

Designing and Implementing Simulation-Based Mastery Learning Curricula

Course Directors: Walter J. Eppich, MD, PhD & William C. McGaghie, PhD

Course Description

Mastery learning is a rigorous form of competency-based education. Use of the mastery model has been shown to improve patient care quality and lower costs. Northwestern Simulation faculty are leading experts in the use of simulation-based mastery learning to develop and measure clinical skills. This five-day course will offer participants opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to design and implement mastery learning curricula in the following key domains:

- Resuscitation
- Procedural skills training
- Communication skills

After this course, participants will be able to:

- Design simulation-based mastery learning curricula
 - Perform needs assessment
 - Modify existing curricula to align with mastery learning goals
 - Select or develop instruments for outcomes assessment
 - Set performance standards to establish mastery learning goals
 - Rater to training to ensure reliable assessment
- Implement simulation-based mastery learning curricula
 - Create supportive learning environments needed for rigorous deliberate practice and robust performance feedback
 - Structure feedback and debriefing tailored to achieve mastery learning goals
- Recognize the value of research and scholarship for program improvement and career advancement

Location: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Department of Medical Education and Northwestern Simulation Chicago, Illinois USA

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Detailed Course Overview

The course is structured to provide participants both didactic inputs and hands-on practice in areas essential for implementing mastery learning curricula. On Days 2, 3, & 4, participants will engage on hands-on sessions devoted to experiencing deliberate practice in the domains of advanced life support, procedural skills, and communication skills training. In addition, on days 3 & 4, participants will begin facilitating mastery learning with faculty coaching.

Day 1: 8:00am to 5:30pm

- Introduction to mastery learning
- Curriculum development/improvement

Day 2: 8:00 to 5:30pm

- Assessment: overview
- Hands-on deliberate practice sessions
- Feedback & debriefing for mastery learning: educator as a coach

Day 3: 8:00 to 3:30pm (early ending)

- Assessment: instrument creation / selection
- Hands-on deliberate practice sessions, including coaching practice
- Day ends early to allow participants time to enjoy Chicago

Day 4: 8:00 to 5:30pm

- Program implementation and management
- Hands-on deliberate practice sessions, including coaching practice
- Refining your curriculum with faculty support

Day 5: 8:00 to 1:00pm

- Workshop on planning mastery learning research
- Curriculum presentations: each participant will present their curriculum in small groups with faculty and peer feedback