific dates.

Examination Format
All examinations are on-line using the College's examination software.

The United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1 formats are used extensively in the M-1 examination program. In most cases, items consist of a question or statement followed by three to five response options. Some questions require interpretation of data or images. Response options are lettered (A, B, C, D, E) and students are instructed to select the best answer.
A few items are in matching format. For example, a list of possible responses is presented, followed by statements or phrases. Students are instructed to select the best answer with the possibility of an option being selected once, more than once, or not at all. Some are short answer format.

Additional Assessments

Laboratory Skills Examinations are administered in Anatomy and Immuno/Micro. You are required to take and pass all of these examinations. It is important to become familiar with the Skills Examination policies in each of these disciplines. In IHD, all students are required to research an assigned case and then co-lead a small group discussion. Students must participate in and pass this performance assessment. Additional quizzes and other assessments may also be required in other disciplines. Be sure to check discipline websites and other sources of information for specific details.

Examination Schedule
The Examination Schedule, posted on the Academic Affairs web page, presents the dates of Progress and Final Examinations, the number of items and total time for each examination. A brief non-inclusive description of additional assessments is also presented.

Grades

In some disciplines, final grades are awarded at the end of the semester. At the end of the Fall Semester, final grades are given for Medical Statistics, Medical Genetics and Embryology. At the end of the Spring Semester, final grades are awarded for Behavioral Science and Neuroscience.

The Biochemistry final grade is given following the February/March examination. Single grades for the entire year are given for Anatomy, Histology, Introduction to Human Disease, and Physiology at the end of the Spring Semester.

Examination Results

Students receive their results on examinations on-line, within one week of the exam. May examination and year-long grades are available after approval by the Student Progress and Promotion Committee in mid-June.

Academic Program Administration

Each academic discipline has a designated coordinator who is responsible for all aspects of instruction in that subject. A list of these Discipline Coordinators is provided in the Orientation Packet. Any questions concerning instruction in a particular discipline should be addressed to the appropriate Discipline Coordinator.
Other personnel directly involved in administration of the M-1 program include:

Dr. Susan M. Kies, 255 MSB, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, has overall responsibility for instructional programs, including assessment and evaluation at UICOM-UC. (217) 333-5222 kies@illinois.edu

Staff:
Ms. Carien Williams, 253 MSB, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and Academic Skill Specialist, Urban Health Office (217)333-4945
Ms. Melinda Elam, 253 MSB, Secretary to Urban Health Office (217)244-7808
Ms. Gayle Nelsen, Secretary for Assessment
Ms. Becky Day, 255 MSB, Secretary (217)333-3786.
Ms. Sonya Grindley, 253 MSB, Administrative Aid to Associate Dean (217)244-4465
Ms. Mary Mortland, 379 MSB, supervises all laboratories except for anatomy labs, which are supervised by Ms. Martha Sweeney.