

HEALTH AND WELLNESS DEVELOPMENT FIELD SCHOOL AN INTER-PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY¹

KITALE, KENYA

June 26 – July 7, 2024

Health and human services students are invited to apply for an innovative form of international learning – inter-professional education (IPE) abroad. You will work as inter-professional teams with students from Kenya’s Kitale National Polytechnic to plan and execute a health promotion event focusing on health and wellness on the part of the Kitale National Polytechnic’s students, faculty and administrators.

What is inter-professional education?

Inter-professional practice (i.e., collaboration between members of two or more professions) is the reality in most health and human services workplaces. Inter-professional education aims to provide students with the skills necessary for the modern workplace through educators and learners from two or more health and / or other professions jointly creating and fostering a collaborative learning environment. IPE enables students to review relationships between their professions, enhance mutual understanding and explore ways to combine their expertise.² College of the Rockies is taking inter-professional education to a new level by delivering an experience abroad, thereby incorporating important dimensions of learning related to enhancing inter-cultural competencies and global awareness.

Where and when will this experience take place?

- Kitale, Kenya, from June 26 to July 7, 2024 (inclusive of travel) plus participation in approximately 6 preparatory meetings, which will be scheduled between the end of April and the end of June.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Students enrolled in one of the following programs at College of the Rockies:
 - **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (students who are completing their 2nd year in 2023-24),**
 - **Practical Nursing (students who are completing their 1st year in 2023-24)**
 - **Human Service Worker (students who are continuing with studies in September 2024)**
 - **Kinesiology (students who are continuing with studies in September 2024)**
- ...who are in good standing in their program with no issues related to program progression;
- ...who have no issues related to student conduct that would give College of the Rockies concern about possible disruptions to the learning environment during the field school,

¹ Information as of September 5, 2023.

² See: CAIPE (2013) [Introducing Interprofessional Education](#), (Barr, H. & Low, H.).

- ...who are registered to return to post-secondary studies (at the College or elsewhere) in the fall of 2024.
- ...who are Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents and 18 years old or older as of June 26,
- ...who have no legal or regulatory impediments to travel to and enter Kenya.

What will it cost and what will it include?

- 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 focus of the Global Skills Opportunity program, **the maximum co-payment required from participating students is \$2,000**. In addition, **low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students can request an additional subsidy, reducing their co-payment to \$1,250**.³

Cost includes:

- Flights from Canada to Kenya return with an allowance for one checked bag
- 11 nights shared accommodation in modest hotels, with breakfast included
- A day-long cultural excursion
- Ground transportation in Kenya
- Travel medical insurance
- Kenyan visas
- Operational costs

Cost excludes:

- Lunches and dinners
- Costs for vaccinations, travel medicines, and professional travel medical advice that exceed \$200.⁴
- Costs to obtain or renew a passport
- Personal expenses

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

- College of the Rockies students who are residents of British Columbia are encouraged to apply for a BC Scholarship Society [One World Scholarship](#). Contact College's Financial Assistance and Awards Advisor, [Marifer Lam](#), for more information.

³ The additional subsidy is not available to students who have previously participated in a GSO-funded activity.

⁴ Upon presentation of receipts, College of the Rockies will reimburse up to \$200 in travel medical costs (e.g., consultation fees, vaccinations, travel-related medications, etc.)

Application procedure:

- Complete an [application](#) by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 6.
- Have an instructor who is familiar with you / your abilities submit a [reference form](#) to studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca.

Selection process:

- College of the Rockies aims to select 1-3 students from each of the BSN, PN, KNES and HSWR programs for a total of 6-10 students.
- The selection process will be competitive, with a selection panel reviewing applications and reference forms, and interviewing applicants, with a view to identifying the students who can best demonstrate that they:
 - are committed to all aspects of the program (including pre-departure activities),
 - have what it takes to succeed in a group environment while experiencing stresses associated with being in an unfamiliar and challenging context,
 - would make a good fit as a member of an interprofessional team,
 - are both curious about and sensitive to cultural differences,
 - will represent the College in a responsible manner, and will act professionally and respectfully during the field school,
 - are self-motivated learners who will seize upon this opportunity to acquire new knowledge and skills to advance one's personal, academic and professional goals,
 - appreciate that complex plans often must be adjusted in the face of new realities and that adaptability, patience and flexibility are required.
- Interviews will be held the week of March 11-15.

What happens after I'm selected?

- By March 22, you will submit a \$500 non-refundable deposit and 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 plans.
- By March 29, you will 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.
- By March 29, you will provide to College of the Rockies a copy of your passport with an expiry day no earlier than January 6, 2025.
- Final non-refundable payment is due by April 30, 2024.
- 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 participate in activities and complete assignments related to the Global Engagement course, including four 1.5 hour sessions that will be scheduled between April and late-June 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.
- In April, you will receive a virtual introduction to students at Kitale National Polytechnic and, between April and late-June 2024, you will be expected to collaborate online with these students to prepare for a health promotion activity to be carried out at Kitale National Polytechnic on July 4.
- You will sign a waiver, risk management plans and emergency protocols for travel abroad, and protocols for responsible communications. In addition, as part of risk management plans, you will 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 Kenya.
- College of the Rockies will arrange the flights and travel insurance for all participants. On June 26, 2024, all participating students will depart Canada⁵ for Nairobi, arriving the next day.
- While in Kenya, in addition to your student-to-student collaboration, you will complete a reflective essay during your time abroad as part of the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course.
- You will return to Cranbrook on July 7, 2024.
- By November 29, 2024 (and preferably as soon as possible after your return), you will complete the final assignment related to the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course (i.e., 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 experience?

Credit towards a course, a part of a course, or an assignment is possible but will vary depending on your program of study. If you wish to have this opportunity considered as some form of credit in your program, please consult your Program Coordinator.

⁵ Arrangements can be made for a different departure / return airport for students who are not residing in / around Cranbrook at the end of June.