

Community Health Engagement Virtual Field Experience & Group Study Program – Uganda

*Global health Program, Cumming School of Medicine.
In Collaboration with the Healthy Child Uganda and Mama na Mtoto Initiative
and Mbarara University for Science and Technology (MUST), Uganda
June 14 – June 25, 2021*

The Group Study Program Description

The Cumming School of Medicine has for many years worked together with Ugandan university partners on initiatives to promote Maternal and Child Health through the Healthy Child Uganda partnership (www.healthychilduganda.org).

With the onset of the pandemic and with students unable to travel, the program is going to be offered virtually this year. This year, the Community Health Engagement Field Experience Group Study Program - Uganda will provide 10 – 18 students with the opportunity to experience the program virtually and work alongside the Healthy Child Uganda team, local communities, and Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) faculty and students to gain exposure and cross cultural engagement on the theme “**The Structural Determinants of Health in the era of COVID-19**”.

Students will complete a short virtual orientation before embarking on the virtual field school. The virtual program is going to span over two weeks from June 14 to June 25. Students are going to be divided into the two groups with the MUST students. The virtual field school is going to be structures in two parts:

Part A: 3-day on-line class sessions of not more than 2 hours per day
Part B: 7 days for design, field work, report writing and presentation

*Please be aware there will be daily debrief sessions for the entire team for purposes of sharing updates, giving feedback and assigning tasks. Due to the time difference sessions are going to be held in the early morning from 7:00am.

The whole experience will be part of a MDSC507 directed study credit for the University of Calgary students. The course is going to be taught by visiting International Professors from MUST. There will be lectures from University of Calgary and BHSc Faculty.

Details of the Program

Objectives:

- To gain global health experience through course work and exposure to a longstanding community health partnership in a low-middle income country (LMIC) context.
- To learn about and participate in health promotion in a LMIC context.

Instructors/Facilitators: Dr. Wilfred Arubaku, Dr. Barbara Naggayi, Teddy Kyomuhangi, Clare Kyokushaba

Lecturers: Dr. Guido van Marle and Dr. Fabiola Aparicio-Ting

Part A Content: Introduction Sessions

- This will be 3 2 hr sessions focusing on preparing on what the virtual field school and working with cross-cultural partners across different time-zones.
- Topics will include Global/One/Public Health, Health Systems, Social determinants of health, Community Engagement, Cross-Cultural

Competency. Consist of a number of tutorials, assignments. This is a required component of the MDS507 course work.

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Part B. Content: Virtual Field Experience Uganda

- Students will do course work and virtual field work, prepare project products (participation, assignments and reflections) that will be part of the MDSC507 course requirements.
- There will be expectation to be sensitive and awareness of social and cultural norms of working virtually with MUST faculty and students.

Course Capacity and Eligibility:

We welcome applications from students enrolled in **Bachelor of Health Sciences (all majors) as well as the Bachelor of Community Rehabilitation programs**. We can accommodate up to 10 – 18 students.

How to Apply

Selection Criteria

The following are **desired** criteria for applicants:

- A team player
- Good communication skills
- Ready and available to be discuss virtually
- Previous global experiences are an asset but not absolutely essential

NOTE: When selected, students are required to sign a Student Conduct Agreement and participate in travel safety briefings and attend a travel clinic.

Interested applicants should provide a **500-word essay** on: how you think you could make a positive contribution to this program, what your motivations are for joining this program and how you meet the above desired criteria.

Please also include: a copy of your **curriculum vitae**, University of Calgary **transcripts** and **the names of the two references**. You do not need to get letters of reference, please just supply the name, contact information, and how you know this individual.

Questions on the application process can be directed to Edna Ashie-Nikoi (inhealth@ucalgary.ca)

Important Dates

Application due **April 16, 2021**. We will accept some later applications, but seats are limited so apply ASAP.

Please email your essay, CV, transcript and references to **Edna Ashie-Nikoi (inhealth@ucalgary.ca)**. Potential candidates will be contacted shortly after closing date for a quick virtual meeting and a decision will be made.