

MED SPAN 556 HEALTH PRACTICUM
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND FOREIGN STUDIES

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Contact hours: 60 (60 Clinical Rotation + 20 hours lectures + site visits)
Hospital: (*TENTATIVE*) Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 8 AM – 12 PM
Lectures: (*TENTATIVE*) Tuesdays 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
5-weeks

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the clinical experience needed to consider pursuing a career in medicine while learning about the Medical Healthcare System in Argentina. Shadowing a doctor is a great opportunity to have an inside look at hospital life, as it will expose students to a range of specialties while developing professional skills.

In the final transcript, the course will validate and transfer 60 contact hours, which are the addition of 20 hours of class time at Belgrano plus 60 of clinical rotation hours at a local Hospital.

In order to get a comprehensive view of the healthcare system in Argentina we will include both the public and private sectors using a comparative perspective.

Students will be able to learn through the practical experience in the private health system and conduct research on the public health of Buenos Aires City. With the additional visit to a Primary Care Center from a suburban area.

The clinical practicum will be thus framed within a larger course, which aims to improve the experience by providing room for reflection, including debate sessions, research and oral presentations. Students will be assigned to specific medical areas, e.g. Internal Medicine, Intensive Care Unit, Pediatrics and Neurology, depending on the hospital's vacancies. Students will also benefit from the calendar of events at the hospital, including Medical Grand Rounds.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to read the assigned materials for each class, participate in the fora online, contribute actively to the class discussion and do oral informal presentations in class. The goal of these presentations is to learn to reflect on what each student does at the hospital in order to get full value from all experiences. Providing reflection and feedback is the purpose of this course and the best way to enhance learning by integrating Theory and Practice. In consultation with the professor, students will conduct research for a final presentation about the organization of healthcare in Argentina. They will visit on their own a private hospital in Buenos Aires or in the suburban area, concluding with a reflexive comparison between private and public hospitals in an audiovisual format.

Candidates should already possess an upper intermediate level of Spanish proficiency. Candidates need to be competent and fluent in Spanish and take a placement exam to determine upper intermediate level.

Grading Policy

Clinical rotation	50 %
Visit a public health system establishment (week 2)	10 %
Oral presentation on the public health system in Buenos Aires City (week 4)	10 %
Final presentation project (written) Final presentation (week 5)	30 %

Academic Calendar

Week 1

Orientation and presentation of the rotation at private facility.

Presentation of the course (workshop) and the topics for the final project.

1. Public health in Argentina: history and current events. Health systems: public, social security and private medicine. Role of the State.

2. Primary Care: from ALMA-ATA to universal health coverage. Access to health. Health as a right in Argentina. REMEDIAR, PAMI, Mandatory Medical Plan Programs.

3. Human factors in health: Training of the doctor and the public University. Doctor-patient relationship. Attachment theory. Health professionals and their working conditions.

Assignment of topics for the final project

Students choose their topic (sign sheet). For each topic they must read a mandatory bibliography. The format of the final presentation consists of: 1) abstract, 2) 10-15 bullet points, 3) key words, 4) short questionnaire for the rest of the class to answer.

Topic 1: Health in Buenos Aires City

Money and health. Organization of resources: public health, social security, private health system companies. Health costs: Who pays?

Topic 2: Rights and health

REMEDIAR, PAMI and Mandatory Medical Plan programs. Barriers to access to health, primary care and home programs. Poverty and Health: sexual health, obesity and childhood diabetes. Transnational health organizations. Health and sovereignty: **WHO, World Bank, Rockefeller Foundation, NGO**

Topic 3: Health professionals

Public and private universities, advantages and disadvantages. Geographic distribution. Doctor-patient relationship from attachment theory. Being a doctor in the 21st century: technology and prolonging average life.

Assignment for the visit to a Public Hospital in Buenos Aires City, in groups of three students. A guide will be provided of aspects to observe for the oral presentation that students will conduct on week 4.

We will work in class with the city government's health website and the students will go on their own for this visit.

Clinical Rotation

Week 2

Visit to a public health system facility outside the city, in the town of Quilmes.

Students must document the visits with a video.

Meeting point: TBA. We will go to the **Don Bosco Primary Care Center (or similar)**.

Clinical rotation

Week 3

Sharing of what was observed in the primary care visit.

Presentations about the visit made by the other group. Similarities and differences of the experience in the two locations.

Comparison of what was observed in the clinical rotation and in the public system.

Sharing of reading 1 (read in the Spanish class).

Clinical rotation

Week 4

Oral presentations on public hospitals visited. Sharing of reading 2 (read in the Spanish class).

Consultation on final works based on the delivered outline

1) Presentation of the correction criterion through a **model presentation**. Formal guidelines: Powerpoint presentation with abstract, 10-15 bullet points, key words, and preparation of a short questionnaire for the rest of the class to respond. Approximate duration of the presentation: 10 minutes.

2) 15-minute **personal consultations** with each student to work on the presentation of individual final projects.

Clinical rotation

Week 5

Sharing reading 3 (read in the Spanish class)

Presentation of the final projects.

Participation of all students through the questions asked by each speaker.

Conclusions

Clinical rotation

End of the course

Recommended bibliography for final projects

- <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/observatorio>
- Gobierno de la Ciudad - Centro de Atención Primaria y Hospitales
<http://buenosaires.gob.ar/centros-de-salud-y-hospitales>
- Sistema de Salud en Argentina historia <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gojISz-1bFs>
- El sistema de salud argentino en imágenes (The Argentine health system in images)
- Salud Pública - Introducción Javier Lazovski <https://youtu.be/IT4jYQUizJs>
- IOMA - Felipe Pigna: La evolución de la Salud Pública en Argentina - Disertación completa (The evolution of Public Health in Argentina - Complete dissertation)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSZPUR2qqNs>
- De la salud pública a la cobertura universal de salud: el caso argentino (Public health to universal health coverage: the Argentine case)
- Alma-Ata: 25 años después (Alma-Ata: 25 years later)
- Universidades públicas y gratuitas en Argentina <https://eduqueo.com/universidades-publicas-y-gratuitas-de-argentina/>
- Estudiar Medicina en la UBA (study Medicine in the UBA), youtube video
- Los Recursos Humanos de Salud en Argentina (Health Human Resources in Argentina)
- Archivos Históricos - Tren Sanitario "Eva Perón" (Historical Archives - "Eva Perón") Sanitary Train <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yy0nfuMXbhq>
- Dr. Ramón Carrillo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDvJksC8chk>