

Geisel School of Medicine - Course Catalog - 2026-2027

Medicine: MEDI-560 - Elec: Rwanda Global Health	
Course Type	Clinical Elective
Prerequisites:	
Restriction days:	30
Keywords:	
Course Objectives:	
Course Title	Rwanda Clinical Elective in Global Health
Course Number	560
Year	Year 4
Faculty	Dr. Lisa V. Adams
Location	Kigali, Rwanda
Duration	4 weeks
When Offered	July - April
Credits	4 credits
Enrollment	Limited to Global Health Pathway Students. Enrollment number varies.
Visiting Students	No
Coordinator	Tecla Coleman
Coordinator E-mail	Tecla.Coleman@dartmouth.edu
Coordinator Phone	603-646-5935
Course Description	Students will participate in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of patients with communicable and noncommunicable diseases at a national tertiary care facility in Rwanda. They will also identify the social determinants impacting the health of individuals admitted to the hospital and their families, while gaining an understanding of the systems issues that impact healthcare delivery in Rwanda and similar resource-limited settings.
Objectives & Goals	In the clinical rotations, students will: 1. Understand the clinical practices in general OB/GYN, Surgery, Internal Medicine, or Pediatrics and medical subspecialty care areas such as Cardiology, Pulmonary, Neurology, Hematology, Oncology, Gastroenterology, Genetics, Neonatology, and Infectious Disease 2. Work with an inpatient care team to appropriately diagnose and treat general medical or pediatric patients in a national tertiary care facility in Rwanda 3. Understand differences in healthcare delivery at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (and other U.S. academic medical centers) and a national tertiary care facility in Rwanda in terms of healthcare systems and resource allocation

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Objectives & Goals cont.	4. Learn difference in disease profiles and public health challenges in U.S. and Rwanda 5. Experience cultural differences in care delivery between the U.S. and Kigali, Rwanda
Instruction	The student will be taught by the medical faculty and residents/interns of our partner institution at a national tertiary care facility in Rwanda. Instruction will include sessions, case presentations, and bedside teaching. Orientation: Students are required to participate in either an online or in-person pre-departure seminar organized through the Center for Global Health Equity. Students are required to visit a travel clinic (Dick's House, DHMC, or another of their choice) at least one month prior to departure. Host Onboarding: Students must complete all pre-departure requirements as well as any onboarding tasks assigned by the Host organization. Security: Any country with warnings regarding security of American nationals will be prohibited for the international elective. Residents are strongly required to check the U.S. State Department periodically for relevant information regarding travel abroad.
Evaluation	This is a Pass/Fail course. The student will be required to have at least one attending faculty member and at least one resident or intern complete an evaluation of their clinical performances on this elective. The Registrar's Office will send an electronic evaluation to the attending faculty member and one resident or intern for completion. The student will meet with Dr. Lisa Adams upon return to Geisel to debrief on their experience.
Special Notes	Please note: Students registered for electives overseas are required to attend pre-departure sessions in person or online provided by the Center for Global Health Equity on safety and security, cross cultural competency, and professionalism and ethics to better prepare for an overseas experience. Additional requirements for international travel will be communicated to participating students, including but not limited to the requirement to complete the Program Acknowledgement, Release, and Indemnification Agreement. Elective is limited to Global Health Pathway Students.
Department Affiliation	MEDI