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Title:

The Effect of a Study Abroad Experience on Interprofessional and Cultural Competencies

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ACCEPTED

Session Title:

Experienced Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (ENFLA)

Slot:

ENFLA: Sunday, 17 November 2019: 11:45 AM-12:15 PM

Applicable Category:

Academic, Students

Keywords:

Cultural Competencies, Interprofessional competencies and Study Abroad

References:

American Associate of Colleges of Nursing (2008). *Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice*. Washington, D.C.; Author.

Madrigal-Leer, F., Martinez-Montandon, A., Solis-Umana, M., Helo-Guzman, F., Alfaro-Salas, K., Barrientos-Calvo, I., Camacho-Mora, Z., Jimenez-Porras, V., Estrada-Montero, S., & Morales-Martinez, F.

(2019, March). Clinical, functional, mental and social profile of the Nicoya Peninsula centenarians, Costa Rica, 2017, *Aging Clinical And Experimental Research*. DOI 10.1007/s40520-019-01176-9

Mareno, N., Hart, P., & VanBrackle, L. (2013). Psychometric validation of the revised clinical cultural competency questionnaire. *Journal of Nursing Measurement*, 21(3), 426-436.

Roller, M., C., & Ballestas, H., C. (2015). Experiential learning: An undergraduate nursing study abroad program to Costa Rica, *Online Journal of Cultural Competence in Nursing and Healthcare*, 5(1), 75-87. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.9730/ojccnh.org/v5i1a6>

Pollard, K., C., Meirs, M., E., & Gilchrist, M. (2004). Collaborative learning for collaborative working? Initial findings from a longitudinal study of health and social care students. *Health and Social Care in the Community*, 12(4), 346-358.

Abstract Summary:

The purpose of this project was to measure the effect of a Costa Rica Study Abroad experience on interprofessional and cultural competencies of BSN Nursing and Occupational Therapy students. Students participated in a 10 day short-term study abroad experience in which they engaged in various cultural and professional activities.

Content Outline:

1. Background and Significance
 1. Students in the health professions must be educated to address the needs of an increasingly diverse and multiethnic population.
 2. It is important for students in the health professions to acquire interprofessional competencies of communication, collaboration, and teamwork.
2. Purpose - The purpose of this project is to measure the effect of a Costa Rica Study Abroad Experience on interprofessional and cultural competencies of nursing and occupational therapy students.
3. Methods
 1. The study is a pre-test/post-test design
 2. Students from the baccalaureate nursing and occupational therapy programs were recruited to participate.
 3. Participants completed the Cultural Competency Questionnaire and the Entry Level Interprofessional Questionnaire prior to engaging in activities associated with the study abroad experience. Final data collection will occur after completion of the Costa Rica trip in Summer 2019.
4. Results - pending

Topic Selection:

Experienced Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (ENFLA) (25198)

Abstract Text:

Background and Significance - The population of the United States is increasingly diverse and health professionals must be prepared to meet the health needs of the growing multiethnic population. In addition, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) identifies cultural competence as an essential component for baccalaureate and graduate student education (AACN, 2008). Evidence suggests that short-term study abroad experiences can foster development of cultural competencies and broaden the global perspective of nursing students (Roller & Ballestas, 2015). Furthermore, this study abroad experience will include students from nursing and occupational therapy to create a valuable opportunity for students from both disciplines to acquire competencies in interprofessional communication, teamwork, and collaboration.

Through this international study abroad experience to Costa Rica, students will learn about physical, sociocultural, and environmental influences on health, well-being, and longevity for the people of the Nicoya Peninsula of Costa Rica. The Nicoya Peninsula of Costa Rica was selected as the destination because it is one of five areas designated as a “Blue Zone”, a place where people reach age 100 at rates of up to 10 times greater than in the United States (Madrigal-Leer, Martinez-Montandon, Solis-Umana, et al, 2019). Students will participate in hands-on activities, tours, observations, and dialogue with local residents, health care professionals, and researchers who promote the peninsula’s healthy lifestyle.

Purpose – The purpose of this project is to measure the effect of a Costa Rica study abroad experience on interprofessional and cultural competencies of nursing and occupational therapy students.

Methods: The research is a pre-test/post-test design. Students from a Baccalaureate Nursing program and Occupational Therapy Doctoral program who are participating in a 10-day Costa Rica Study Abroad course will be recruited to participate. Students will be asked to complete a Cultural Competency Questionnaire (Mareno, Hart, & VanBrackle, 2013) and the Entry Level Interprofessional Questionnaire (Pollard, Meirs, & Gilchrist, 2016) prior to engaging in activities associated with the study abroad experience, and then after completion of the Costa Rica trip. Both surveys will be delivered in an online format. Activities associated with the study abroad experience will begin in the Spring 2019 semester. Students will meet for three planning sessions where they will learn about each other and each discipline, engage in teambuilding, and learn more about Costa Rica and its people. Students will then travel to Costa Rica during the May 2019 Intercession where they will engage in various cultural and professional activities.

The research was approved by the university Institutional Review Board. Informed consent was obtained from all students wishing to participate in the research.

Results: results pending

Conclusions: pending completion of the research