



Global Health Study Abroad Elective - Graduate
NURS 5341.060, NURS 5341.061
Summer 2026

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online with an International Clinical Immersion (1-2 weeks)

Instructor's Name: Valerie Miller, PhD, APRN, FNP-C

Section: 060 (Global Health Immersion Location: Guatemala)

Office: Virtual

Phone: Will be posted in Canvas course

***Email:** vmiller@uttyler.edu

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-4pm CST and available via appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me.

Instructor's Name: Teresa Griffin, DNP, APRN, AGACNP-BC, FNP-C, CNEcl, ACUE

Section: 061 (Global Health Immersion Location: Brazil)

Office: HSC B237 (UT North Campus)

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Office Hours: Virtual on Wednesdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon CST and by appointment.

Best way to Contact: First, send an inbox message through the associated Canvas course to your assigned faculty. Follow-up with secondary method if no response within two (2) business days through the following pathway: inbox->email->text->call. If you do not get a response or resolution from your assigned faculty, then proceed through the following pathway: course lead faculty->program coordinator.

Course Overview

This graduate elective course equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective participation as a global citizen in an international medical immersion study abroad trip. Through a combination of readings, assignments, hands-on international clinical experience, and reflective learning, students will explore key aspects of global health. This will include cultural competence, health disparities, ethical considerations, and sustainable medical outreach fostering critical reflection on their role in global healthcare. The course includes a 1-2 week international immersion at an approved global site, with clinical and learning activities adapted to the local context and student population focus. Students will apply evidence-based diagnostic reasoning, care management, and the provision of primary health care in a transcultural healthcare setting. (60 patient clinical hours available for APRN students.)

Prerequisites

- Enrollment in the FNP or AGACNP Program
- Completion of one clinical course (NURS 5351, NURS 5353, NURS 5455 or NURS 7383)

Corequisites

- None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Critically analyze personal and professional assumptions related to global health, equitable distribution of healthcare resources, ethics, and resource allocation in international healthcare settings.
2. Demonstrate culturally responsive and ethically grounded advanced nursing care by adapting communication, assessment, and clinical decision-making to diverse cultural and community contexts.
3. Evaluate global health disparities using epidemiological, socioeconomic, environmental, and policy perspectives to inform population-focused nursing interventions.
4. Analyze sustainable, ethical, and community-engaged medical outreach strategies that align with local health priorities and resource capacity.
5. Design evidence-based, person-centered care plans for individuals and families in international clinical settings, integrating advanced clinical judgment and interprofessional collaboration to optimize health outcomes.
6. Apply evidence-based clinical guidelines to support advanced clinical decision-making and reduce diagnostic and treatment errors in resource-limited international settings.

- Integrate physiological, pathophysiological, psychological, sociocultural, spiritual, and ethical concepts to guide comprehensive patient management in international clinical environments.

AACN Summary Matrix

SLO	Primary AACN Level 2 Domains	Secondary AACN Level 2 Domains
1	9: Professionalism 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development	7: Systems-Based Practice
2	2: Person-Centered Care 9: Professionalism	6: Interprofessional Partnerships
3	3: Knowledge for Nursing Practice 7: Systems-Based Practice	4: Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline
4	7: Systems-Based Practice 6: Interprofessional Partnerships	9: Professionalism
5	2: Person-Centered Care 3: Knowledge for Nursing Practice	6: Interprofessional Partnerships 5: Quality and Safety
6	5: Quality and Safety 3: Knowledge for Nursing Practice	7: Systems-Based Practice
7	3: Knowledge for Nursing Practice 2: Person-Centered Care	9: Professionalism

Required Textbooks and Readings

Werner, D., Thurman, C., & Maxwell, J. (2024). *Where there is no doctor: A village health care handbook* (2024 rev. ed.) Hesperian Health Guides. ISBN-13: 978-0942364156. (Available through the UT Tyler Library; open-access edition available online.)

Fadiman, A. (2012). *The spirit catches you and you fall down*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. ISBN-13: 978-0374533403.

Médecins Sans Frontières. (2024). *Essential drugs: Practical guidelines*. Médecins Sans Frontières. ISBN-13: 978-2-37585-280-4. (Available as a free internet download.)

Médecins Sans Frontières. (2022). *Clinical guidelines: Diagnosis and treatment manual*. Médecins Sans Frontières ISBN-13: 978-2-37585-166-1. (Available as a free internet download.)

This is a clinical course; all students are required to have an active Exxat subscription to support documentation of clinical logs.

Recommended Textbooks and Readings

Corbett, S. & Fickert, B. (2014). *Helping without hurting in short-term missions: Participant's Guide*. Moody Publishers. ISBN-13: 978-0802409928.

Special Course Notes

1) Alternate Locations of Class

The class will be held virtually online except during the week(s) of the international global health immersion at the assigned location where students will be required to be present in person. **Dates for Spring 2026: Brazil (May 23-June 5) and Guatemala (July 24-August1).**

Specific details regarding country location, travel logistics, clinical scope, and site-specific expectations will be provided in Canvas for each course section.

2) Additional Costs and Travel Requirements

This course requires students to have a valid passport, consider any recommended vaccinations, pay additional travel deposits and for travel arrangements in addition to tuition costs. Flights will be arranged through the Office of International Programs.

3) Travel Abroad Policies

Students will be expected to follow University of Texas at Tyler policies, dress code, and adhere to the direction of faculty while abroad.

4) Clinical Hours

Students will have the opportunity to gain 60 faculty precepted hours of APRN practice during the immersion portion of the trip. These hours must be logged in to Exxat, and students will be expected to perform as in any precepted setting with patients. A clinical performance evaluation will be completed by faculty.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

Assignment topics, case examples, clinical focus areas, and teaching project populations will be tailored to the specific global site and patient population of each course section while maintaining consistent grading weights and learning objectives.

Assignments in NURS 5341	% of Grade
Online Discussions/Assignments	40%
Clinical Immersion Attendance – Required	10%
Personal Journal	10%
Group Project – Teaching	20%
Group Presentation/Poster	20%
Clinical Objectives Met/Exxat Hours Logged Clinical Performance Evaluation by Faculty	Pass/Fail
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following point assignments:

- A - 90-100
- B - 80-89
- C - 70-79
- D - 60-69
- F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80, and 89.5 is not rounded to 90). Students are required to achieve an average of 80% (B) to complete the course successfully.

Exam and homework materials, questions, and problems are the intellectual property of faculty, UT Tyler, or publishers.

- These materials may not be distributed without permission.
- Distributing or uploading them to online resources destroys the integrity of the assignment and the course, allowing others an unfair advantage by letting them view the materials.
- Uploading these materials to online resources is a violation of UT Tyler's academic misconduct policies and may result in formal conduct charges.
- Sanctions for uploading or otherwise divulging the contents of these materials can include:
 - a reduced or failing grade on an assignment
 - a reduced or failing grade for the course
 - removal from the Nursing program
 - removal from UT Tyler

Late Policy: All assignments, quizzes, and examinations are due by the assigned due date and time as noted in Canvas. A 5% deduction per calendar day will be applied to late assignments for up to three (3) days, unless prior approval has been granted by course faculty. Assignments submitted more than three days after the due date will receive a grade of zero (0).

As this is a doctoral-level APRN post-master's certificate program, students are expected to demonstrate professional accountability and advanced time-management skills. Due dates are intentionally consistent across courses and provided in advance to allow students to plan work and clinical schedules accordingly. Therefore, employment obligations, shift changes, on-call responsibilities, or routine professional duties are not considered acceptable reasons for late submissions.

Extenuating circumstances (e.g., serious illness, family emergency) may be considered at the discretion of course faculty and may require documentation. Extensions are not guaranteed and must be requested prior to the assignment deadline whenever possible.

Repeating a Course: Students repeating this course may not use previously submitted assignments nor utilize the same patients for an assignment. Submitting the same or slightly modified assignments from previous semesters is considered self-plagiarism and is subject to academic discipline, including failing the assignment or the course.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance/participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, and missed clinical time is at the instructor's discretion.

Graded Course Requirements Information

Discussion Board Assignments: There will be discussion boards related to the assigned readings in the course.

Group Projects – Health Education Teaching and Presentation: The details for these projects along with grading rubrics can be found in the Canvas course.

Personal Journal Reflections: There will be guided reflection assignments designed to help students critically think through their expectations, experiences, perceptions, and thoughts regarding global health.

Clinical Requirements: This course includes 60 specialty precepted clinical hours during the international immersion week at the approved global site. Students will be responsible for uploading their patients into Exxat each evening or as soon as internet connectivity is available in remote locations. Each student will be given a Clinical Performance Evaluation by their preceptor at the end of the semester and will be required to upload a preceptor and site evaluation. The clinical piece of the course will be pass/fail.

Clinical Component Requirements

1) Clinical Hours

NURS 5341 is a 40-60 clinical hour, 15-week study abroad elective course. Students can expect to achieve all clinical hours during the international immersion week(s) at the approved global site.

Clinical activities may include primary care, population health, preventive services, and acute episodic care based on community needs and faculty-approved scope of practice at the immersion site. These clinical hours may be counted as specialty hours and applied towards the minimum clinical hours required for satisfactory completion of the APRN program. In the FNP program, hours would count towards the family practice requirement. In the AGACNP program,

hours would count as perioperative management during the Guatemala immersion. Acute care hours are not available during the Brazil as the focus of this trip is only a primary care clinic.

The breakdown of clinical hours for the entire FNP program is as follows:

- Pediatrics – 120 hours total
- Women’s Health – 120 hours total
- Family Practice – 435 hours total

For this course, faculty will be considered the student’s preceptor, and the population focus will be specialty/family practice. In the event of faculty absence from the School of Nursing, an approved supervising physician may serve as the preceptor.

2) Appropriate Clinical Attire

Students may wear scrubs for this clinical immersion course as this is the expected attire for clinic workers at the hospital/clinic. Specific attire requirements may vary slightly based on host country norms, climate, and clinical setting and will be communicated prior to travel. Name badges will be given to students once on premises at the community site and will be required to be worn while serving in the clinic. Remember, UT Tyler NP students are representing themselves and the university as future NP’s and need to appear professional.

3) Clinical Objectives

Students are expected to develop specific clinical objectives for the experience and provide the objectives to their faculty preceptor(s) at the beginning of their clinical immersion week.

4) Clinical Hours Documented within Exxat

Clinical hours data should be entered into Exxat each night, or when connectivity is available. The maximum time to enter logs for faculty approval is within one week of return from the immersion week. The Exxat hours and preceptor signature sheet hours must match. Students are to use the clinical time to see patients as quickly and efficiently as possible. *Confidentiality* - maintain patient confidentiality by not removing any patient identifiers from clinics other than patient initials for the Exxat log as this would be considered a HIPPA violation. Students may not take a printed patient schedule, lab, or any other printed information from the clinic setting. No screenshots or copies of any patient records are allowed.

5) Preceptor Signature Sheets

Preceptor signatures should be obtained each day during clinical immersion week. Please use the preceptor signature sheet located in Canvas. Students will need to verify their Exxat submissions by showing they correlate with their preceptor signature sheets. **The student must add up the time on their preceptor signature sheet and the time on their Exxat entries and these hours must correlate.**

6) Clinical Performance Evaluations

Students must obtain a passing clinical performance evaluation by the student's faculty member for the specialty hours to be counted towards their total clinical hours for the program. For this course, the student is expected to make an appropriate plan of care for every patient seen in clinical. Students must also meet the satisfactory level of 80% on their CPE.

Please see the Clinical Performance Evaluation (CPE) for specific areas evaluated. Students will be evaluated by their clinical faculty member using several means including, but not necessarily limited to, the following: observation, chart review, speed of patients seen, discussions with the student's preceptor(s), and review of feedback provided by the preceptor CPEs. Clinical performance requires application of key concepts in providing care to individuals and families as evidenced by documentation in the CPE. **One CPE** is required for this course. Students must satisfactorily complete the clinical performance component of the course to be eligible to use these hours as specialty hours in their total programmatic hours. Failure to complete the clinical component satisfactorily may result in loss of the clinical hours or a course failure.

Important Course Dates:

- Classes begin for 15-week session: 5/11/26
- Orientation: TBD
- Census Date: 5/26/26
- Holidays: Memorial Day (5/25/26); Juneteenth/Emancipation (6/19/26)
- Last Date to Withdraw: 6/15/26
- Last Day of Course: 8/15/26; please refer to the course schedule and Canvas for specific due dates.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

Course Schedule – Section 060 Guatemala		
Week #	Weekly Topics/Readings	Due
	Discussion Board – Introduce yourself	5/17 By 11:59pm
Week 1 May 11 -17	Zoom: Course Orientation and Introduction to Global Health. Readings: Assigned readings Discussion Board: Motives and Beliefs/ Common Disease processes Personal Journal: Week 1 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education: Introduction	TBA
Week 2 May 18-24	Zoom: Role of the Nurse and APRN in Global Health Readings: Assigned readings Discussion Board: Health Education/Introduction to Formulary Personal Journal: Week 2 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education: Develop objectives and methods	TBA Census – 5/26

Week 3 May 25-31	Zoom: Culturally Appropriate Care in the Global Health Setting Readings: Assigned readings Discussion Board: Paternalism/Case Studies & Guidelines Personal Journal: Week 3 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education: Continued development of project	TBA May 25 – Memorial Day Holiday
Week 4 Jun 1-7	Zoom: Common Health Issues and Disparities in Host Country Readings: Articles regarding the Host Country health issues and International Travel Personal Journal: Week 4 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education Presentation: Present project.	TBA
Week 5 Jun 8-14	Zoom: The Host Country health system Readings: Articles regarding the Host Country health system Personal Journal: Week 5 Entry Immersion Pre-brief: Preparation/pre-trip discussion Teaching Project – Health Education: Make final corrections based on feedback from the presentation.	TBA
Week 6 Jun 15-21	Zoom: TBA Readings: Assigned Readings Personal Journal: Week 6 Entry Group Project: Development of Project	TBA June 19- Juneteenth Holiday
Week 7 Jun 22-28	Zoom: Community-based healthcare and medical outreach sustainability Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Importance of Outreach Personal Journal: Week 7 Entry	TBA
Week 8 Jun 29-Jul 5	Zoom: Global Health Advocacy Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Discussion aligned with readings Small-Group Project: Continue development of presentation Personal Journal: Week 8 Entry	TBA July 4 – Independence Day
Week 9 Jul 6-12	Zoom: Nursing Leadership in Global Health Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Discussion aligned with readings Personal Journal: Week 9 Entry Small-Group Project: Continue to develop presentation	TBA
Week 10 Jul 13-19	Zoom: The Future of Global Health Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Future of Global Health	TBA

	Personal Journal: Week 10 Entry Small-Group Project: Presentations	July 15 – last day to Withdraw
Week 11 Jul 20-26	Zoom: Final Preparation for Immersion Personal Journal: Week 11 Entry Small-Group Project: Presentations	TBA
July 24 – August 2 Cultural Immersion Experience		
Week 12 Jul 27-Aug 2	Cultural Immersion: Engaging with San Raymundo community members Health Education Project: Implement teaching project Debriefing: Daily debriefings discussing experiences Personal Journal: Week 12 Entry	TBA
Week 13 Aug 3-9	Zoom: Post-Immersion Formal Debriefing Period Small Group Presentations Personal Journal: Week 13 Entry	TBA
Week 14 Aug 10-15	Zoom: Final Reflections - Course Wrap-Up	TBA Course Ends 8/15

Course Schedule – Section 061 Brazil		
<i>Week #</i>	<i>Weekly Topics/Readings</i>	<i>Due</i>
	Discussion Board – Introduce yourself	<i>5/17 By 11:59pm</i>
Week 1 May 11 -17	Zoom: Course Orientation and Introduction to Global Health. Readings: Assigned readings Discussion Board: Motives and Beliefs/ Common Disease processes Personal Journal: Week 1 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education: Introduction	TBA
Week 2 May 18-24	Zoom: Role of the Nurse and APRN in Global Health Readings: Assigned readings Discussion Board: Health Education/Introduction to Formulary Immersion Pre-Brief: Preparation/pre-trip discussion Personal Journal: Week 2 Entry Teaching Project – Health Education: Develop objectives and methods	TBA Census – 5/26

Week 3 May 25-31	<p>Cultural Immersion: Engaging with community members at the Host Site</p> <p>In-Country Experience: Providing APRN Nursing Services</p> <p>Debriefing: Daily debriefings discussing experiences</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 3 Entry</p>	TBA
Week 4 Jun 1-7	<p>Cultural Immersion: Engaging with community members at the Host Site</p> <p>In-Country Experience: Providing APRN Nursing Services</p> <p>Debriefing: Daily debriefings discussing experiences</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 4 Entry</p>	TBA
Week 5 Jun 8-14	<p>Zoom: Formal Debriefing Period</p> <p>Teaching Project: Development of project</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 5 Daily Entries with reflections on experiences</p>	TBA
Week 6 Jun 15-21	<p>Zoom: Culturally Appropriate Care in the Global Health Setting</p> <p>Readings: Assigned readings</p> <p>Discussion Board: Paternalism/Case Studies & Guidelines</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 6 Entry</p> <p>Teaching Project – Health Education: Presentation</p>	TBA
Week 7 Jun 22-28	<p>Zoom: Common Health Issues and Disparities in Host Country</p> <p>Readings: Articles regarding the Host Country and International Travel</p> <p>Discussion Board: TBA</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 7 Entry</p>	TBA
Week 8 Jun 29-Jul 5	<p>Zoom: The Host Country Health System</p> <p>Readings: Articles regarding the Host Country health system</p> <p>Discussion Board: TBA</p> <p>Small-Group (2-3 people) Project: Continue development of presentation</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 8 Entry</p>	TBA
Week 9 Jul 6-12	<p>Zoom: The importance of community-based healthcare and medical outreach and sustainability.</p> <p>Readings: Assigned Readings</p> <p>Discussion Board: Importance of Outreach</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 9 Entry</p> <p>Small-Group Project: Continue to develop presentation</p>	TBA
Week 10 Jul 13-19	<p>Zoom: Global Health Advocacy</p> <p>Readings: Assigned Readings</p> <p>Discussion Board: Discussion aligned with readings</p> <p>Personal Journal: Week 10 Entry</p>	TBA

	Small-Group Project: Continue to develop presentation	
Week 11 Jul 20-26	Zoom: Nursing Leadership in Global Health Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Discussion aligned with readings Personal Journal: Week 11 Entry Small-Group Project: Continue to develop presentation	TBA
Week 12 Jul 27-Aug 2	Zoom: The Future of Global Health Readings: Assigned Readings Discussion Board: Future of Global Health Personal Journal: Week 12 Entry Small-Group Project: Final edits to presentation	TBA
Week 13 Aug 3-9	Small Group Presentations Personal Journal: Week 13 Entry	TBA
Week 14 Aug 10-15	Zoom: Final Reflections - Course Wrap-Up	TBA Course Ends 8/15

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources and University Policies are provided in Canvas.

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity: <https://www.uttyler.edu/digital-learning/ai/>

- **Artificial Intelligence:** UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, **AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgment is required.** This course has specific assignments where artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT or Copilot) are permitted and encouraged. When AI use is permissible, it will be clearly stated in the assignment directions, and all use of AI must be appropriately acknowledged and cited following the APA guidelines, including the specific version of the tool used. The submitted work should include the exact prompt you used to generate the content and the AI's complete response as an appendix. Because AI-generated content is not necessarily accurate or appropriate, you must assess the validity and applicability of any submitted AI output. You will not earn full credit if inaccurate, invalid, or inappropriate information is found in your work. APA Style Citation Information:

<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Unless specified in the course assignment directions, the default is that AI is not allowed during any stage of an assignment. Using AI tools outside of these parameters violates UT Tyler's Honor Code, constitutes plagiarism, and will be treated as such. Students shall not use AI tools during examinations.