Medical Program

The course includes two weeks of intensive Portuguese classes and lectures on health addressing tropical diseases, public health, the government’s Family Health Program (PSF) and the doctor-patient relationship.

The goal of this program is to engage the student and help them understand the reality of public health in Brazil. For this reason the student will conduct a survey of the most common diseases in a number of different local communities, prepare and develop prevention workshops and produce a final report listing the difficulties faced by these communities when they need to access the public health system, specifically the PSF.

Students will have the opportunity to work with the Instituto Solidare in Recife. In order for students to gain a broader understanding of the reality of Brazilian public health they will also work in a small town in the interior of Pernambuco, Panelas.

Upon arrival, students will be entitled to transportation from the airport to their homestay.

This course is divided into two parts.

Part One: In the first two weeks, students will have four 50-minute group classes of Portuguese language instruction, every morning Monday through Friday. On two afternoons, the student will take classes in Tropical Diseases, Public Health, Introduction to the Family Health Program of the Federal Government and doctor-patient relationship. They will also visit the Instituto Solidare where they will receive training and be involved in conducting a survey of the most common diseases among the public in the communities served by the organization.

Part Two: For the second part of the course students will work in the Instituto Solidare communities in Recife and Panelas.

During this period they will deliver workshops, conduct the survey, finalize their reports and update the program Facebook page.
Medical Program Schedule

Week 1

Day 1
8:00-9:30h – Language placement test and orientation (general procedures)
9:30-11:50h – Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00h – School activity

Day 2
8:00-11:50h – Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-15:00h – Workshop: Public health and definition of field activities (survey and mapping)

Day 3
8:00-11:50h – Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Visit to the Instituto Solidare

Day 4
8:00-11:50h – Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-15:00h – Workshop: Family health and doctor-patient relationship. Training in how to use survey of the most common diseases among the public served by the Instituto Solidare

Day 5
8:00-11:50h – Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Visit to the Instituto Solidare: Survey the most common diseases among the public served by the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro)

Day 6
Weekend excursion

Day 7
Free time
Week 2

Day 8
8:00-11:50h –Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h –Lunch break
13:00-17:00h –Visit to the Instituto Solidare: Survey the most common diseases among the public served by the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro) (continuation)

Day 9
8:00-11:50h –Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h –Lunch break
13:00-15:00h –Workshop: Tropical diseases

Day 10
8:00-11:50h –Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h –Lunch break
13:00-17:00h –Visit to the Instituto Solidare: Survey the most common diseases among the public served by the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro) (continuation)

Day 11
8:00-11:50h –Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h –Lunch break
13:00-15:00h –Workshop: Tropical diseases (continuation)

Day 12
8:00-11:50h –Portuguese lessons
12:00-13:00h –Lunch break
13:00-17:00h –Visit to the Instituto Solidare: Survey the most common diseases among the public served by the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro) (continuation)

Day 13
Weekend excursion

Day 14
Free time
Week 3

Day 15
8:00-11:50h – Visit to the institute Solidare: Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro) (continuation)

Day 16
8:00-11:50h – Visit to the institute Solidare: Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro) (continuation)

Day 17
8:00-11:50h – Visit to the institute Solidare: Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (ZEIS Cavaleiro)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Preparation of the community report

Day 18
8:00h – Go to Instituto Solidare
10:00-12:00h – Travel to Panelas
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas)

Day 19
8:00-12:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)

Day 20
8:00-12:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)

Day 21
8:00-12:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Survey of the most common diseases among the public served by Instituto Solidare (Panelas) (continuation)
Week 4

Day 22
8:00-12:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (Panelas)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (Panelas)
(continuation)

Day 23
8:00-12:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (Panelas)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-17:00h – Conduct workshops with the public in the Instituto Solidare (Panelas)
(continuation)

Day 24
8:00-12:00h – Preparation of the community report (Panelas)
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00-16:30h – Travel to Recife

Day 25
8:00-11:50h – Visit to Portuguese Language School and evaluation of the program
12:00-13:00h – Lunch break
13:00h – Free time

Day 26
Free time

Day 27
Free time

Day 28
Free time/Departure