Ecuador & Galapagos

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

What in the world?

Mar 1 Leave Salt Lake
Mar 2 Arrive Cuenca
Mar 3-6 Work with children in Orphanages
May 7-10 Explore Galapagos Islands
Mar 11 Fly to Salt Lake

Questions?
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Cuenca, Ecuador is located on the inland side of the Andes Mountains. Our service will be playing with and caring for orphans and vulnerable children of all ages. Our main focus will be on a beautiful group special needs children.

Care for Kids

Peds Assess

See the Andes

Explore Islands

Earn Credit!

1 APPLY BY 10/25

1st application is for Nursing acceptance, see Bulletin board under Study Abroad

2 STUDY ABROAD

2nd application is for Study Abroad dept. weber.edu/studyabroad

3 REGISTRATION

Sign up for Spring 2019 NRSG 4850 or REST 4850
This course teaches Pediatric Assessment, Culture and Diversity, Teamwork, and Inter-professional Collaboration.

Our Course
Course is a Spring 2019 Bachelors elective, and is a hybrid course. We will meet 4 times throughout the semester for face to face activities and information. Online assignments will help you learn pediatric assessment and understand the culture in each country.

The International Service Learning Experience happens over spring break. Final assignments will be journaling and de-briefing. Neonatal Resuscitation and Cardiopulmonary certification will be offered for an additional cost.

Course Requirements
This course requires participants to work well as a team while working within vulnerable communities. The program director reserves the right to deny admission to any participant for medical or behavioral conditions that may jeopardize the health and safety of the group, or the host community.

Participants
Participation in this course requires acceptance by the School of Nursing International Committee. There are only 8-10 participants for the 2019 course, so apply early! Applications are due by October 25th to allow for selection prior to Spring 2019 registration. Persons with the following qualifications will be considered:

- Nursing students, prefer ADN but all will be considered
- Respiratory Therapy students, with AAS completion
- Health Professions students (applicable credit will be determined by your school)
- Licensed Healthcare Professionals from the community (CE may be available)
- Additional Team Leads (faculty or staff only)

Prepare
Read all the information provided by the US Department of State for Cambodia and Thailand, then enroll in Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) [https://step.state.gov](https://step.state.gov).

Health Insurance
It is wise to check with your health insurance to see if they cover any health issues while you are traveling abroad. There are local clinics and hospitals that are available for care.

Immunizations
Read immunization information from the CDC at [https://www.cdc.gov/features/vaccines-travel](https://www.cdc.gov/features/vaccines-travel).

Make an appointment with the travel nurse at your county health department no later than 3 months before departure. They will compare your immunizations to the countries and cities we will visit, and recommend immunizations and treatments to keep you safe. These typically include routine immunizations, hepatitis A&B, and typhoid. Malaria and Yellow Fever are not prevalent in the cities where we will be. However, if your county health department recommends immunization or treatment for these, please follow their recommendations.

Other Diseases
There are other prevalent diseases that require prevention or treatment: Chagas, Chikungunya, Dengue, Leishmaniasis, Tuberculosis, and Zika.

Prevent mosquito bites that may carry Zika, Chikungunya or Dengue; and sandfly bites that...
may carry Leishmaniasis by covering exposed skin, using 20% Deet, using a permethrin treated sleep sack.

Monitor Tuberculosis by completing 2 step TST or IGRA prior to leaving, then repeating single TST or IGRA 8-10 weeks after return.

Prevent exposure to the feces of triatomine bugs (also called kissing bugs) by using insecticides, to prevent Chagas disease.

Prevent food-borne illnesses by eating foods that are well cooked and served hot. Eat fruits and vegetables only if they are cleaned with bottled water, peeled or cooked. Drink only bottled water, use only ice made from bottled water, brush your teeth with bottled water, do not open mouth while showering.

Permethrin Treatment
It is recommended that you treat your clothing and sleep sack with Permethrin as an added way to repel insects. Permethrin is a chemical that will make your clothes mosquito and other bug resistant. Do this a couple days before leaving. Hang clothes outside, spray, and let dry. The permethrin will last for several washings. Use this for clothing that will be worn outside, and your sleep sack.

Money
Ecuadorians use US dollars. If you are bringing cash, make sure the bills are new and in good shape. You can use debit or credit cards, but you must notify your bank before you leave the country.

Photo Policy
Due to Ecuadorian law, it is prohibited to take photos/videos of any child at an orphanage. Violating this policy could lead to legal prosecution from the government. We care deeply about the children we serve and their safety along with the safety of our participants. The orphanage has been given permission to take and use some photos in print format, and may give you a printed copy. You are in violation of this law if you make them available online.

Sleeping
Some of the places where we are staying will have clean and nice bedding. For others, you should bring a personal sleep sack. These can be found online or at sporting good stores.

Language
There's an app for that! Get one and start learning some phrases Spanish. Google translate is also a great too, but phones and photos are not allowed in the orphanages.

Packing
A packing list will be provided at the beginning of the course. You can take a 40 pound bag, and a 15 pound personal bag. We will be taking additional medical supplies.

Weather
The weather in the Cuenca is mild, but can experience cool nights and warm days. The humidity is mild. Most buildings do not have air conditioning or heating, so you just need to adjust your clothing to compensate.

March in the Galapagos marks the beginning of summer, and the month with the most precipitation. The sun is intense, and it is hot and humid. We will be staying in hotels, but going by boat on the ocean from island to island to explore. Exploration will include some hiking, bird watching, snorkeling, and viewing of many different kinds of land and sea creatures.

What other questions do you have?

THINGS TO REMEMBER…

Maintain personal and professional boundaries of being a volunteer by: being a good ambassador of the WSU & the US while being in another country, treating people with respect, working hard, trying to understand and participating in the local culture, trying new foods, learning some words and phrases, being safe by staying with the group, keeping valuables safely locked up, preventing illness by following clothing, food and water guidelines.