



Course Syllabus
Study Abroad - Tanzania

Course Number: 45:705:682

Course Title: PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE IN GLOBAL HEALTH

Semester Credit: 3

Pre/Co-requisites: None required. **Recommended:** Global Health 705:652

Course Description:

This course is open to graduate and undergraduates across the university with faculty permission. This (3) credit hour elective course is a guided experience in which the student will experience health care delivery in a global setting. Accompanied by a standing faculty member in the School of Nursing, students will spend a minimum of 1 week in a global setting and experience health care delivery in host country facilities, such as clinics and hospitals. Depending on setting, students may live together as a group in supervised housing, take daily language, if needed and culture classes. Students will have periods for reflection on their course readings and post-conferences following their experiences working in the local community.

Although every effort will be made to identify funds for travel support, students will be responsible for paying their own travel expenses. This is common practice in most academic 'travel and study abroad' programs. For those students who choose to work in placement settings where infrastructural support like housing and in-country transport can be provided, overall costs will be substantially reduced.

A typical itinerary would include a daily session on the culture and health of the host country, along with a language class with an emphasis on health related vocabulary. Students will spend 3-4 hours daily in a clinical setting, such as a hospital or clinic, in addition to daily pre and post conference sessions. Each week ends with a seminar where

students will reflect on their experiences. Weekends may include excursions to cultural sites, time with fellow students and opportunities to explore the local area.

Pre requisite GPA 3.0. Course faculty permission based upon personal interview, demonstrated interest in global health issues, ability to adapt to travel abroad and sufficient enrollment in course. Global Health (705:652) elective course and Epidemiology (705:698 or a similar course) are recommended. This course is open to graduate students and senior undergraduate students in nursing or other health professions.

Course Objectives:

Didactic

Upon completion of the 3 credit course, students will:

1. Explore his/her personal attitudes and beliefs about host country clients.
2. Differentiate between one's own beliefs, attitudes and practices about health and illness and those of clients in the host country.
3. Examine the structure and function of health care delivery to clients in selected host countries.
4. Identify the main health issues of the host community utilizing existing information. For example, World Health Organization information, Country data, etc.
5. Structure a health improvement plan which would address at least two major health needs in the local community, incorporating local language, customs, health beliefs and practices.

Clinical

6. The student will actively participate in the health care system within the confines of host country regulatory requirements, to clients living in the host community, demonstrating clinical competence, professional accountability, caring behaviors, and cultural sensitivity.

Student learning outcomes:

1. Discuss the structure and function of health care delivery in selected host countries.
2. Identify the main health issues of the host country
3. Develop a health improvement plan to address at least two major health needs in the local community, incorporating local language, customs, health beliefs and practices

Other: Students may be required to have visas, immunizations or other health clearances as dictated by the host country. Students are recommended to review the CDC website for more information: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

Rutgers Study Abroad- see website <http://studyabroad.rutgers.edu/>

As part of the study abroad program with Rutgers University, students are enrolled in an HTH Worldwide health insurance plan which provides them with service and protection in the event they become ill or injured during the program. The HTH study abroad policy has a lifetime maximum of \$1,000,000 and a maximum of \$100,000 per year and per injury/illness. There is no deductible and pre-existing conditions are covered.

Emails: Please contact the instructor via email at s.willard@rutgers.edu. Except for weekends and holidays, the instructor typically will respond to email messages within 24 business hours. Please check your email on a regular basis for any instructor messages.

Netiquette: “Netiquette” is network etiquette, the dos and don’ts of online communication. When posting to our discussion board or communicating with others in our class, please remain courteous. Below are the guidelines we will follow in this course.

- Be professional and courteous
- Be respectful of other points of view
- Avoid using slang and abbreviations because they can lead to misinterpretation
- Do not capitalize all letters because this suggests shouting
- Think and proofread before you submit

Time Commitment

This course will take place in January 2019. You will be required to submit a reflection paper upon return to the US.

Dropping the Course

In order to withdraw from a course, it is not sufficient to stop posting assignments or contributing to discussion. In accord with university policy, students wishing to withdraw from a course must do so formally through the Registrar’s office. It is the student’s responsibility to complete all forms. If this is not done, the instructor must assign a grade of F at the end of the semester.

Teaching Strategies and Grading criteria:

This course will focus on participation in the clinical experience in the host country utilizing a number of different strategies. All assignments should be typed, double-spaced and adhere to APA format.

Journal entries (50% of course grade) – Students will keep a daily field diary, in which they reflect upon their experiences and personal growth during the practicum experience. I will collect these diaries at the end of the practicum experience. In addition, students will be called upon to share their observations and reflections verbally in post clinical debriefing assignments.

Final paper (50% of course grade) - Students will submit a final paper summarizing the growth and learning that occurred as a result of the practicum experience.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

Students will be required to attend on campus meetings in New Jersey prior to beginning the practicum experience in the host country.

Unless otherwise noted, all written assignments and projects are due at the time and date listed in the syllabus. If you experience an unavoidable personal situation that prevents you from completing work

on time, please inform the instructor prior to the date the work is due. Late work will result in points taken off, a lowering of the assignment grade.

Course Requirements:

Professional conduct and attendance at all scheduled course meetings according to the School of Nursing policies described in the current version of the School of Nursing *Student Policies and Procedures Handbook* <http://nursing.rutgers.edu/handbook> and timely completion of assigned reading, examinations, scholarly papers or presentations and active productive participation in course discussion. Content covered in examinations will be inclusive of ALL reading assignments, lectures and PPT Presentations.

Graduate Grading Policy:

Refer to the School of Nursing *Student Policies and Procedures Handbook* <http://nursing.rutgers.edu/handbook> for policies regarding Academic Probation and Academic Dismissal due to unsatisfactory grades.

Grading Response Time: Assignments should be graded within two (2) weeks of the due date. Grading Scale: Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	INTERPRETATION	QUALITY POINTS
A	89.5% - 100%	Outstanding	4.0
B+	84.5% - 89.49%	Very Good	3.5
B	79.5% - 84.49%	Good	3.0
C+	74.5% - 79.49%	Less than Satisfactory	2.5 ¹
C	69.5% - 74.49%	Failure	2.0 ²
D	59.5% - 69.49%	Failure	1.0
F	0% - 59.49%	Failure	0

¹ Only one grade of C+ is allowed in the graduate nursing program.

² Only one grade of C is allowed in the graduate nursing program. The course in which the C grade was earned must be repeated and a grade of B or higher earned in order to progress.

Academic Integrity

Students at Rutgers University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. The consequences of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, are very serious. Rutgers' academic integrity policy is at academicintegrity.rutgers.edu. When you submit an exam or assignment, you need to abide by the honor pledge of "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment)."

All students are required to submit written requirements via turnitin.com. Please check with your faculty about the process and requirements.

Part I: Mid-term Warning

At or about the midpoint in a course, faculty may provide a midterm warning of less than satisfactory performance which may include a grade less than "B", poor attendance and/or poor participation. Students receiving midterm warnings are urged to consult immediately the faculty member issuing the warning and their academic advisor to discuss an appropriate course of action. Absence of a midterm warning does not guarantee that a student will pass a course.

Part II: Students with Disabilities

Any students requesting a reasonable accommodation for a disability MUST obtain written approval of adaptation or accommodations and notify the instructor in writing before the start of the course. Accommodations are not retroactive. Students with a documented disability must follow School of Nursing policy described in the current version of the *School of Nursing Student Handbook*: <http://nursing.rutgers.edu/handbook>

Students with Disabilities:

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact [the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled](#), participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the [Registration form on the Office of Disability Services web site](#) and Policy "Disabilities and RBHS Students/Applicants" <http://academicaffairs.rutgers.edu/additional%2Dresources/rbhs%2Dpolicies>. More information on services for students with disabilities is available at <http://nursing.rutgers.edu/students/disability.html>

Required Texts:

1. Nelson, B. D. (Ed.) (2015). *Essential Clinical Global Health*. West Sussex, UK: Wiley
2. Leffers, J. & Plotnick, J. (2011). *Volunteering at home and abroad: The essential guide for nurses*. Indianapolis, IN: Sigma Theta Tau International

NOTE: Other country-specific readings may be added.

Recommended Texts:

1. Werner, D., Thuman, C & Maxwell, J. (2010). *Where there is no doctor*. Berkeley, CA. Hesperian Foundation (available as a free PDF download from: http://www.shamba.worldpossible.org/hesperian/en_wtnd_2011_full.pdf .
2. McKinnon, T. & Fitzpatrick J. (Eds.) (2011). *Global Service Learning in Nursing*. New York: National League for Nursing
3. Murray J., Wenger, A. F. Z., Downes, E. A. & Terrazas, S. B. (2011). *Educating Health Professionals in Low-Resource Countries: A Global Approach*. New York: Springer