

**The University of Texas at Tyler**  
**Syllabus: Clinical Immersion in Ghana**  
**NURS 4399.060**

**Instructor: Dr. Beth Mastel-Smith**

**Course Description**

3.0 credit hours including 75 clinical hours

**Clinical Immersion in Ghana** students will deliver / assist in the delivery of healthcare in the context of another culture.

**Course Objectives**

Upon completion of the program, students will:

- Experience healthcare delivery in the context of the Ghana culture
- Compare and contrast healthcare delivery in Ghana with that of the US
- Compare and contrast nursing in Ghana with that of the US
- Describe healthcare delivery in rural versus urban Ghana settings

**Course Requirements**

Students are expected to complete reading assignments or engage in other learning activities and be prepared to discuss synchronously or asynchronously. Each student is responsible for participating in the discussions in a scholarly and timely manner.

**Grades and Grading**

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

The work performed for this course is weighted as follows:

Topic	Assignment Weight
• Engagement (participates in discussions and clinical activities)	60%
• Journal entries (separate / different from those for 4399.061)	15%
• Final Presentation	15%

**Journal Entries**

Each day you are in the clinical setting, you will write a 500-600 word journal entry. Journal entries for 4399.060 will focus on the following:

1. Describe the clinical experience.
  - a. What did you see, smell, hear? Describe the experience using as many of your senses as possible. Was the scene quiet and orderly or loud and boisterous?
  - b. What were the patients' medical / nursing diagnoses?
  - c. How many patients were seen?

- d. What kinds of things did the nurse do? What was your role? How does the nurses' role in Ghana compare with nurses in the US?
- e. What medications / treatments / equipment were dispensed?
2. What was the setting like compared to a similar type of health care setting in the US?
3. What was your general response to today's clinical experience?
4. Optional Journal Question: What barriers to health do the patients experience? What things facilitated their health?

Remember, you are immersed in the setting; however, I (your instructor who will be reading your journal entries) will not have the same experience. So please, describe your experiences in detail.

### **Clinical (75 required hours)**

Clinical hours will be completed as follows:

1. Prior to departure, you will review, learn or teach skills used in country (4 hours).
2. You will have five, eight to ten hour clinical days while in the village (50 hours).

### **Presentation**

1. Pick one clinical experience while in Ghana. The experience might have been a doctor / nurse and patient encounter, a birth, a doctor / nurse interaction or any other incident.
2. Create a 10-minute presentation summarizing
  - a. What happened
  - b. Why the encounter was important to you
  - c. How the experience might affect the nursing care or interactions with the health care team you will have in the future.

When you return to the US, we will have a zoom meeting and you will share your presentation with your classmates and instructor.

## **University Policies**

### **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### **Disability Services**

In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services office in UC 3150, or call (903) 566-7079.

### **Student Absence due to Religious Observance**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### **Social Security and FERPA Statement:**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.