



LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING
CPSY 902: CULTURE AND COMMUNITY: UGANDA
SPRING - 2014**

DATES: APRIL 23- MAY 9

Instructor: Teresa McDowell, EdD, Marisol Garcia, Ph.D.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

An intensive international or intercultural immersion course designed to raise awareness of issues in personal and community well-being in a particular community or region. After pre-visit briefings and readings, students visit professionals at schools, clinics, and NGOs to learn about cultural and social realities of the community or region. The visit is followed by systematic reflection on implications for local practice and the understanding of one's own self and society. Interdisciplinary approaches and interprofessional collaboration are emphasized.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores contextual self-of-the-therapist, counselor, and/or educator and enhances cultural competence through immersion into another culture. Participants are required to complete International Family Therapy prior to the immersion trip to gain cultural knowledge of the country they will be visiting. Participants are encouraged to deeply consider their own "growing edges" relative to cultural competence and to track these throughout the experience. The trip itself includes learning from professionals through lectures, engaging in cultural events, collaborating with professionals learning systems theory and application, evaluating cross-cultural education, and so on. Particular attention is paid to HIV/AIDS training, Family Systems training, indigenous counseling and education, and the transferability of professional knowledge from one country to another.

The course includes cross-training of Ugandan counselors and US counselor and education students. The trainings will occur at Virika Hospital in Fort Portal, Uganda. Leads for the project are Dr. Paschal Kabura, director of Bishop Magambo Counsellor Training Institute (BMCTI) and head of Virika Hospital's Mental Health Department and Drs. Garcia and McDowell.

BMCTI runs four academic programs all of which are accredited by Faculty of Health Sciences of Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi. These include a master's program, a diploma program, and two certificate programs, including an HIV/AIDS counselling certificate program. BMCTI also provides counselling services, organizational consultations, conflict management, and self-help groups. In addition to time spent at BMCTI, students will visit at least one local NGOs and school.

During this course, students and faculty will prepare and deliver a 1-week (5-day) workshop in family systems to Ugandan counselors interested in family work. This will offer students an opportunity to help plan and deliver an international training while developing multicultural competence.

Each student will also prepare and deliver one or two training modules while in Uganda. Trainings will be interactive and skill based. Throughout this course, we will use an anti-colonial, critical multicultural, transnational lens to understand ourselves in relation to global issues, as well as power and cultural issues between countries.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Participation in this course will:

1. Challenge cultural encapsulation;
2. Encourage developing cultural meta-perspectives;
3. Expand participants' repertoires for potential solutions to individual, family and community problems and education;
4. Prepare and deliver educational/training modules to Ugandan colleagues;
5. Be encouraged and given opportunities to dismantle own biases and stereotypes;
6. Be asked to deeply consider U.S. privilege relative to global relations;
7. Develop a stronger sense of global responsibility;
8. Increase humility and self-awareness; and
9. Gain knowledge about the life world of specific groups.

It is expected that moving in the direction of these goals will improve the quality participants' work in their local context with members of groups who are both similar and different from themselves.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend pre-trip meetings;
2. Prepare for journey through researching various aspects of the culture you are visiting;
3. Complete all required pre-journey tasks (e.g., passport, visa, medical care, information sheets, etc.)
4. Attend all activities during the immersion journey;
5. Be a responsible and accountable to the group and to our hosts;
6. Maintain openness to the experience;
7. Prepare and deliver a training module while in Uganda;
8. Participate in HIV/AIDS training in Uganda; and
9. Attend any post trip meetings necessary for processing learning that occurred during the trip.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY/SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Lewis & Clark College adheres to a nondiscriminatory policy with respect to employment, enrollment, and program. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or disability, sexual orientation, or marital status and has a firm commitment to promote the letter and spirit of all equal opportunity and civil rights laws.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability and/or you have emergency medical information to share please make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible.

APPLICATION PROCESS

There are a limited number of seats available for this course. All interested students will need to complete an application and interview. Permission numbers will be offered based on: Order in which interest/applications are received, readiness for international immersion, good standing in the graduate school, and potential to make a contribution to the training program.

COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluation for this course will be based on participation. Active participation in trip preparations, being present for all lectures and learning opportunities, and contributing to the group process in positive ways are foundational to passing this course. Each student will be graded on the quality of preparation and delivery of her/his training module (30 points), good citizenship while on the trip (e.g., solving conflicts in positive ways, exhibiting culturally sensitive behavior, acting professionally at all times) (30 points), participation in dialogue while traveling (30 points) and participation in post-trip activities (10 points). A = 92-100; A- = 90-92; B+ = 87-88; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule is flexible according to the needs and availability of our hosts. However, the following will offer a general sense of the activities we are likely to engage in and the dates for each. The following is a tentative plan for travel:

April 23-April 24: Travel from Portland to Ft. Portal via Entebbe/Kampala

April 25-27: Rest, visit local areas, visit downtown, and prepare for workshop

April 28- May 2: Deliver workshop and receive training at BMCTI

May 3: Nature tour

May 4: Day with families

May 5: Visit local hospital/orphanage/NGO

May 6: Visit Queen Elizabeth National Park

May 7: Visit local hospital/orphanage/NGO; Downtown shopping

May 8-9: Travel from Ft. Portal to Portland via Kampala/Entebbe

PEDAGOGY

International courses rely heavily on informal, experiential learning. While study groups and readings will help prepare students, the key to deep cultural learning is processing and engaging in ongoing dialogue that reflects on self-in-context relative to in-country experience. All students are expected to openly and enthusiastically engage in daily dialogue groups throughout the trip. Written reflections may also be required if necessary during and after the travel experience.

REQUIRED READINGS

Each student will be responsible to complete a literature review on her/his workshop topic which can be carried to Uganda in both hard copy and electronic copy. This literature review must include available information related to the topic relative to Uganda/Africa.