

GLOBAL HEALTH FIELD TRIP¹ GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

FEBRUARY 16 – 25, 2024 (READING BREAK)

Complement your classroom learning in NURS 342 Health & Healing VI (Global Health Issues) by engaging representatives of institutions in Geneva that are central to various global health issues. This one-week field trip during reading break will enable you to explore various topics covered in class, including the global health care actors, health care in conflict and post-conflict situations, and nurses as global citizens.

Geneva is home to hundreds of international organizations, including the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross. It offers a unique opportunity to understand the mandates and activities of leading global health actors and how the global health system works.

Where & When?

Geneva, Switzerland from February 16 to 25, 2024 (inclusive of travel)

Who is eligible?

Students enrolled in the 3rd year of the BSN program at College of the Rockies during the 2023-2024 academic year:

- a. Who are in good standing in the BSN program and with no issues related to their progression in the program,
- b. For whom there are no issues related to student conduct that would give the College concern about possible disruptions to the learning environment during the field trip,
- c. Who are able to demonstrate that they:
 - have what it takes to succeed in a group environment,
 - are both curious and sensitive to cultural differences,
 - are committed to representing the College in a responsible manner, and
 - will act in a professional and respectful manner during the field school.
- d. Who are Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents and 19 years of age or older as of the date of travel, and,
- e. For whom there are no impediments with legal or regulatory requirements related to travel to and entry into Switzerland.

¹ Information as of August 24, 2023.

What will it cost?

The cost to participate in this exchange has been dramatically reduced thanks to support provided by Global Skills Opportunity.

Global Skills Opportunity seeks to increase the number of Canadian students studying and working internationally, including by widening access and equity in participation by low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students. Given this, **the maximum co-payment required from participating students is \$1,600**, which amounts to less than 1/3rd of the total average cost of the experience. In addition, **low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students can request an additional subsidy, reducing their co-payment to \$900.**

What does this cost include?

The cost includes airfare from Cranbrook to Geneva return, ground transportation, eight nights shared accommodation with breakfast, travel medical insurance, a full-day cultural excursion (likely to Chamonix, France), museum entrance fees, farewell dinner and operational costs.

What does this cost exclude?

Participants are responsible for meals other than breakfasts and a group dinner, souvenirs, extracurricular outings, other personal expenses and getting to / from the airport in Cranbrook. Budget approximately \$500 to \$650 for these costs.

Where will we stay?

Students will stay in shared accommodation at the [Geneva Hostel](#).

Beyond the subsidy provided by Global Skills Opportunity, what other financial support is available?

Participating students who will incur childcare / caregiver costs in order to travel to Geneva may apply to College of the Rockies to receive up to \$250 towards their costs.

Application procedure and deadlines:

- Submit an application form to the International Office or by email to studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca.
- Arrange with Kerry Brinkert or Tracey Brenton at the International Office to submit a \$500 deposit
- Have an instructor who is familiar with you / your abilities submit a reference form to Kerry Brinkert or Tracey Brenton at the International Office.
- Applicants may be interviewed by the field trip instructor and the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships
- Deadline: October 15, 2023.

Selection process:

- Your application form, instructor reference and a possible interview will be considered by the College in confirming your eligibility with a view to selecting twelve (12) BSN students.
- The College will select the first six (6) eligible Global Skills Opportunity “target group” students who complete application procedures and are determined eligible by the College.
- The College will provide the remaining six (6) spots on a first-come, first-served basis to any other eligible students (i.e., “target group” students or other students) who similarly complete application procedures and are determined eligible by the College.

Applicants who are not selected will have their deposits refunded. Deposits for applicants who are selected are non-refundable. College of the Rockies reserves the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund deposits.

What do I do if I’m interested in both the Global Health Field Trip and the field school in Kenya?

Students who will be in the 3rd year of the BSN program in 2023-24 and who register for the Global Health Field Trip are not excluded from applying for the 2024 Health and Wellness Development Field School in Kenya. However, the Kenya field school selection committee may take into account Geneva participation in considering applications for the Kenya field school with a view to ensuring that Global Skills Opportunity and College funds can support as many students as possible in taking part in an international opportunity.

What happens after I’m selected?

- You will be asked to sign a letter of agreement in which you will commit to all aspects of the program, conduct yourself in a responsible and professional manner, and comply with the College of the Rockies’ risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad.
- Final non-refundable payment is due by October 31, 2023.
- You will be expected to create a Global Skills Opportunity program profile and complete pre-departure and post-visit surveys. **Failure to comply may result in the College requesting that you repay Global Skills Opportunity funds that have been attributed to your experience.**
- You will be enrolled in College of the Rockies’ Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course, which provides College recognition of enhanced global awareness and intercultural competencies.
- You will be expected to participate in activities and complete assignments related to the Global Engagement course, including four 1.5 hour sessions that will be scheduled between November 2023 and February 2024. Assignments focus on researching practical considerations and cultural aspects related to travel, identifying, assessing and developing strategies to manage risk, and developing strategies to communicate in culturally diverse contexts and manage culture shock.

- You will be asked to sign a waiver, the College of the Rockies risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad, and the College's protocols for responsible communications while traveling abroad. In addition, as part of College of the Rockies' risk management plan, you will be asked to register with the federal government's registry of Canadians abroad and provide confirmation that you have reviewed the federal government's advice for travel to Switzerland.
- On Friday, February 16, 2024, all participating students will depart Cranbrook for Geneva, Switzerland. (The College will make travel arrangements.) If you have class scheduled on February 16, it is your responsibility to obtain permission to be excused.
- You will return on Sunday, February 25, 2024. In addition to participating in various learning activities in Geneva, you will be asked to complete one reflective essay during your time abroad as part of the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course.
- By the end of the Winter Semester 2024, you will be asked to complete the final assignment related to the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course. This assignment is to engage in communications activity that describes how your international experience impacted learning in your field of study and / or your career goals and / or your personal growth.
- It is the responsibility of participating students to continuously comply with the College's criteria for eligibility until the date of departure to one's international destination. Those who fail to do so will have their participation terminated and will not have payments made to the College refunded.

Will I get credit for participating in this exchange?

The field trip experience may be used as the basis for individual course assignments subject to the agreement of your instructor(s).

Need more information?

Meet with BSN Instructor Daniel Wiens, or the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships, Kerry Brinkert (studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca)