**Course Description**
The Distinction in Research capstone elective will enable students to solidify their knowledge and skills related to medical research, further preparing them to become independent researchers after graduation. This elective will allow students to complete and present their mentored, research manuscript and portfolio.

**Course Objectives**
- Design and complete a defined scholarly project under the direction of a specific mentor, including final data analysis and visual representations of data
- Demonstrate scholarly writing skills through the preparation of a manuscript of publishable quality
- Develop a research philosophy statement
- Describe the eventual impact of the scholarly project on current or future patient care
- Identify funding sources for research in his/her area of interest.

**Course Activities**
Students in this course will participate in experiential activities with mentors and other members of the Distinction Track cohort. The course will include selected readings with reflections in small groups and/or Blackboard discussion board participation. Additionally, students will receive training in the Protection of Human Subjects for Research.

Please Note: Track participants should plan to take up to 4 weeks of capstone elective time in the M4 year that can be scheduled as two separate 2-week blocks. The time may be split into two, two-week blocks or taken as one four-week block. Your track leader and faculty mentor will help guide the time frame for this elective.

**Course Schedule Requirements**
No on-call requirement. Student must be available Monday through Friday, 8:00 am- 5:00 pm, although some actives are asynchronous and student-directed.