



University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Course Title:	Extramural Elective Clerkship in International Health
Department/ Course Number:	Senior Medicine #882-937
Offered:	Semesters I and II
Course Faculty:	James H Conway, MD, Associate Director for Health Sciences, Global Health Institute Physician preceptor at clerkship site (varies) UW faculty advisor (varies)
Credits:	1-8
Student Eligibility:	Open to third and fourth year medical students who are in good academic standing (not on academic or disciplinary probation) and have completed clinical clerkships in Primary Care, Medicine, Pediatrics, and OB/GYN.
Course Description:	This is a 1-8 week elective at a site outside of the U.S. Students will engage in the provision of primary or specialty patient care in community, clinical and/or hospital settings. The elective may include public health, prevention, and health education activities. Placements will be approved by the course director based on student interests and language capability, and according to availability of appropriately supervised sites. Students should begin planning this elective at least one year in advance to ensure that all preliminary requirements are met. Students are expected to complete an online orientation and preparations to submit a "learning portfolio" and evaluation in order to receive credit.

Course Objectives:

Through this elective students will:

- 1) Develop a deeper understanding of the broad determinants of health, psychosocial and cultural beliefs, political, economic and social structures, medical practices, and health resources and delivery systems in a health care setting outside the United States.
- 2) Acquire new skills that may be difficult to obtain in a domestic setting. These may include but are not limited to: bedside diagnosis and management, epidemiological, public health and prevention aspects of acute and/or chronic conditions that are unique to a particular geographic region (e.g. tropical diseases).
- 3) Improve history-taking and physical exams skills through the practice of medicine in low and/or varied resource settings.
- 4) Become familiar with key elements of primary health care in the host site: maternal child health; immunizations; prevention and control of endemic diseases; water and sanitation; management of common medical conditions; health education; and nutrition.
- 5) Explore traditional and modern health care delivery systems in the host community.
- 6) Experience community health education and outreach through observation or participation.

- 7) Enhance understanding of cross-cultural dynamics, language skills, physician-patient and professional communications.
- 8) Establish partnerships with host colleagues to learn about health professional education and to participate in health care delivery.
- 9) Understand the challenges of providing health care services in low resource and/or other settings.

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to complete the following requirements:

- 1) Develop specific learning goals for the elective experience in consultation with the faculty advisor and site preceptor.
- 2) Complete an online orientation at Learn@UW.
- 3) Become familiar with health and cultural issues of relevance to the host country and clinical site through independent study. Recommended readings and on-line resources for key global health issues will be provided by the course director on Learn@UW. Students will be expected to complete additional readings related to their elective learning goals in consultation with the faculty advisor and site preceptor.
- 4) Document elective activities through a summary logbook or journal on a weekly basis. Summaries should include activities and self-reflections that describe personal observations, challenges, and lessons learned.
- 5) Submit a global health learning portfolio that includes:
 - a) Assignments from three required pre-trip modules in the International Clerkship Elective Self Study Guide
 - b) Weekly summaries of activities
 - c) Post-trip report (fourth required module) on a health topic, intervention, case presentation, patient encounter, or response to the independent study materials; report should be 2-5 pages in length, include appropriate references, and submitted no later than 1 month after conclusion of the elective
 - d) Site evaluation, with recommendations for future student elective experiences

Course Evaluation:

The site preceptor will complete a UW School of Medicine and Public Health extramural elective evaluation of the student's performance.

Successful completion of the course for credit will be dependent on evaluation and completion of the stated course requirements, as determined by the course director.

Policies and procedures for international elective courses (approved by the UW Medical School Academic Planning Council):

All students of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health pursuing clinical, research, or public health electives for credit abroad must meet the requirements stated below.

- a) Meet with an international health program staff and/or faculty advisor to discuss educational objectives, review elective guidelines and application process, verify academic eligibility, obtain site information, and identify faculty resources for advising and orientation. Students are expected to maintain contact with the appropriate office or faculty advisor periodically throughout the process of completing an international health elective.
- b) Gather information concerning any in-country political problems, safety concerns, or health hazards by consulting current State Department announcements and publications, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) information, and the sponsoring site.

- c) Submit a letter or email from the in-country faculty supervisor confirming the dates of elective, including a description of educational activities, on-site supervision, financial obligations and housing arrangements. Obtain elective course approval from the Associate Director for Health Sciences of the Global Health Institute and complete registration.
- d) Complete required orientation and preparation for the elective.
- e) Submit UW health assessment form for study abroad. Obtain medical travel advice and immunizations appropriate for host country.
- f) Investigate visa and other entrance requirements (such as immunization requirements) that may be enforced in the host country.
- g) Purchase the required UW System medical/evacuation insurance policy (CISI) for the duration of the elective and provide verification of purchase prior to departure.
- h) Designate emergency contact persons at the elective site and in the U.S.
- i) Register with the U.S. Embassy in the host country prior to or upon arrival.
- j) Adhere to laws of the host country, standards of professional behavior, and standards of conduct set by the program site.
- k) Sign and submit the University of Wisconsin System Uniform Statement of Responsibility, Release, and Authorization to participate in study abroad and exchange programs prior to departure which establishes informed consent, assumption of risk, and understanding of the terms and conditions of the program abroad.
- l) Submit an official evaluation of student academic performance and grade completed by the site preceptor. Credit will not be granted for electives without such evaluation. Submit a student elective report and evaluation of the elective to the Office of Student Services (on OASIS).
- m) Comply with additional academic requirements to satisfactorily complete an international elective specified by UW course descriptions, the host site, or the UW faculty advisor.

Revised 8/2015 Conway (BT)