GO GLOBAL HEALTH SCIENCE
2021 PROGRAM GUIDE

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Introduction to Go Global Health Science

Go Global Health Science provides health sciences students with the opportunity to undertake an international clinical fieldwork placement at partner sites in Asia. This award winning international student mobility placement enables students to work collaboratively with their peers from other health sciences disciplines, learn about the complexity of different healthcare systems, appraise their own cultural awareness and competence and practise leadership and discipline-specific skills.

Students exchange knowledge and work alongside local health professionals delivering services relevant to their degrees such as Physiotherapy, Speech Therapy, and Occupational Therapy, Exercise Science, Social Work, Nursing, Occupational Health & Safety, Psychology, Oral Health, Pharmacy, Dietetics, Nutrition, Sexology, Exercise Physiotherapy, Para medicine, Midwifery, Medicine, Medical Imaging and Health Promotion. Curtin clinical facilitators travel with the students for the first two weeks of the placement and then for the final two weeks the students work under the direction of the host site partner and liaison staff with long-arm supervision continuing from Perth.

Curtin University Strategic Plan- Delivering Excellence

Curtin University is a vibrant and globally engaged institution. We are innovative in our thinking and our graduates are highly sought after by industry and our alumni community comprises leaders all over the world. Developing a clear and comprehensive global strategy, strengthened by deep international partnership and alliances, will enhance our ambition to be a genuinely global university according to our vision, mission and values. The Go Global Health Science placement greatly embodies the following statements in the Curtin Vision, Mission and Values.

The Curtin Vision: “is to be a recognised global leader in research, education and engagement. Curtin will be a beacon for positive change, embracing the challenges and opportunities of our times to advance understanding and change lives for the better.”

The Curtin Mission: To “transform lives and communities through education and research.

Curtin Values: “Building on a foundation of integrity and respect and through courage, we will achieve excellence and have an impact on the communities we serve.

Inter-professional Education and Placement

Inter-professional education (IPE) is a key initiative in the Faculty of Health Sciences driven by recognition that no single health profession or discipline has the capability to deliver optimal care for a wide range of health and social issues. By knowing how each profession contributes its skills and expertise to optimise health outcomes, health practitioners can more effectively provide safe, high quality care to their clients.
Inter-professional Capability Framework

All activities undertaken within the Inter professional Practice Program are underpinned by Curtin University Faculty of Health Sciences’ Inter professional Capability Framework (see diagram below). This framework is designed to provide a model for teaching and assessing the capabilities required to be a collaborative, practice-ready health professional who can work effectively and efficiently in an inter professional team to provide safe, high quality service/care to clients, families and communities.

![Inter-professional Capability Framework Diagram](image)

Placement and Host Sites

Go Global Health Science collaborates with education providers, community organisations, health facilities and international NGOs to provide placements that focus on delivering learning outcomes for students whilst making a positive social impact with the communities we work with.

In 2021 Go Global Health Science will be running four-week clinical and community placements in Cambodia, China, India, Vietnam, Thailand and Nepal during July and December* and Vietnam in January 2022. The following sections provide an overview of each destination and an insight into the host sites we are currently working with.

* Please note host sites, placement information and travel dates are always subject to change and are dependent on local conditions and group numbers and are sometimes out of our control.
Cambodia

Cambodia, or the Kingdom of Cambodia as it is officially known in English, is located in Southeast Asia and bordered by Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and the Gulf of Thailand. The official religion is Theravada Buddhism, practised by approximately 95 percent of the population. Cambodia’s minority groups include Vietnamese, Chinese, Chams and 30 hill tribes. The capital and largest city is Phnom Penh, the political, economic and cultural centre of Cambodia.

Cambodia experienced a particularly turbulent political period in the 70’s where from 1970 to 1975, under the direction of Pol Pot the Khmer Rouge was directly and indirectly involved in the death of more than 2 million people. In 1975 the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia and remained there until 1979. As a result of the civil war and then occupation by Vietnam, many educated people were killed, especially health professionals, and much of the major infrastructure related to health was destroyed.

Cambodia is about to become a lower middle-income country. Significant gains have also been made in the rebuilding of the health system through an extended process of health reform beginning in the 1990s. But for many people, health care is only available based on a “user pays” system. In a country that heavily relies on subsistence farming to survive, those poorer families with health concerns are often left untreated due to finances, access, and isolation from the limited health services that are accessible in the country.

Host sites

Go Global Health Science currently work with five sites in Cambodia which offer students the opportunity to practice clinical and inter-professional skills in community settings. The sites are located around 300 km North West of the capital Phnom Penh - three in Siem Reap and two in Battambang.

As the placement progresses the students become increasingly independent and can begin to identify clients who require specific treatment which they are capable of providing or initiate health promotion sessions. This is a challenging placement and students need to be able to apply their clinical and theoretical knowledge whilst also relying on their facilitators, peers and the local staff for advice and assistance. There may also be a component of teaching required to provide education for local staff members and sharing of knowledge, techniques and skills which are culturally appropriate for the community. Students will work with a team of interpreters who will assist with the culture and language.

The sites are allocated by the Clinical Coordinator, depending on the needs of each host site, student numbers and disciplines. All groups start and finish in Siem Reap and will take part in similar preparation sessions and orientation in country.
Siem Reap Sites

Grace House Community Centre
Established in 2008, Grace House Community Centre is a non-religious, non-political registered Cambodian Non-Government Organisation (NGO). It is situated 4 km outside of Siem Reap, on the road to Tonle Sap, where the villagers make a living from farming and fishing. Grace House Community Centre provides education, physiotherapy and speech pathology within a structured individual curriculum complemented by therapeutic intervention for children with moderate to severe disabilities who live in the Siem Reap Province.

Students will work with the local staff to provide assessment and intervention for the children in the classrooms. The staff and translator will assist you to liaise with the families to determine goals and areas of need.

Military Handicap Development Centre
This Government run purpose built community for injured and retired soldiers and their families is approximately 45 minutes from Siem Reap. Each of the 250 families have been provided with a small concrete house and some land to grow food and make up the 4 villages of this community. There is a primary and secondary school on the site and a Health Clinic which is staffed by one doctor, two nurses and a midwife. The clinic serves the community of about 1500 people and they have very limited resources and medication. Prevalent conditions at MHDC are alcoholism, domestic violence, back pain, diabetes, hypertension, PTSD, gastrointestinal issues, sexually transmitted infections, dengue fever, TB, malaria, burns, stroke, acquired brain injury and chest infections. The clinic provides maternity and general health treatment, vaccinations and child health care.

Balaing Clinic and Community Health Centre
Located 27 kilometers or 46 minutes’ drive from Siem Reap. Balaing clinic and Community Health Center serves nine villages within the Bakong district. The community is largely farming based with the majority of families housing up to 10 residents within a single-roomed dwelling. There is little infrastructure within the community and roads are largely unsealed, where homes are found along ‘dirt’ tracks. Each community has a village chief, who is responsible for the communities’ law and order, and general wellbeing. The clinic is opened 24 hours, seven days a week, staffed only by nurses and provides maternity and general health treatment.

In the maternity sector, nurses are responsible for antenatal, delivery, postnatal and family planning care. In early-child health, the nurses provide child healthcare in the form of scheduled vaccinations and general growth monitoring. For general healthcare, the nurses provide wound care, dispense limited medications, management of hypertension and diabetes, gastrointestinal complaints, musculoskeletal conditions, trauma injuries, and mosquito-acquired diseases. In mid-2018 a tuberculosis
hospital opened adjacent to the clinic and is used for patients requiring to remain at the clinic for short term treatment. Additionally, nurses provide monthly education to community health volunteer groups, which typically involves two volunteers per village who provide a community health service.

**Battambang Sites**

**Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) Battambang**

The Physical Rehabilitation Centre in Battambang services the needs of the communities in five provinces in the north and north-west of Cambodia which was one of the largest land mined areas in the world. Recently it has increased its scope through a range of outreach activities, establishing itself as a flagship physical rehabilitation centre. The number of disabled people benefiting from the services has increased annually and the centre caters for paediatrics and adults. The provision of prostheses, orthoses, wheelchairs and walking aids, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation following orthopaedic surgery, neurology, trauma injuries and acquired brain injuries are a few of the services offered at the Centre. The facilities include a large well equipped workshop and indoor and outdoor physiotherapy areas.

**World Mate Emergency Hospital (WMEH)**

The World Mate Emergency Hospital is a 110-bed trauma and emergency hospital located centrally in the of the Battambang region. When the WMEH first opened in 1998, there were approximately 1,000 land mine victims per year, and at least half of them were given free care. Today, the hospital continues to treat these victims though their number has greatly decreased.

Over the past five years, the number of road traffic accidents in Cambodia has escalated by 30% per year. This is because there are increasing number of car and motorcycle drivers on the country’s chaotic road system. As a result, the total number of road accident victims has replaced the total number of landmine victims.

The hospital has a fully operational emergency department, two operating theatres, post-operative orthopaedic wards, ICU, laboratory, Medical centre, General surgical ward, Medical ward, radiology, pharmacy, and physiotherapy departments. Students have the opportunity to interact with clients whose main presentations include large bone fractures (upper and lower limbs), amputations, brain injury and rehabilitation needs, hypertension, diabetes, medical cardiology, general surgery, respiratory diseases, community-acquired pneumonia and tropical diseases. Students may also be involved in presenting education sessions and workshops.

Importantly, the WMEH is also a training facility for doctors and nurses and with numerous partnerships across the country. The mission of the World Mate Emergency Hospital is to provide high-quality trauma care to the general population of Northwest Cambodia, including free care and support to landmine victims, and to the poor community while building the capacity of the local healthcare system.
China

China is the third largest country in the world by land mass encompassing 9.6 million square kilometres, with the world’s largest population of 1.4 billion people. With a civilization over 5,000 years old, it is considered one of the four ancient civilizations of the world. The capital of China is Beijing and the main language spoken is Mandarin Chinese of which there are seven dialects.

China’s healthcare system has improved significantly over the past decade, and in this time has undergone significant reorganisation in an attempt to achieve universal health-care coverage by 2020 (World Health Organisation, 2005). Some gains apparent during this time of change include an improved life expectancy, a lowered child mortality rate and reduced cases of infectious diseases.

China is also home to an ageing population, which is increasing the pressure on the healthcare system. The ‘one child policy’, which was introduced in 1979 to control the dramatically increasing population, is also taking its toll on the healthcare system. In Chinese culture, the elderly receive care from their children whilst still living at home. However, as the elderly population continues to grow and the availability of family caregivers decreases, they are increasingly needing to seek care in hospitals and residential care facilities. The public hospitals in China are classified under level one, two or three. Level three is considered the highest level and one of the requirements to achieve this level is to have a rehabilitation department.

Host sites

Go Global Health Science has partnerships with HuaShan Hospital and Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre in Shanghai, both hospitals are classed as level three. The sites selected by the Clinical Coordinator will depend on the needs of each host site, student numbers and disciplines. All groups start and finish in Shanghai and will take part in similar preparation sessions and orientations in country.

HuaShan Hospital

This is an ‘A’ grade tertiary hospital with over 100 years of history provides both inpatient and outpatient services to people of Chinese nationality, as well as citizens from foreign countries. The hospital has a wide range of clinical departments and health services, providing care to over 20,000 inpatients and over 1.5 million outpatients annually.

As a premiere provider of healthcare in Shanghai and the surrounding region, Hua Shan hospital has collaborative links with many reputable institutions worldwide, including Massachusetts General Hospital, which is the largest teaching hospital of Harvard University’s Medical School. HuaShan hospital is also known as Fudan University’s teaching hospital.
Collaborative links have been established with the rehabilitation department within HuaShan Hospital, as well as with East and North HuaShan Hospitals, subsidiaries of HuaShan Hospital, where Go Global Health Science students will be involved in providing inpatient and outpatient (orthopaedic and neurological rehabilitation) care to adult and teenage patients who are transferred for long-term rehabilitation. HuaShan Hospital key specialties are hand therapy, neurosurgery, neurology, urology, nephrology, infectious diseases, cardiology, general surgery, radiotherapy and traditional Chinese medicine.

Curtin physiotherapy, speech pathology and occupational therapy students will have the opportunity to work in the outpatient rehabilitation department, the international wards and the public wards. The medical imaging students will work alongside of the local staff and students in the radiology departments. Being a reputable teaching hospital, students have many opportunities to engage in inter-professional practice with a diverse and complex caseload.

Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre

Opened in 2007 as the first specialised public rehabilitation centre in Shanghai, Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre is affiliated with Shanghai Disabled Persons Federation and provides adults and pediatric educational, vocational, social and physical rehabilitation services to inpatients and outpatients including physiotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy.

There are a variety of clinical departments including pediatrics, orthopedics, neurology, spinal cord injury and integrated traditional Chinese medicine. Go Global Health Science students will work across a variety of departments with the local therapists and therapy students from China and Hong Kong to provide inter-professional intervention to their wide-ranging clients and identify appropriate opportunities to share Australian discipline-specific practices with local students and supervisors. It is a resource-rich site and therefore the focus is on knowledge and skill sharing and students are expected to provide presentations on clients they are working with.

The paediatric department is outpatient based with children aged 6 months to 18 years and clients receive therapy daily or every second day for 40 minutes. Patient presentations include scoliosis, cerebral palsy, Downs Syndrome, Autism, Torticollis, Joubert syndrome and Rett syndrome. The adult departments comprise of the orthopaedics, Neurology, Spinal cord injury OT neurology, and Speech Pathology.
India

With a population of over 1.3 billion people, India is the second most populated country in the world, following very closely behind China. It is also the world’s largest democracy. Despite the government’s initiatives to reign the ballooning birth rate, overpopulation lies at the crux of many of India’s most pressing problems.

Most obvious is the ever-growing disparity between rich and poor; although around 1/3 of India’s population live on less than US$3 per day and 41% of Indian families live in one bedroom homes, the country has an estimated 85,000 millionaires and houses a handful of the top ten wealthiest people in the world.

The health care system in India is universal. That being said, there is a great discrepancy in the quality and coverage of medical treatment in India. Healthcare between states and rural and urban areas can be vastly different. Rural areas often suffer from physician shortages, and disparities between states mean that residents of the poorest states often have less access to adequate healthcare than residents of relatively more affluent states. State governments provide healthcare services and health education while the central government offers administrative and technical services. Lack of adequate coverage by the health care system in India means that many Indians turn to private healthcare providers, although this is an option generally inaccessible to the poor. To help pay for healthcare costs, insurance is available, often provided by employers, but most Indians lack health insurance, and out-of-pocket costs make up a large portion of the spending on medical treatment in India.

As India is one of the fastest-growing economies in 2018, poverty is on the decline in the country, with close to 44 Indians escaping extreme poverty every minute, as per the World Poverty Clock. India has been able to lift a significant percentage of its population out of poverty, but many still live in it. According to Oxfam, India’s top 1% of the population now holds 73% of the wealth while 670 million citizens, comprising the country’s poorest half, saw their wealth rise by just 1%.

Host sites

Go Global Health Science has partnerships with Holy Cross College, The Spastics Society and Panchayat Middle School, and Gitanjali Medical Centre and Hospital which are all located in Trichy. Students applying for India must do so with the knowledge that they may be placed at any one of the three sites below according to the discipline requirements. All students however, will travel as one team and share the same accommodation. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in and attend a Bi-Annual International Healthcare Conference hosted by the Holy Cross College.

Holy Cross College

The Holy Cross College, established in 1983, is one of the pioneering institutes in teaching and training professionals in the field of Rehabilitation of the Disabled. The early mission of the centre aimed to alleviate the lack of trained Rehabilitation workers. The institute is affiliated to the Bhaeathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, and Tamil Nadu and is recognised by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI).
Aims of the centre:

- To provide quality education and prepare skilled professionals in the field of Rehabilitation and Special Education for the disabled
- To empower individuals with disability and provide education to society on disability issues through external services and programs
- To extend work through government and non-government organisations

Services and programs offered:

- Psychological Assessment
- Early Intervention Programme
- Speech Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Hydrotherapy
- Sand therapy
- Sensory Integration Programme
- Dance, Drama and Art Therapy
- Parental Counselling
- Needs based training Programmes

Holy Cross College started Blossoms Opportunity School for Special Children. This school provides education and training to all categories of special children between the age group of 3 and 18 years of age. The objectives of the school is to assess, train and develop basic skills in children and provide need based services. To also develop self-confidence and prepare children for integrated education, and to obtain a rightful place for special children in the family and society. The school has a team of social workers, physiotherapist’s, occupational therapists, psychologists and speech pathologists who work closely with the children and their families to facilitate their learning and developmental skills.

The Spastics Society of Tiruchirappalli

The Spastics Society of Tiruchirappalli is a registered organisation providing training, education and rehabilitation to disabled individuals residing in Trichy and surrounding villages. The activities and services of the organisation are oriented towards creating an inclusive society in which people with disabilities can live with dignity, enjoying equal rights as citizens of India.

Children accessing services from the Spastics Society have a range of disabilities including cerebral palsy, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, autism and mental retardation (intellectual disability), as well as associated comorbidities (e.g., hearing and vision impairments). Interventions offered at the Spastics Society include, but are not limited to, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, special education, behaviour management therapy, self-care therapy, arts and craft therapy, hydrotherapy and sensory integration therapy.
The following programs are offered by The Spastics Society:

- Early Intervention Care (0-6yrs)
- Day Care program (7 -20 years)
- Home management program
- Parent Training Program
- Newborn screening program
- Vocational program

The staff at the Spastics Society include a team of Occupational therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech Pathologists and a visiting Paediatrician.

**Panchayat Union Middle School**

This is a Government school and provides education for children from the surrounding villages and who are the first generation to have a formal education. Their parents are illiterate and have not had the opportunity to learn English.

The school is situated on the outskirts of Tiruchirappalli and has 250 students from the age of 3 years to 14 years, kindergarten to 8th Grade and there are 9 teachers. Each class has 25 to 30 students and there is one class for each standard. This is an integrated school, meaning that there are children with ‘special needs’ in each class and they have the opportunity to have an education alongside other children. Lunch is provided for the children at school and they have a designated team of cooks who prepare healthy, nutritious food.

Many of the staff speak English and it is taught in each grade to the children. In December 2019, our first team of Go Global Health Science students attended this site and they welcomed the opportunity to have allied health, social work and psychology students participate in the well-being of the students.

**Gitanjali Medical Centre and Hospital Tiruchirappalli Hospital**

The Gitanjali Medical Centre and hospital is located in Puthur, Tiruchirappalli and is a private facility which was opened in 2007. It is a 100 bed hospital and has specialities in medical, surgical, orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, rheumatology, gastroenterology, plastic surgery, neurology, neurosurgery, urology, geriatrics and cardiology.

There are 15 ICU beds, 15 Neo Natal ICU beds and 70 beds in the wards. It has a pharmacy, physiotherapy department, medical imaging and medical laboratory. This will be the first placement at the Gitanjali Hospital for Go Global students and we look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the nursing, physiotherapy, pharmacy, medicine, and medical imaging students.

The medical Superintendent, warmly welcomes the Go Global students to work alongside the hospital staff, sharing knowledge, interventions, procedures and experience.
Nepal

Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia and is located mainly in the Himalayas, but also includes parts of the Indo-Gangetic Plain. With an estimated population of 26.4 million, it borders China in the north and India in the south, while Bangladesh is located within only 27 km of its southeastern tip and Bhutan is separated from it by the Indian state of Sikkim.

Nepal has a diverse geography with fertile plains, subalpine-forested hills, and eight of the world’s ten tallest mountains, including Mount Everest, the highest point on Earth. Kathmandu is the nation’s capital and largest city. Nepal is a multiethnic nation with Nepali as the official language.

Nepal is one of the world’s poorest countries with 45% of the population living below poverty line and as many as 50% of children under the age of 3 suffers from stunted growth. The country is highly susceptible to natural disasters such as earthquakes, recurrent floods and landslides.

Health care services in Nepal are provided by both public and private sectors and are generally regarded as failing to meet international standards. Diseases are more prevalent in Nepal than in other South Asian countries. A large section of the population, particularly those living in rural poverty, are at risk of infection and mortality by communicable diseases, malnutrition and other health related events. Nevertheless, some improvements in health care can be witnessed: most notably, there has been significant improvement in the field of maternal health.

Pokhara

Nepal is a new Go Global Health Science placement opportunity and our first group participated in this placement in November-December 2019. The placement is in Pokhara, which is 200km west of Kathmandu and has a population of about 420,000 people. Pokhara is flanked by the Annapurna mountain ranges and set on the beautiful Phewa Lake. Students will receive a country and cultural orientation and visit some of the temples, market places, historical sites and health related sites.

Host sites

Sathi Sansar Nepal

This is an NGO Family Day Centre for children with cerebral palsy from the Pokhara region and the children are aged from 3 – 15 years. There are three centres – one is in a rural area which has 20 children and the other two centres are in central Pokhara, with approximately 8 children in each centre.

The teachers and carers are trained onsite and there are no qualified allied health professionals providing care and therapy for the children. The IPP team work with the Centre staff, and provide education and therapy to
the children at each of the centres. It is suited to physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, psychology, social work, nursing, and dietetics and nutrition students.

The Sathi Sansar Nepal interventions can be described as being 'child-based' or 'community-based':

i. Child-based Interventions
   - Special education and rehabilitation centre services
   - Home-based education and rehabilitation services
   - Inclusive Education support services

ii. Community-based Interventions
   - Awareness raising
   - Social mobilization
   - Early Detection
   - Advocacy
   - Capacity building
   - Resource provision and development

Green Pastures Hospital
This is a 70 bed Christian NGO Hospital 15 minutes from Lakeside Pokhara. This Hospital has served the needs of the poor and marginalised people in Nepal since 1957. Originally the hospital was established as a specialist leprosy hospital but now has other services such as: spinal disorders and neurosurgery, orthopaedics, spinal cord injury, hand surgery, stroke, cerebral palsy, amputations, orthotic and prosthetics, rehabilitation, dermatology, plastic surgery, palliative care, general medicine and ear surgery. It is suitable for nursing, speech pathology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, medicine, dietetics, nutrition, and psychology students.

Manipal Hospital
Manipal Hospital was established in 1994 and is a teaching hospital for medical and nursing students and is affiliated with Kathmandu University, Nepal. It is a 700 bed private hospital and is the largest hospital in Western Nepal with 7 operating theatres, 30 bed ED department, medical imaging services, radiotherapy services, 2 labour rooms, medical and surgical ICU, neurosurgical ICU, Cardiac Care unit, paediatric ICU, Neonatal ICU, hemodialysis unit, 3 pharmacies, and outpatient clinics.

The specialty services include: Cardiology, neurosurgery, gastroenterology and hematology, medical oncology and radiotherapy, oral and maxillofacial surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery, orthopaedic surgery, general surgery, general medical services, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, oncology surgery, nephrology and cardiothoracic surgery.
**Thailand**

Thailand is a country at the centre of the Southeast Asian peninsula composed of 76 provinces and over 68 million people. Myanmar and Laos border Thailand to the north, to the east by Laos and Cambodia, to the south by the Gulf of Thailand and Malaysia, and to the west by the Andaman Sea and the southern extremity of Myanmar. Although nominally a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy, the most recent coup in 2014 established a de facto military dictatorship.

Thailand is an emerging economy and is considered a newly industrialised country. Thailand had a 2017 GDP of US$1.236 trillion (on a purchasing power parity basis). Thailand is the 2nd largest economy in Southeast Asia after Indonesia. Thailand ranks midway in the wealth spread in Southeast Asia as it is the 4th richest nation according to GDP per capita, after Singapore, Brunei, and Malaysia.

The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) along with several other non-ministerial government agencies oversees health and medical care. As of 2019, Thailand’s population of 68 million is served by 927 government hospitals and 363 private hospitals with 9,768 government health centres plus 25,615 private clinics.

Universal health care is provided through three programs: the civil service welfare system for civil servants and their families, Social Security for private employees, and the universal coverage scheme, introduced in 2002, which is available to all other Thai nationals. Some private hospitals are participants in the programs, but most are financed by patient self-payment and private insurance. According to the World Bank, under Thailand’s health schemes, 99.5 percent of the population have health protection coverage. Non-communicable diseases form the major burden of morbidity and mortality, while infectious diseases including malaria and tuberculosis, as well as traffic accidents are also important public health issues.

**Host sites**

Go Global Health Science is offering the first Thailand placement in December 2020. We work with Borderless Friendship Foundation (Thailand) – a local NGO who seek to provide the best possible opportunities for healthy, safe and rewarding lives for hill tribe children and youth in their care ensuring inclusion of family.

**Hill Tribes Community**

The Hill Tribe people are the indigenous inhabitants of the Thailand/Myanmar/Cambodia/Laos border area. Six major tribes or ethnic minority groups comprise what is collectively known as the ‘hill tribes’. Neither country recognizes them as citizens, thus depriving them access to a variety of education and health services and Thai identification.

Geographically and socially isolated, mostly living in poverty, hill tribe children are highly vulnerable to sex trafficking and forced prostitution. There is a high level of STIs and untreated HIV/AIDS. As subsistence
farmers, the people are also vulnerable to the drug traffickers from Myanmar. To earn very small amounts of money, they resort to smuggling illegal substances across the border in to Thailand. The combination of early deaths from AIDS, death in childbirth and jail for drug smuggling, means that many of the children are left without parents.

Borderless Friendship Foundation (Thailand) has participated in the establishment of safe hostels (Leadership Home) and access to education for those children who have lost one or both of their parents or whose parents do not have the capacity to provide for them.

Go Global students will have the opportunity to work alongside local staff and assist with health promotion and education, self-care of children, nutrition education, and provision of health care at the Leadership Home. Students will also be involved in primary health care in the local Huayjakan agricultural village, working alongside the local clinic staff, and providing education and health promotion/interventions in the village and schools.

The local clinic has nurses and trainee nurses providing all health care for the village people. This includes antenatal, pregnancy, delivery, and post-natal care, child health care, trauma injuries, infections, tropical diseases, immunizations, STIs, diabetes, hypertension, musculoskeletal, and general medical care.

**Vietnam**

Vietnam is bordered by China to the north, Laos and Cambodia to the west and its coastline runs along the Gulf of Tonkin, the Gulf of Thailand and the South China Sea. There are three distinct geographical regions, the highlands and the Red River Delta (north), the Truong Son Mountain Range and the coastal lowlands (central) and the Mekong Delta (south).

Vietnam’s cultural diversity stems from its intriguing history dating back more than 4,000 years. Its historical legacy includes a century of Chinese occupation, which has left a very strong foreign cultural influence, evident in the pagodas and the local cuisine.

Vietnam is comprised of 85% Vietnamese, and the remainder splint between the 54 ethnic groups. Officially Vietnam is an atheist country but despite this many of its citizens are religious. The three main religions are Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism with Buddhism having the most followers.
Vietnam is currently striving towards a universal health care system. At the end of 2014, 71.6% of the population had health insurance. Currently, the government subsidizes 80% of hospital fees for the poor and near-poor, as well as 100% for poor people and ethnic minorities living in disadvantaged areas, and 30% for farmers and fishermen, who have average living conditions.

Many pharmacies in Vietnam sell drugs without prescriptions, particularly in the urban areas and the World Health Organisation has listed Vietnam among the list of countries with the highest rate of antibiotic-resistant infections.

**Host sites**

**Hoa Binh Centre for Social Protection (HBC)**

The establishment was set up in 1992 and houses approximately 105 people who may be homeless and unable to live independently, and/or are physically and or cognitively disabled.

There is a variety of health conditions including physical, intellectual and mental health disabilities. Paediatric presentations may include Down Syndrome, Hydrocephalus, Autism Spectrum disorder, and global developmental delay, cerebral palsy, hip dysplasia and HIV.

Adults may present with stroke, motor vehicle accident/traumatic brain injury, geriatrics, intellectual disabilities, mental health and sensory processing difficulties. Approximately 55 residents have physical and cognitive issues, the rest are homeless, elderly and unable to live independently or are orphans. Many babies have been adopted from this centre and those who have not been adopted receive an education and stay until they are around 17 years of age when they are assisted in finding jobs in the outside community.

The placement provides students with the opportunity to gain exposure to a wide range of conditions and disabilities, making this a challenging and rewarding experience. This placement will challenge students beyond the parameters of a traditional setting and will provide opportunities for development of initiative, flexibility, teamwork and creativity.

CSDS are our country hosts and run an internship for young adults, providing training on leadership, critical thinking, personal development, volunteer management and social entrepreneurship. Three to four interns are allocated to support Go Global Health Science students on their placements. They provide support for the group in understanding the Vietnamese culture, learning the language, translating with staff/residents and developing the capacity of the Centre.
Thuy An Rehabilitation Centre

Thuy An Rehabilitation Centre for people with disabilities is 13kms away from the small town of Son Tay and 70kms from downtown of Hanoi. Founded in 1976, the Centre was originally opened for disabled children whose parents are the veterans infected with the Agent Orange, the toxic chemical used in the American war. Over time, however, the Centre has started to render its services to all disabled children. Thuy An Rehabilitation Centre has 300 residents with physical and intellectual disabilities. The centre also cares for some elderly residents who have no family or home. Many children from the surrounding community receive outpatient treatment at the Centre and there is education and therapy in a dedicated Autism Unit.

The children aged 0 to 18 suffering from mental or physical disabilities are helped in any of three ways, depending on their disability:

i. **Rehabilitation**: This consists of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, access to social workers and psychologist, speech pathology, occupational therapy and a medical doctor.

ii. **Education / Vocational training**: This consists of special education, integration education, vocational training such as sewing, wool knitting, embroidering and computer teaching.

iii. **Upbringing / Looking after**: The children are well looked after by staff.

The ultimate goal of the Centre is to help the children re-integrate into society. While special education helps to lessen the burden of children’s families by teaching the disabled to help themselves with personal activities, the vocational training programs enable handicapped children to earn their living and be able to live independently in future.
Placement Preparation, Learning Outcomes and Assessments

As a Go Global Health Science participant, students are required to play an active role in preparing for the challenging and rewarding experience, which comes from working with a new multi-discipline team in a foreign country. Students are expected to actively take part in a pre-departure program, which is an integral component of their placement preparation. The pre-departure program includes a series of handbooks, workshops and assessments and students are required to actively participate in all aspects.

Clinical and Country Handbooks

Students are provided with a country-specific handbook that addresses a range of topics such as background information on the country and the culture, details on the host site, what a typical day looks like, placement components, student expectations, requirements, and much more. The handbook also outlines important dates, deadlines, and provides a list of documents students are required to submit. It is essential the handbook is read as soon as they are received and will be available on Blackboard for student access.

Country Pre-departure Workshop

Once students are allocated to their placement, they will be provided with a number of opportunities to get to know the rest of their “group”. One of these opportunities includes a country-specific Pre-departure workshop that in addition to meeting the rest of your team provides students with valuable information about the placement and host site. Some topics covered in the workshop include:

- Destination and host site details
- Team building
- Cultural sensitivity and cross-cultural communication
- Working with interpreters
- What to wear / Go Global Health Science uniform
- Fundraising
- Country-specific requirements
- Assessments and important dates
- Documents to submit and logistical information

Ready, Set, Go Global Pre-departure Workshop Day

In the final stages of the pre-departure preparation, the Go Global Health Science team hold a workshop from 9.00am to 2.00pm where students work together in their groups and participate in a variety of sessions to ensure they are fully prepared for the adventure ahead.

Topics covered in this session include:

- Final details for the Placement and Travel
- Information regarding the assessments and projects on site
- Cultural awareness
• Communicable diseases information
• Conflict resolution
• Interprofessional practice
• Assessments
• Discussion with previous Go Global Health Science students

Go Global Health Science Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Students will be required to complete the following assessments as an integral part of their placement preparation, experience, reflection and evaluation:

• Learning Objectives- You will be required to write three learning objectives and this will enable you to focus your learning on specific areas and can help you to maximize your time spent on your placement.
• Reflective Journal- in order to gain the most from the experience, you are to complete four reflection pieces to assist you to process your placement experiences on a personal and professional level.
• Interprofessional Capability Assessment Tool (ICAT) - this is the evaluation tool used for all interprofessional placements for students in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Curtin University.
• Project Summary Report: This is a significant contributor to sustaining the service that the students have provided and assists future students to carry on with the work.

Upon successful completion of Go Global Health Science placement you will be able to:

• Reflect on personal and professional progression towards attaining cross-cultural competence during an international service learning placement
• Demonstrate and evaluate interprofessional practice
• Synthesise and document the current influences on the healthcare system of an international community
• Apply projects that work towards community-based health outcomes of host sites

Cultural competencies and employability skills that you will gain include:

• Knowledge of the Indo-Asia region
• Cross-cultural communication skills with a range of stakeholders
• Work-readiness with regional experience
• Leadership and Teamwork skills
• Problem-solving skills
• Conflict management skills
• Interprofessional experience and knowledge
Student Support, Assistance and Safety

Curtin University has a strong network of professionals who are available to assist students in a range of scenarios in the lead up to their departure, whilst on placement and once they have returned to Perth. These are explained below:

Support from Go Global Health Science Team

Go Global Health Science staff are on hand to provide advice and information in the lead-up to your placement. We also provide emergency back-up by being on call 24 hours a day throughout your placement. In the event of an emergency, students call International SOS and to inform us immediately of the situation.

Support from Go Global Health Science Facilitators

Go Global Health Science work with facilitators from each of the Schools who assist in the preparation of each group in the lead up to departure, travel with the group for the first two weeks and assess the students at the placements. The facilitators will provide mentoring and direction, assist with team meetings and daily debriefs, provide direction with site projects, and facilitate learning, communication, and relationship building within the team.

Host Site staff

Each Go Global Health Science host site has a local contact who will assist students throughout the placement. You will be introduced to the liaison upon arrival in the country. They are also available to assist students following the return of the facilitators and offer 24-hour services.

International SOS

Through Curtin University’s membership with International SOS, students will have access to 24/7 expert advice and assistance for travel, medical and security queries during their placement. Students will also gain access to the ISOS Assistance App, a tool that provides medical and travel guides at your fingertips enabling you to contact the nearest Assistance Centre for help or advice when needed.

Curtin Comprehensive Travel Insurance

Curtin University provides comprehensive Travel Insurance for approved Curtin travel, whether you are travelling within Australia domestically, or internationally. Go Global Health Science students are covered under this policy for the duration of the placement. We recommend you visit Curtin’s Risk and Assurance webpage for further information about the travel insurance including ongoing private travel post placement and cover for spouse/partner and dependent children.
Globetrotter

Curtin University employs the services of Globetrotter, a global travel management firm specializing in corporate travel, to book all Go Global Health Science flights. Students have the option of amending their return flight post placement for personal travel and will receive further details about the process in the months leading up to departure. If you intend to travel on after your placement, please inform Go Global Health Science office.

Smartraveller Registration

Go Global Health Science recommends students register their travel plans with Smartraveller prior to departure. This information is provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade cover safety information including issues of security, civil unrest, crime, and health. You can register your trip online through your Smartraveller account. This information can be found here on the Smartraveller website.

Go Global Health Science Alumni

Go Global Health Science Alumni Chapter develops a network of postgraduate professionals who have previously participated in a Go Global Health Science placement. Go Global Health Science Alumni Committee aims to raise the profile of Go Global Health Science within Curtin University and across the wider community, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the outcomes and possibilities of the placements undertaken at the host sites.

Visit Go Global Health Science Alumni Website: alumni.curtin.edu.au/chapters/go-global
Search ‘Go Global Health Science Alumni’ and join their Facebook page

Financial Assistance and Fundraising

New Colombo Plan (NCP) Grant

There are a limited number of (NCP) grants to the value of $3000 per student for Go Global Health Science placements. To be considered for an NCP grant students must:

- Be an Australian Citizen
- Be between the ages of 18 and 28 (inclusive) years of age as of 1 January 2021
- Be undertaking a Bachelors or Honours Degree
- Must be at least in the second year of their program
- The placement will provide direct credit for their course of study
- Cannot have dual citizenship or residency rights or have previously been a citizen or permanent resident of the Host country
- Not be a recipient of another Australian Government funded off-shore scholarship whilst on Go Global placement
- Not previously been awarded an NCP grant
Applications: All students who apply for Go Global Health Science placement will be automatically assessed in accordance with NCP eligibility guidelines. Applications will be ranked according to academic merit and responses to application criteria and grants will be allocated accordingly.

**Centrelink Payments**

Centrelink generally stop payments if you have left the country. To ensure students continue receiving their payments whilst on their Go Global Health Science placement Centrelink need to be provided with a Letter to Confirm of Enrolment. Centrelink will ONLY accept this letter for students who:

- Are undertaking their placement For Credit
- Are enrolled full time.

Please contact Curtin Connect for the Centrelink Letter. It is advisable to obtain this letter at least 4 weeks before your departure date of your placement.

**OS-HELP**

OS-HELP is a financial assistance initiative introduced by the Commonwealth to assist eligible students with a range of expenses for the purpose of the overseas study. The loan helps with the cost of studies undertaken overseas (travel, living expenses or tuition fees), as part of their Australian degree. Students applying must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Australian citizen, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holder or New Zealand citizen
- Enrolled in a Commonwealth Supported Place at Curtin University during placement
- Not received an OS-HELP Loan in relation to more than one other period of 6 months
- Completed a minimum of 200 credits towards the current course of study at Curtin University (this may include CRL)
- Academic status of Good Standing
- Study will be full-time whilst overseas
- Will have a minimum of 25 credits remaining for current course of study at Curtin University upon returning from overseas study
- Have a Tax File Number

Please note that student may not apply for OS-HELP more than 6 months before placement.

For more information regarding OS-HELP loan and how to obtain further details please click [here](#).
Placement Eligibility Criteria and Requirements

Go Global Health Science is available to health sciences students from most disciplines. Students who will be in their third or fourth year of their undergraduate degree, or final year of a postgraduate degree, at the time of placement, may be eligible to apply. Please note that the eligibility criteria is discipline-specific and determined by each School. Please speak to your School Fieldwork Coordinator to confirm if you are eligible and which placement you can apply for.

To participate in Go Global Health Science, students must meet certain criteria and adhere to a number of requirements. The criteria, requirements and expectations are outlined below. In addition, students are required to meet with their School Fieldwork Coordinator to discuss their intentions to apply to ensure that Go Global Health Science placement is suitable for your course and does not conflict with requirements or expectations. It is also important to check that the preparation sessions and placement travel dates do not clash with exams or classes.

Requirements

Before you apply please check that you meet the following criteria and expectations;

- In Good Standing (Academic Status)
- Course Weighted Average (CWA) of 60% or more
- Able to undertake the time commitment for preparation sessions, group and individual assignments and the 4-week overseas placement
- Must be in Perth to participate in all preparation sessions and assessments
- Meet all Go Global Health Science deadlines by the due dates provided
- Able to obtain all mandatory vaccinations relevant to the chosen destination
- Must have a passport with at least six months validity on return to Australia at time of departure
- Have a current Working With Children Check
- Eligible to obtain a visa for chosen Go Global Health Science destination

Conditions of Participation

As a participant Go Global Health Science placement, you will need to acknowledge and agree on the application form that:

- Whilst participating in an international fieldwork placement as an enrolled student of Curtin University, you are subject to its statutes, policies and procedures relating to study, courses and awards
- Appropriate standards of behaviour is expected. You are aware that any adverse behaviour will not only reflect on yourself but also on the University and future participants in the placement
- Whilst on this international fieldwork placement, you will be under Curtin’s custody care and control and therefore must follow its reasonable directions
- Whilst attending the host institution you will abide by the rules and regulations pertinent to the host institution (these will be discussed with you when you arrive at your placement)
- You are required to travel with the Go Global Health Science group from Perth to the host country
- You will obtain appropriate medical advice regarding the necessary vaccinations, immunizations and health requirements required for your travel to the host country
• You must notify the Go Global Health Science team of any pre-medical conditions and obtain a Fitness to Travel Form and manage the rigours of the travel certificate from your treating physician along with medications.

• You further acknowledge that as a participant in an overseas fieldwork experience you will be regarded by the host institution as an enrolled student of Curtin University.

• You will follow the Health and Safety Risk Management Plan for the fieldwork placement and abide by the obligations imposed in it.

• You acknowledge that should you breach Curtin University’s Student Charter or Curtin’s Values and Signature Behaviours or any other policy, you could have your Go Global Health Science placement terminated.

• Students may be excluded from undertaking the Go Global Health Science placement for the following reasons:
  - Students who are on Conditional Status or have a course weighted average of less than 60
  - Students who have failed or have been at risk of failing a previous fieldwork placement
  - Medical or personal reasons if the student is at risk of endangering themselves or others
  - If any of the following are breached: Curtin University ‘Student Charter’; Curtin University’s ‘Curtin’s Values and Signature Behaviours’ or Professional association ‘Code of Ethics’, (e.g. Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics)
  - Upon recommendation of the school, Go Global Health Science reserves the right to withdraw the offer of the placement from the student.
Placement Dates and Cost

Please consult your unit coordinator before applying for the placement so that you know what options are available for you. A number of factors contribute to the places we offer, some of which include requests from School Fieldwork Coordinators, discipline suitability and maximum capacity. Please keep in mind that in round two, a large number of places have already been allocated to students who applied in round one.

Dates

Go Global offers placements three times a year. Whilst the following dates are likely to be as stated, they are to be considered tentative until we have allocated all places and paid for the flights:

- 19th June to the 17th July 2021
- 18th November to the 18th December 2021
- 7th January to the 5th February 2022

Placement Fee and Payment

The fee for 2021 Go Global Health Science placement is outlined below.

Given we are a Curtin University placement, we are here to offer a service and provide opportunities for health sciences students. We are not in business to make a profit and aim to keep the cost down as much as possible.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DESTINATION</th>
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<td>CAMBODIA</td>
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<td>THAILAND</td>
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What’s included?

- Return flights between Perth and the host country
- Pre-departure Preparation Program and administration of the placement
- Accommodation for the duration of the fieldwork placement
- An orientation program on arrival in country
- Structured placement, two-week facilitation and regular debrief sessions
- Some meals and transport – destination dependant
- Travel insurance and 24-hour access to emergency support for the period of placement
- Use of Go Global equipment including group emergency Go Global mobile phone
- Dedicated host partner and a team of interpreters – site dependent
- Transportation whilst in country

Note:

- A $250 deposit is required to be made once you have submitted your application
- The remainder can be paid in full or instalments (whichever you prefer) as long as the deadline is met
- The placement must be paid in full by the following dates:
  - July 2021 placement: By 14th February 2021
  - December 2021 placement: By 18th July 2021
  - January 2022 placement: By 18th July 2021
- All payments are to be made online via this link

Expenditure Overview

In addition to the cost of the placement, students also need to keep in mind there will be other additional costs such as vaccinations, visa’s, Working with Children Check and purchasing of personal items whilst in the country. It is difficult to estimate how much money to take with you as it varies destination to destination and depends on how much travel and sightseeing, and shopping students do in their free time. As a guide, we would recommend a budget of $500-$1000 per month.
2021 Go Global Health Science Application Process

There are two rounds of student applications for Go Global Health Science 2021:

**Round One** applications are open from: **27th July to 23rd August 2020**

**Round Two** applications are open from: **22nd February to the 21st March 2021**

How to Apply

1) Read this Program Guide thoroughly and speak to your School Fieldwork Coordinator before applying to ensure you meet the eligibility criteria and can commit to the 2021 placement.

2) Visit the Go Global Health Science website and add us as a Facebook friend at [Curtin Go Global Health Science](https://www.facebook.com/CurtinGoGlobalHealthScience)

3) Click on [this link](https://www.curtin.edu.au/go-global-health-science) and complete the [Online Application Form](https://www.curtin.edu.au/go-global-health-science) on the Go Global Health Science website prior to the application closing date. Round Two applications open on 22nd February 2021.

4) Pay **$250 non-refundable deposit** via [this link](https://www.curtin.edu.au/go-global-health-science) on the Go Global Health Science website

If interested in finding out more about the OS-HELP loan visit [this page](https://www.curtin.edu.au/scholarships) on the Scholarships website. Other information on financial support services offered at Curtin can be found [here](https://www.curtin.edu.au/funding)

Selection Process

Go Global Health Science placements are limited with each group comprising a maximum number and capacity according to discipline and host site. To give students the best chance of securing a placement, students can select up to three sites (1st – 3rd preference) when applying, and the Go Global Health Science team assesses applications as outlined below.

- Discipline mix for the placement
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd preferences (preferences must be for a placement you are willing to commit to)
- The highest Course Weighted Average
- Quality of their selection criteria as judged by the Go Global Health Science team
- The possibility of an interview- discipline dependent

Appeals regarding exclusion from the Go Global Health Science placement are to be made to the student’s School Fieldwork Coordinator in writing within 10 days of the notification.

**Note:** Students applying in Round one will be notified of the outcome by **7th September 2020**.

**Note:** Students applying in Round Two will be notified of the outcome by **1st April 2021**.

Withdrawing from the Placement

If you need to withdraw for any reason, you MUST inform the Go Global Health Science team as soon as possible. In the event of withdrawal, if flights and accommodation have already been purchased, you will have to bear the cost of all non-refundable fees. Bookings may be made as early as five months in advance of travel. Dependent on the reason for withdrawal you may be eligible to make a claim through [Curtin Insurance](https://www.curtin.edu.au/insurance).

If you withdraw from Go Global Health Science at the request of your School due to poor performance, the above terms and conditions regarding reimbursement still apply.
The Go Global Health Science Team

The Go Global Health Science team are always happy to hear from students so if you would like to know more about the placement or have any questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch. See below our contact details:

**GO GLOBAL HEALTH SCIENCE TEAM**

Office location: Building 400 Room 449  
To secure an appointment please contact us via email or phone  
Email: goglobalhealth@curtin.edu.au  
Phone: +61 8 9266 3627 / 9154 / 2183  
Web: curtin.edu/goglobalhealth  
Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/GoGlobalHealth/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/GoGlobalHealth/)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STAFF</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
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We look forward to welcoming you to the 2021/2022 placement.

The Go Global Health Science Team  
Jamie, Rosalie and Mandy