INT D 410: Interprofessional Health Team Development
Winter 2018 Course Overview & Stream Descriptions

Course Coordinated by:
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INT D 410 is a process-learning course that enables students to build the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to promote interprofessional relationships and knowledge exchange between professions in health service delivery, with a view of enhancing patient care.

Students develop 4 core competencies that have been identified as foundational for interprofessional team practice, with principles of patient-centred care woven throughout these competencies:

- **Communication**: communication skills that enhance interprofessional team function
- **Collaboration**: Interprofessional team process skills that achieve common goals
- **Role Clarification**: understanding of own role and the roles of others in an interprofessional context
- **Reflection**: critical evaluation of professional and team practice in an interprofessional context

The disciplines participating in the course include: dietetics/nutrition, medical laboratory science, medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, pharmacy, kinesiology, physical education & recreation, physical therapy, radiation therapy and speech-language pathology. For the duration of the course, students will participate on a team of 6-8 students from multiple disciplines. With approximately 1000 students taking the course simultaneously, student teams are grouped into approximately 25 sections, each facilitated by 2-3 health science faculty or practitioners from a variety of disciplines.

The course runs as a 3-hour class once weekly for 10 weeks from Jan 9 – Mar 20 for Tuesday sections, or Jan 11 – Mar 22 for Thursday sections. Sections are scheduled Tuesday afternoons 14:00-17:00, Tuesday evenings 18:00-21:00 or Thursday evenings 18:00-21:00. Course materials will be posted in the campus central eClass system; there are no textbooks or course packs to purchase.

**INT D 410 Streams**

The course includes 6 specialized streams, each relating course activities to a particular health care context. In November, students registered in INT D 410 (winter version only) will receive an email that links to an online form to indicate preferences for selecting a specialized stream. The following pages describe the available specialized streams.
1. Bariatric Health Care/Obesity Management
Tuesday afternoons 14:00-17:00

Obesity treatment and management are unique areas of practice that are most effective when care is provided from an interprofessional team who understand the complexity of obesity as a health condition. The Bariatric stream will provide students with exposure to interprofessional teamwork through interaction with real teams who work in bariatric care in Edmonton. The students will learn about the causes and consequences of obesity, issues related to weight bias and stigma and best practices in obesity treatment and management. Students will practice respectful communication and teamwork through participation in simulations with standardized patients. They will explore the bariatric care suite (simulated obesity management hospital environment) and Smart Condo (simulated home environment) at the HSERC lab in the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy. The class will have guest speakers who will discuss issues in bariatric care and shared decision-making, including real clients/patients who will relate how interdisciplinary teams have impacted their care. Students will be introduced to bariatric care resources and organizations such as The Canadian Obesity Network.

2. Immigrant & Refugee Health Care
Tuesday evenings 18:00-21:00

The Immigrant and Refugee Health stream envisions a future wherein healthcare professionals will be more conscientious and knowledgeable of the unique healthcare needs of the immigrant and refugee population. To achieve this goal facilitators guide students through the process many immigrants and refugees take, providing students the opportunity to meet with various community leaders working with this population on a daily basis, and finally empowering students to become engaged in the advocacy process, introducing them to a practical framework to becoming a health advocate, for not only this population but for every patient and community they intend to serve. Students will develop interprofessional competencies, working in teams to complete a project, and practice respectful communication and teamwork in simulations with standardized patients.

3. Online/Distance Education - Telehealth
Tuesday afternoons 14:00-17:00

This section combines health science students from the Augustana, Calgary and Edmonton campuses. Class meetings will be conducted via web-based conferencing (using Adobe Connect on a personal computer at home or any location). This stream will introduce students to considerations on the use of virtual communications to improve professional collaboration for enhanced patient care, including exposure to telehealth and various modes of communicating with others at a distance. Students will experience ongoing interprofessional teamwork with colleagues from the 3 campuses, along with the flexibility of working away from a regular classroom. The class will have guest speakers who will discuss issues in telehealth and interprofessional decision-making, including actual patients who will relate how interdisciplinary teams have impacted their care. Students will work through case studies that consider scenarios in which some practitioners are local with the patient while others are communicating from a distance through technology.
4. Palliative, Hospice & End-of-Life Care

Tuesday afternoons 14:00-17:00 & Tuesday evenings 18:00-21:00

Palliative care is a discipline of health care that provides care to patients who have non curable diseases and are at the end of life, with the focus of care no longer on curing the disease, but providing symptom management for physical problems such as pain, and assisting them and their families with psychosocial and spiritual concerns. Ultimately, the goal is quality of remaining life, not quantity. Given the many dimensions of support provided to patients and families, palliative care lends itself nicely to interprofessional teamwork and care. It is anticipated that students and even staff who have had minimal exposure to palliative care may be anxious about it at first, but many come to feel more comfortable following this type of exposure. Palliative care is not all doom and gloom, and celebratory experiences also happen during this time. Many find it is an honour and pleasure to serve people at this time of their life. The class will have speakers from multiple disciplines who describe their practice and discuss issues in palliative care and interprofessional decision-making. Students will develop interprofessional competencies, including effective communication and teamwork via case studies with standardized patients in a simulated home environment in HSERC.

5. Pediatric & Family Practice

Tuesday afternoons 14:00-17:00 & Tuesday evenings 18:00-21:00

Pediatric care is a discipline of health care in which family involvement and care delegation is both encouraged and supported; it ranges the life span from birth to 17 years, covering a wide array of developmental milestones and health concerns. Contrary to the common myth “Kids are little adults”, the realm of pediatric practice is a complex and unique array of skills that require the health professional to be able to work, communicate, and care for both the pediatric patient and their family unit and to collaborate with a wide range of professionals from health care or other sectors such as K-12 education. This course will look at various approaches to team communication, collaboration, role clarification, and individual and group reflection, in settings ranging from acute care inpatient as well as rehabilitation and home environments. The class will have guest speakers who will discuss issues in pediatric care and shared decision-making, including parents who will relate how interdisciplinary teams have impacted their child’s care. Students will develop interprofessional competencies, including effective communication and teamwork via case studies with standardized patients.
6. Vulnerable Populations

Thursday evenings 18:00-21:00

Does all health care occur in a hospital? What happens when a patient returns to the community? We often hear about patients who “fall through the cracks of the healthcare system,” either due to disconnect between care providers or barriers that reduce access to providers in the first place. This stream explores the concept of “continuity of care” and the importance of collaborative practice to help patients navigate the healthcare system. In order to develop a holistic approach to patient-centered care, students will learn about the determinants of health, vulnerable populations, and community health issues, including homelessness, abuse, mental health, addictions, and Aboriginal health. The class will have guest speakers from multiple disciplines who will discuss issues in this context of health care. Students will develop interprofessional team skills as they work through case studies and simulations regarding vulnerable populations, including practicing effective communication through interaction with standardized patients.