

Department of Neurology Grading Policy for the Junior Clerkship

Neurology Clerkship Assessment & Grading Policy

Students are responsible for being aware of the following assessment policies:

- Assessment policy for Phases 2 and 3 (AWOME will provide links)
- Examination policy (AWOME will provide links)

Section I: Components of the grade

Your clerkship grade will be derived from the following components.

The final grade will be out of 100 points, with the following breakdown:

Component	% (or points) towards final grade
Faculty/resident clinical performance assessment	45 points
OSCE	20 points
Neurology Case Based Assessment	15 points
NBME	10 points
H&P Assignment	5 points
Professionalism / Assessments	5 points

An explanation of each component follows the above table

A. Clinical Score: 45 points

Resident, fellows, and attending evaluations are given equal weight. Using evaluations from meetings, emails, and CPA form assessments, the final grade on the evaluation form will be assigned points (60 - 100). Based on the Clerkship Director's assessment of grading patterns of faculty and residents, as well as other extenuating factors (e.g. professionalism issues), the Clerkship Director may modify the final clinical grade. Included in your clinical grade is assessment of professionalism.

Students must demonstrate professional behavior by being punctual, attending required conferences, completing electronic clerk log completely and on time, turning in all assignments (e.g. Ethics and H&P/MDM) on time, and alerting the clerkship administration and appropriate team members (e.g. attending and senior resident) to any unforeseen absences (e.g., due to illness) in a timely fashion. You must also maintain professional dress and demeanor and develop professional relationships with peers, faculty and staff.

B. OSCE: 20 points

The OSCE consists of two standardized patients for whom you will follow the instructions at the station to take an appropriate history, perform a physical examination, complete a write up, and answer questions post encounter

C. Case Based Assessment (15 points) Following the OSCE, there will be a short case-based assessment that you will complete via computer. All cases are based on didactics from the clerkship. There are four total questions.

- a. 2 multiple choice (5 points)
- b. 2 short answer (10 points)

D. NBME: 10 points

- National Board of Medical Examiners- Neurology Exam provides one tool for measuring examinees' understanding of the basic biomedical and clinical sciences. Student will obtain a full 10 points for the Shelf/NBME section of their grade if they obtain a "passing score." Our passing score is based on the national 10th percentile on the 2021 to 2022 academic year. This is a score of 71%.
- Students scoring below a 71% will need to retake and successfully pass the exam. The highest possible final grade for the clerkship will be a 'pass' by NU FSM policy. If a student does not achieve a passing score on second attempt, they will need to remediate the rotation with extra time and retake the exam again.
- If the student fails the NBME Subject Examination but has completed all the other requirements of the clerkship, the final clerkship grade is an Incomplete. The student will be referred to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and the Director, Learning and Educational Support to create a learning plan and will be provided resources for study skills as indicated. The student must retake the examination within six months of completing the clerkship, unless otherwise approved by the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. The student must provide their desired retake date to the clerkship director at least two weeks in advance.

E. H&P Assignment: 5 points

You will be asked to turn in one H&P assignment at the end of the rotation as well as create a clinical question relevant to the care of this patient and use the literature to answer it. In order to obtain the full 5 points, the history needs to contain all the pertinent information in a clear and concise manner, examination needs to be relevant, complete and organized, and pertinent ancillary studies must be included. You must include a relevant differential diagnosis, prioritizing the entities you think most likely, and supporting your choices. Your assessment and plan must be well thought out, clearly written, and appropriate.

The case does not need to be a zebra, but it must be one in which you can demonstrate your thought process. For the clinical question, you need to create a searchable clinical question (PICO = patient/population, intervention, comparison, outcome) relevant to the care of your patient, provide your search strategy as well as the citation of the publication you used to answer your clinical question. You will then need to critically appraise the publication and apply your findings to your patient's case by:

- A. Making a declaring action for the care of your patient (i.e. what would you do for the patient based on your findings)
- B. Provide justification for your declaring action based on your critique of the literature (i.e. summarize the evidence for your conclusion)

F. Professionalism/Assessments: 5 points

1.25 points will be deducted for each late or incomplete assignment, including:

- Mid-clerkship feedback form
- Ethics assignment
- Mobile Obs EPA
- Clerklog
- H&P MDM Assignment

2.5 points will be deducted for any unexcused absence (e.g., clinic, wards, meetings, etc.) and the student will also receive a physicianship form. Expected professional behaviors are outlined in the Clerkship Grading & Assessment policy on Emerg. Sufficiently low performance on professionalism can lower a grade to fail.

Section II: Calculation of final grades

Grading Scale*	
Honors	90-100
High Pass	76-89.99
Pass	62-75.99
Requires extra time**	Below 62
Fail***	See below

**In order to be eligible for honors, your overall score must fall between a 90-100. When a numerical score falls closely between two grades, the clerkship director will evaluate all components of the student's performance to determine the final grade.

** A clerkship director may decide a student needs additional time on the clerkship to meet the objectives. The amount of time needed will vary. In this case, the grade will be "Pass" and the number of additional weeks needed will be noted on the transcript.

*** A grade of fail will be given in the following circumstances.

- Failing the NBME SHELF exam three times.
- Being unable to meet the clinical requirements of the clerkship after completing additional time twice.
- An egregious professionalism issue.