



FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD

KIIS Tanzania Program, Summer 2024

HCA 247 Contemporary Healthcare Issues

Instructor: Dr. William Mkanta

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: Most health systems in the world are passing through an era of change because of demographic, disease, political, economic, and environmental trends that affect the structure and functions of the systems. Students will develop an understanding of attitudes relative to **personal, family, and community health** needs. They will explore the current issues facing the Tanzanian health system in these areas in an onsite seminar that will also provide an outlook of the African experience. The second component of this course will be an examination of a series of comparisons the students will make on contemporary healthcare issues between Tanzania and other countries or continents of interest such as North America and Europe. The comparisons will be on the three areas of need based on factors of interest including resources, access, cost, quality, and experience of care.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes: Academic Objectives—(a) Describe the current US and Tanzania health systems and identify their strengths and weaknesses in relation to access, cost and quality of care (b) Describe characteristics of good mental, physical, and social health (c) List major causes and trends of disease and mortality in US and Tanzania. **Cross-Cultural Objectives—**(a) Develop an appreciation for diversity and understanding of differences between the U.S. and Tanzanian cultures in values, beliefs, and need for health services (b) Demonstrate insights learned about self and relationships created as a result of interactions with local individuals and groups.

4. Major Topics/Areas of Focus Covered in the Course:

- (a) Health Systems
- (b) Comparative Health Systems
- (c) THREE Areas of Focus will be
 - [1] Trends in Personal Health
 - [2] Trends in Family Health
 - [3] Trends in Community Health

The following table shows a list of agencies and fields of study relevant to attaining the learning outcomes.

Agency	Population Served	Field of Study/Activities
WAMATA	HIV/AIDS (adult & children)	Nursing/med; social work; public health; health administration.
Msimbazi Catholic Orphanage Care	Orphans: 0-3 years	Social work; public health; health administration; child services.
Kurasini National Orphanage Home	Orphans: 6-18 years	Social work; nursing; public health; nutrition; health administration.
Mwananyamala Regional Hospital	General Public/Community	Nursing/med; social work; public health; health administration
Kairuki Hospital	General Public/Community	Nursing/med; social work; pharm; public health; health administration

5. Required Readings and Materials: There is no text required. Prior to departure, students will be given a list of reading materials that will be used during the program. Readings with content relevant to the context of contemporary healthcare issues in Tanzania will be provided.

6. Graded Assignments:

<i>Course Assessment</i>	<i>Grade</i>
Seminars/Classes: Students are required to attend all classes, debriefing sessions, seminars, and guest speaking events. Attendance is mandatory.	20%
Observations and Cultural Immersion: Students are required to participate in all field experiences for their field learning experience. Assessments will be made on how the students make and report on	30%

<p>observations relevant to the health system and the three areas of focus in the course. They will also be assessed on how well they use the site, people, and culture in their learning. Two papers will be submitted by Week #2 and Week #4 of the program.</p>	
<p>Contemporary Healthcare Paper: Write a paper to discuss the overall impact of the course and the program. Discuss the overall experience of the Tanzania program to you and how you feel it has impacted your personal and academic interests and plans. Share your thoughts about major differences you have learned between Tanzania and the United States on individual, family, and community health. What is the cultural highlight related to your course/program to you (event, individual, a place, observation, etc.). Give details. Include one photo taken during the program with a description of how it highlights your course/program experience. Due by Wednesday of the last week of the program.</p>	25%
<p>Presentations: Group Effort. Presentations will be made by three randomly created groups each representing one of the areas of focus in the course. Presentation will be on (i) General observation on public health and healthcare in Tanzania (ii) Findings on the group's assigned area of focus (iii) Comparisons of at least THREE aspects of care pertaining to the group's area of focus between Tanzania and the United States (iv) Include two appropriate photos representing the experience of the group during the program. Last week of the program prior to evaluations.</p>	25%

Grading Policy: 90+ (A); 80-89 (B); 70-79 (C); 60-69 (D); 0-59 (F). Note KIIS/WKU does not award +/- grades, only full letter grades.

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir (270-745-6867 / ena.demir@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here

<https://www.wku.edu/eeo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g., KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.