

Immigrant, Refugee and Global Health Community/Public Health MSN Program Program Description

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Need for program:

1. The dramatic increase in immigrants to the Washington, DC metro area has strained public and private services, especially the schools and the health care delivery systems.
2. Many residents in this area exhibit health disparities; are poor, live in dense urban, inner-city neighborhoods and present significant ethnic and cultural diversity.
3. The health indicators of the 3.7 million people who live in 6 jurisdictions of the Washington metro area (DC, Montgomery and Prince Georges, MD, and Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax, VA) provide a glimpse of health problems that affect people around the world.

A grant was funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professions

Purpose:

- To prepare community/public health MSN prepared nurses to work with immigrant and refugee populations, with a focus on global health.
- To improve the health care and health status of underserved people...at the level of practice, of education, of prevention and of policy.

Description

- A graduate program that educated nurses about a range of population-based health subjects through coursework and applied clinical work with partners throughout the Washington-metro area that served immigrant and refugee population.
- Nursing students studied theories and principles of social justice, public health, management, program development, evaluation, and finance.
- Nurses working toward this advanced practice specialty learned social ethics, health financing, health policy, information systems and how immigrants, especially immigrant mothers adjust to a new country and negotiate a health care network, ultimately applying this knowledge in urban settings.

We felt it was important that *“Nurses who are providing care to culturally diverse populations understand the political, economic, legal, social, and policy aspects that are informing the immigration trends and debate in this country.”*

Plan of Study
Immigrant, Refugee and Global Health
Community / Public Health MSN
Total 48 Credits

Full Time Curriculum Plan: 48 Credits		
FALL YEAR ONE*	SPRING YEAR ONE	SUMMER YEAR ONE
N661 Theory Foundations (2) N657 Adv. Health Assess (3) N663 HC Policy Org. & Fin (3) ANTH741 Hlth Soc & Cul (3) N789 Adv Pract Role Sem (1) Credits 12	N686 Health Care Finance (3) N674 Pop-Based HC Mgmt (1) N675 Pop-Based HC Mgmt Prac (1) N701 Hlth Promotion (2) N708 Research in Nursing: Methods & Outcomes (3) N687 Managing Health Info (1) Credits 11	N664 Epidemiology (3) Credits 3
FALL YEAR TWO		SPRING YEAR TWO
N926 Hlth Policy Formulation & Analysis (3) N676 Vulnerable Women/Families in Comm (3) N684 Global, Immigrant & Refugee Hlth (3) N685 Global, Immigrant, & Refugee, Women/ Families Practicum (2) Credits 11		N678 Hlth Care Mgmt: Address Disparities(3) N627 Health Policy Practicum (2) TRS632A Christian Social Ethics (3) N895 Capstone (3) Comprehensive Exam Credits 11

Strategies that enhanced the global expertise of students:

- Three practica experiences approximated international health as students were placed at sites working with newly arrived immigrant and refugee families and at practica sites that influenced policy development with these populations.
- Sites included safety net clinics, schools, churches and organizations such as the Catholic Relief Services, the Peace Corps, Sabin Vaccine Institute, Spanish Catholic Center, Health and Human Services, Dept of Global Affairs and the ANA
- Lectures of experts in international health

Challenges:

1. Finding preceptors (some preceptors were policy analysts, lobbyists, community health planners)
2. Gaining access to non-traditional clinical sites
3. Creating excitement about global health without leaving the community