

University Of Pittsburgh
School of Nursing

Course: NUR 1631: Health Care Delivery in Basel, Switzerland: Independent Study

Credit Allotment: 2 credits

Placement: Two weeks in Basel, Switzerland
Spring Term following 3rd year

Prerequisites: Junior year course work

Faculty: Jacqueline M. Lamb, Ph.D., R.N. Assistant Professor, Part-Time
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Course Description: This course is designed to provide the undergraduate nursing student with exposure to the culture and health care delivery in a foreign country. Basel, Switzerland has been chosen for the study site in collaboration with the Institut fur Pflegewissenschaft in Basel. Emphasis will be placed upon comparing the health care delivery and culture in Switzerland and the United States, and in exploring the purpose and functions of the United Nations, the International Council of Nursing, and the World Health Organization in Geneva. Lectures will be provided by Swiss faculty in English, and clinical observations will be made in the hospital and community with Swiss nurses. A tour of the international organizations will be led by a Swiss faculty member who has worked for the UN in third world countries.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of Nur 1062 the student will be able to:

- I. Discuss health care delivery in Switzerland.
- II. Explain the purpose and functions of the UN, WHO, and ICN.
- III. Identify communication barriers between health care professionals and clients who have differing native languages.
- IV. Compare nursing education in Switzerland and the United States.
- V. Compare nursing roles in Switzerland and the United States.
- VI. Reflect upon the contribution of study abroad to professional and personal growth.

Teaching Methodology:

- I. Health care delivery in Switzerland.
- II. History, purpose, and functions of the United Nations, World Health Organization, International Council of Nursing.

- III. Communication barriers when providing care to immigrant clients.
- IV. Nursing education in Switzerland.
- V. Nursing roles in Switzerland.
- VI. Introduction to the history and culture of Switzerland.
- I. Observations of health care practices in hospitals and the community.
- II. Observations and discussions in schools of nursing.
- III. Observations and discussions with nurse leaders.
- IV. Lectures on community health, international organizations, and working in third countries.
- V. Interviews with consumers, health care professionals, and students.
- VI. Presentations by health care professionals.
- VII. Presentation by students to health care professionals.
- VIII. Daily written summary of learning experiences.
- IX. Participation in cultural activities.
- X. Orientation classes.
- XI. Written assignment.
- XII. Guided field trip to Geneva to visit the UN, WHO, and ICN.

Evaluation:

In order to achieve a passing grade the student must demonstrate independence, reliability, and professionalism in all activities including the following:

- I. Attendance at all orientation sessions, meetings.
- II. Daily journal. The journal must be submitted to Dr. Lamb weekly while participating in the course. The student should refer to course objectives when writing the journal.
- III. Development of a power point presentation, completed, and practiced under supervision prior to departure.

- IV. Participation in all observational clinical activities, and field trips.
- V. Participation in all cultural activities.
- VI. Creation of positive relationships with staff, faculty, peers, clients, and other members of the Swiss public with whom the student has contact. Refer to behavior guidelines.
- VII. Timely submission of a reflective paper which evaluates learning in a foreign country and the impact that learning has on the professional role.

Assignment of a letter grade will be done in collaboration with the student with emphasis placed in the following ways:

- I. Active participation in all clinical, cultural, classroom, and other activities
 - 70% of grade
 - 30% of grade
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- II. Power point presentation, journal, paper

**Required/Recommend
Texts:**

There are a variety of travel books from which the student may choose. A phrase book is essential. In Basel, the language is a Swiss form of German, but a German phrase book would suffice. In addition, the students would be wise to read European newspapers prior to departure. Americans abroad read the *International Harold Tribune*. From London, two respected newspapers are the *London Times* (conservative) and the *Guardian* (liberal). For some quick European news, the student is advised to watch BBC News (British Broadcasting). The news magazine which has the most European news is the *Economist*.

Students With Disabilities:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890/(412) 383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible, but no later than the 4th week of the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is "presenting as one's own, for academic evaluation, the ideas, representations or works of another person or persons without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources" (Faculty development/TA Handbook, p. 15). Plagiarism is a violation of both the University of Pittsburgh's standards on academic honesty (02-03-03) and those of the School of Nursing (Policy No. 307). Violations of these policies are taken seriously. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the

procedural process; initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity.

Classroom Conduct:

In order to facilitate learning and minimize distractions to fellow students and faculty, students are expected to:

- 1) turn cell phones and pagers to non-audible during class and lab; in the clinical setting, the use of cell phones must be consistent with the clinical facility's policies
- 2) report to class on time
- 3) refrain from individual conversation during class
- 4) be alert and attentive in class
- 5) show respect for fellow students and faculty

JL/dm

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