

SPRING 2025

Cumming School of Medicine
The University of Calgary
Global Health Uganda Field School

Instructor (UCalgary):

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Instructor (UCalgary):

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Instructor (MUST):

Teddy Kyomuhangi
Lecturer, Senior Manager, Healthy Adolescents and Young People Project (HAY!)
Healthy Child Uganda
Mbarara University of Science and Technology

Time & Location:

Spring & Summer Semester

May 23, 2025 – June 20, 2025

**Dates subject to change owing to fluctuations in travel schedules*

Course Description:

The Uganda field school offers University of Calgary students the opportunity for experiential learning about Global Health through a mix of classroom and field work in a Low and Middle Income Country (LMIC) country setting. The Uganda field work runs from June 15, 2024 – July 14, 2024.

The field work will be based in Mbarara, Uganda, working with field partners from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST). Students will work together with the MUST staff and medical student teams to engage with local community members in planning and implementing health-related projects with either the urban or rural community partners in a manner that would

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encourage community participation and increase public awareness of health issues. This course is designed to engage principles of the social determinants of health, health equity, and health promotion.

Course Format:

The program will consist of some classroom sessions before departure that will prepare students for the fieldwork. Pre-departure learning will focus on building cultural competencies, fundamental global health principles, and to prepare students to work efficiently in a limited resource setting. Students with previous international experience may also be prepared to take on leadership roles during the fieldwork. The fieldwork will consist of:

- 1) Assisting in designing and conducting health-related projects in partnership with the community they will work with in Uganda.
- 2) Assisting in developing and deploying training programs for community institutions in Uganda.
- 3) Students will work in teams for all fieldwork and training sessions.

To meet the course requirement, students will be evaluated on participation, and written assignments. Apart from experiential learning tasks in the field, students will complete pre-departure assignments, critical reflections and a final project report upon return from Uganda.

Course/Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the history of Uganda, the health system, and the general health concerns of Uganda in the context of East Africa.
2. Synthesize foundational concepts of global health, social determinants of health, health promotion and health equity and apply these to the field work.
3. Describe and reflect on their learning and engagement in country specific activities associated with their field work.
4. Develop new opinions and perspectives about Global Health activities in Lower Middle-income countries with a specific focus on Uganda and East Africa, within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Assessment Activity	Weight	Due date
Community/Final/Debrief presentations (group)	20%	Final two days
Class Participation	30%	ongoing
Fieldwork Portfolio of all activities and products produced during field and community work (presentations/reports/educational materials)	30%	Upon return
Critical Reflections		
Pre-departure reflections	10%	Predeparture

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End of field course reflections	10%	Upon return
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Community presentations (group)

Student groups will give a 20-minute presentation, followed by 10 minutes for discussion the fieldwork in Uganda.

Critical Reflections.

At the beginning (predeparture) and end of the field course, students will write a reflection on the course and activities they participated in. Within these reflections, the student is expected to include thoughtful comments and a personal reflection on their learning and personal development (in the context of the course objectives), and newly formed opinions and perspectives resulting from the field school course and community work. The predeparture reflections will also be key in guiding the final reflections. These reflections are expected to integrate relevant course readings/work/activities and concepts encountered during the field work learning experience.

Fieldwork Portfolio.

The student will prepare a report/portfolio of products arising from the course and field activities. The report/portfolio will present the major products created/worked on during the internship. These could include but are not limited to: posters, webpages, lesson plans, training modules, research reports and other documents relevant to internship activities. This will also include a two page description of the major and other activities during the internship.

Participation in class and field activities.

Student will be evaluated by the on-site supervisors/faculty/instructors and in discussion with the UCalgary course supervisor for level of commitment, punctuality, dedication, professionalism, and overall engagement.

Participation and the final portfolio will be graded by the course supervisor in consultation with the University of Calgary field supervisors/faculty/instructors and faculty/instructors and field supervisors of the partner institution (MUST).

Grading Scheme.

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in Section F.2 of the *University of Calgary Calendar*. The cut points for grades in this course are as follows:

Percentage	Letter Grade
96-100	A+
90-95	A
85-89	A-
80-84	B+
75-79	B
70-74	B-

Percentage	Letter Grade
65-69	C+
60-64	C
57-59	C-
54-56	D+
50-53	D
0-49	F