



School of Nursing

Course Syllabus Study Abroad – Tanzania

Course Number: 45:705:682: GBLH6530

Course Title: Global Health Practicum

Semester Credit: 3

Pre/Co-requisites: None required.

Course Description:

This course is open to undergraduate students (*and graduate students with academic advisors' recommendations/permission*) across the university. This (3) credit hour elective course is a global health experience, guided by the concepts of Equity, Diversity and Social Determinants of Health. Accompanied by faculty member(s) in the School of Nursing, students spend a minimum of one week in the healthcare system of the host country such as community clinics and hospitals. *All students are expected to wear scrubs each day except for social outings and group dinners* (please bring 2-3 sets). Depending on the setting, students may live together as a group in supervised housing, take daily language and culture sessions. 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 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 3 pre-departure orientation sessions, daily session on the socio-cultural and health issues of the host country on arrival, along with a language class with emphasis on health-related vocabulary. Students will spend 3-4 hours daily in clinical settings, 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.

Prerequisite GPA 3.0. Course faculty permission based upon review of application/personal interview, demonstrated interest in global health issues, ability to adapt to travel abroad and sufficient enrollment in course. Elective courses in Epidemiology (705:698) or similar course are recommended. The faculty will work with graduate and senior undergraduate students (with advisors' recommendations) to tailor

experiences and assignments to meet academic (or project) objectives.

Course Objectives:

Didactic

Upon completion of the course, students will:

1. Explore his/her personal attitudes and beliefs about host country clients.
 2. Differentiate between 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 host countries.
 4. Identify the main health issues of the host community utilizing existing information. For example, UNICEF and World Health Organization information and 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 awareness and sensitivity.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Discuss the structure and function of health care delivery in selected host countries. (AACN Essential Domain 1: Knowledge for professional practice and 6: Interprofessional Partnerships)
- 2) Identify the main health issues of the host country (AACN Essential Domain 3: population health)
- 3) Develop a *health improvement plan to address one major health need in the local community, incorporating local language, customs, health beliefs and practices* (AACN Essential Domain 3: population health)

Other: Review Travel Abroad Student Handbook for information about visas, immunizations or other health clearances information. Students should review the CDC website for country-specific immunization: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

Rutgers Study Abroad Office -oversees the administration of the course and students apply through this 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 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 are no deductible and preexisting conditions are covered.

Emails: Please contact the instructor via email at iwu@sn.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 2027. Students will be required to submit a reflection paper one week after return to the US as well as group presentation to the school’s Global Health Interest group. Students family and friends are welcome to attend.

Dropping the Course

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 Rutgers Global and 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.

Strategy & Student Assignment	Due Date	Grade Percentage
Country Profile (Group Activity)	January 4, 2027 @ 11:59 PM	5%
Reflective Journal Entry	January 18, 2027 @ 11:59 PM	25%
Attendance (Orientation & Debriefing)	Daily	10%
Final Paper	January 23, 2027 @ 11:59 PM	50%
Group Presentation	Within one month after return	10%

Country Profile Group Activity (5%) – During pre-departure orientation, students will receive components of the host country profile to research and present as a group. This exercise introduces students to the physical, social and cultural aspects of the country and their influence on health.

Reflective Journal entries (25%) – Students will keep a daily field journal/diary, in which they reflect upon their experiences, academic and personal growth during the practicum experience. This will be submitted at the end of the practicum experience.

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

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.

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.

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>

Recommended Texts:

1. Skolnik, R. (2021). Global Health 101 Essential Public Health. (4th Edition). Burlington MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning. ISBN-13: 978-1284145380.
2. Nigel Crisp (2022) Turning the World Upside Down Again: Global health in a time of pandemics, climate change and political turmoil. (2nd Edition). Milton Park Abingdon: CRC Press. ISBN 9781032212951
3. Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Competency Sub-Committee (2018). CUGH Global Health Education Competencies Tool Kit (2nd edition), Washington, DC. download from: <https://www.cugh.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/95/2020/05/CUGH-Global-Health-Toolkit-Web-Version.pdf>

NOTE: Other country-specific readings may be added.

4. 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
5. 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

Important Websites:

1. <https://www.unicef.org/tanzania/>
2. <https://www.afro.who.int/sites/default/files/2022-04/CCS%20Tanzania.pdf>
3. <https://human-resources-health.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12960-022-00735-y>
4. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/15271544221102964>