DR BHI: Dominican Republic Batey Health Initiative

OE 957

Brief description (200 words or less of course details):

Preclinical years students participating in the OEE, will engage in an immersion experience (typically one week long) in the underserved communities known as “bateys” that are home to the rural populations of migrant sugar cane workers and their families residing in the eastern Dominican Republic. The immersion experience will target selected batey populations, allowing continuity based service and advocacy projects to be developed over time in partnership with the communities themselves, as well as with local, regional and international organizations, sharing an interest in the advancement and well being of the batey populations. The OEE immersion will expose students to the broad scope of factors that constitute the determinants of health shared by underserved and marginalized populations in general. These determinants of health include medical, social, linguistic, educational, economic, ethnic, cultural, demographic and geo-political factors.

Semester offered: Fall/Spring (runs both semesters)

Registration information:

If you are interested in participating in this class, contact the student leaders for more information and to register.

Requirements for credit:

- To receive “credit” for the OEE, each student must complete the ‘DR immersion experience’ evaluation as well as the OEE program evaluation. Each student, who is not a team leader will also complete a brief 1-2 page reflective write up to be submitted to the OEE sponsoring student leaders and faculty. These could be shared with other participating students as part of the DR student experience archive, with consent from each student for posting.
- Several didactic sessions have been planned. These are mandatory. If a student has a sufficient hardship that precludes attending a session, make-up work, as listed in the session tables at the end of this document, can be completed. No more than 3 sessions can be missed and made up to receive credit for the OEE.

Contact information (student and faculty leaders):

Joseph Shortsleeve, Philip Picard-Fraser, Tyler Lueck, Jessica Pierre-Fancois, Hannah Lin, Ukpong Etteh

Offered in this academic year: YES