

## **NSU Orlando PA Program-Defined Competencies**

The NSU Orlando PA Program- defined competencies describe the core competencies a student will be able to demonstrate upon graduation. The following core competencies are embedded in the established didactic and clinical year curriculum provided during the student's enrollment in the program.

### **Medical Knowledge and Lifelong Learning**

Upon completion of the program, new graduates will have the essential medical knowledge to focus on the practice of primary care medicine. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to utilize up-to-date scientific evidence, which is essential for lifelong learning and delivering high-quality, patient-centered care.

### **Clinical Reasoning & Problem-Solving Skills**

Upon completion of the program, new graduates will be able to recognize healthy versus ill patients and determine the stage of illness as acute or chronic. Graduates will be able to recognize abnormal signs, symptoms, and exam findings; develop a comprehensive differential diagnosis; choose appropriate diagnostic studies; and determine an accurate final diagnosis. Graduates will also promote the prevention of illness and the selection of an effective management plan for the patient.

### **Clinical & Technical Skills**

Upon completion of the program, new graduates will be able to perform the appropriate physical examination and accurately interpret results from diagnostic tests to make patient care decisions. Graduates will be able to perform the proper procedural skills necessary for primary clinical practice.

### **Interpersonal Skills & Medical Communication**

Upon completion of the program, new graduates will be able to communicate effectively with patients and the health care team. Graduates will be able to collaborate effectively with the health care team using oral and written communication. Graduates will also be able to educate patients while being considerate of patients' needs.

### **Professional Behaviors and Practice**

Upon completion of the program, new graduates will demonstrate professional behavior when interacting with patients and the health care team. Graduates will treat others with respect, dignity and compassion.