**Overview**

*Framing Bias*is a one-week Frontiers course that uses classroom and experiential formats including gallery sessions at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Penn Museum to understand how cognitive bias and heuristics affect medical decision making. Students will learn modern behavioral economic theory as it applies to the practice of medicine, how to identify heuristics and biases, and how to use specific interventions to decrease the negative impact of them on their observations, interpretations, and communications with colleagues and patients. The museum environment provides an ideal teaching environment to observe deeply and apply the theories of behavioral economics to achieve these aims. This course will help students further develop the skills they need to more effectively practice as evidenced-based physicians.

**Learning Goals**

The goals of the course are to promote the students’:

·         Understanding of how different types of cognitive biases and heuristics impact observation, perception, and behavior

·         Ability to identify bias through reflective, reflexive, and interpretive activities at the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) and Penn Museum

·         Knowledge of interventions to manage the negative effects of bias

·         Integration of acquired knowledge and skills into patient care activities

**Learning Objectives**

Students will be better able to:

·         Demonstrate art observation skills (e.g. identify, describe, flexible thinking)

·         Apply art observational skills to patient care

·         Demonstrate increased flexibility of thinking, increased comfort with ambiguity and increased ability to consider multiple perspectives

·         Recognize personal bias and how it might influence the process of interpretation.

·         Utilize methods to modify their behavior and reduce negative effects of cognitive bias and heuristics.

**Assessments**

**To receive credit for this elective students must attend and participate in all scheduled course activities. In addition, each student must complete all assigned assessments, which may include the following (see course details for more information):**

·         Diagnostic and summative assessments:

o    Pre- and post-qualitative evaluations of art observational skills using sample artworks and short-answer prompts.

o    Pre- and post-narrative writing. Students write about and reflect on a patient experience that involved judgment/assumptions/biases that in some way impacted care

·         Summative assessment:

o    Capstone project