

WELCOME

We would first like to say welcome to the class. Up to this time here at Palmer, you have not had many opportunities where you have had to function as a primary physician. This class is a metamorphosis from a memorizing and regurgitating type of class to actually evaluating the patient and then coming up with a diagnosis and treatment plan for the patient.

You are going to learn a number of orthopedic and neurological exams that will assist you in evaluating your patient. I will try to make this part of your education enjoyable and fun. Several times during the class you will be asked to evaluate simulated patients, possibly in front of the class, and be asked questions about your findings, diagnosis, and treatment plan.

As we study the orthopedic and neurological exams, we will learn several things about each one. The first thing we learn about each exam is what complaint from the patient would trigger us to do this particular exam. We will learn how to perform the examination, when positive what does it indicate, and we will discuss treatment plans. Treatment plans do vary, so this usually includes good discussion in class. Don't hesitate to get involved with the class discussions. Being able to discuss your point of view will better prepare you to support your point of view in the future when needed. Again, we would like to say welcome to the class.