Advancing Health Equity for Latinos and Immigrants
Spanish Immersion for Health Care Providers

Rutgers School of Nursing–Camden is enhancing opportunities for health care providers to advance health equity for underserved Latino and immigrant communities. Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s International and Foreign Language (IFLE) office, the School is expanding its Learning Abroad options in Spanish-speaking countries and enrollment in Spanish for Health Care Professionals courses through cross-disciplinary partnerships on campus and at local community colleges.

Learning Abroad in Spanish-speaking Countries | Spring 2018
Details: nursing.camden.rutgers.edu/global-learning

Learning Abroad: Population Health in Cuba through Community Development
This seminar and course offers undergraduate and graduate students an overview of population health through the lens of community development within the Republic of Cuba. It introduces key concepts of the Cuban health care system and sustainable community development while strengthening conversational Spanish skills.

- **Contact:** Nancy Pontes, Assistant Professor, nancy.pontes@rutgers.edu
- **Travel Date:** March 10-18, 2018

Service Learning Journey: Health and Healing in Guatemala
This seminar and course introduces students to health and healing in Guatemala, one of many developing countries in the Americas with significant poverty and health disparities. Classroom and field experiences focus on demographic, socio-cultural, spiritual, economic, legal, and political factors influencing population health and healthcare delivery.

- **Contact:** Kevin Emmons, Clinical Assistant Professor, kremmons@camden.rutgers.edu
- **Travel Date:** March 9-18, 2018

Service Learning Journey: Health and Healing in Bolivia
This seminar and course introduces students to health and healing in Bolivia, one of the most poverty-stricken countries in the Western Hemisphere, with the aim of helping students to gain a deeper understanding of health and healing in this developing country.

- **Contact:** Jeanann Sousou Coppola, Assistant Professor, sousoujh@camden.rutgers.edu
- **Travel Date:** August 13-29, 2018
Spanish Literacy for Health Care Providers

Over 37 million people in the United States speak Spanish as their native language and more than 16 million have limited English proficiency. Functional health literacy influences a patient’s ability to read and understand labels on medicine containers, appointment slips, informed-consent documents, and medical instructions – all considered basic health documents that a patient encounters in healthcare settings. At Rutgers University–Camden, health professionals across disciplines can enroll in the following courses designed to prepare them to effectively communicate, treat, and serve Spanish-speaking persons in clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, and doctor’s offices.

Courses

Now online! Details: foreignlanguages.camden.rutgers.edu/spanish-for-the-health-professions/

940:127 Spanish for the Medical Professions I 3 credits

This introductory course allows students with no prior knowledge of Spanish the ability to develop communication skills specifically adapted to the health care environment. Participants will acquire basic grammatical structures and vocabulary related to topics such as patient history, symptoms for common ailments, physical conditions, pain scale, diabetes care and emergency response. Students will come away with the ability to communicate with Spanish-speaking patients on a basic level, and to understand patients’ simple statements and commands.

940:227 Spanish for the Health Professions II 3 credits

This intermediate course is for students with prior knowledge of Spanish interested in developing and improving their communication skills in order to communicate effectively with Spanish-speaking patients, co-workers and professionals. It entails a basic review of grammatical structures for asking and answering frequent questions, and comprehensive vocabulary acquisition on topics such as detailed patient history, symptoms for multiple conditions and diseases, maternity, pediatrics, diabetes, mental health and addiction. Students will be able to give advice to patients and respond to more complex questions and scenarios in a clinic or hospital setting.

940:327 Spanish for the Health Professions III 3 credits

This course is for the near native, heritage, or native Spanish speaker who has had little to no formal training in the language. Students taking the course should have a need to communicate in Spanish within a clinical setting. The course will develop students’ clinical language abilities by putting them in role-play scenarios in hospitals, clinics and nursing homes to encourage paragraph level discourse. Students will be able to give advice to patients about disease prevention, nutrition, infant care and maternity care.

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