

A Mixed-Methods Analysis of a Collaborative Online International Pharmacy Course

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Supplementary Information

Student Reflection Essay Themes and Sample Quotes

Theme	Example Quote	Example Quote	Example Quote	Example Quote	Example Quote
Theme 1: Learning Experience: new perspectives, new knowledge (26 Responses)	"This course was different in that we were able to learn about another country's guidelines and policies. It is not often that we learn about another country, but I think that this is important to create culturally responsive healthcare professionals."	"[This class] allowed me to learn about diabetes from a different perspective. From the beginning of the class, I was most looking forward to the lecture about the natural products used in the management of diabetes because at USC, the clinical management of the disease does not involve a heavy emphasis on natural products."	"The rewarding thing was the knowledge we gained from USC students about the newer developments in the field and we learned so much about the US healthcare system and education scenario."	"[This course provided] the opportunity to receive lectures from pharmacists and professors from another country. This allowed me to learn about the various therapeutic and clinical guidelines that are utilized in different countries, along with the different roles that pharmacists play with them."	". . . we not only discussed the differences in clinical guidelines between the United States and India, but also the various roles that pharmacists play in both countries. Furthermore, I was able to receive a broader scope of the daily lives of students in other countries."

**Theme 2:
Teamwork,
Overcoming
communication, time
difference
challenges (24
Responses)**

"... it was little challenging to work with international colleagues and faculty in the starting but then time goes smoothly and after that it was easy to interact with the team members for assignments."

"The challenging part of this design was the time difference. It was difficult to get in contact with some group members because it may be in the middle of the night in India."

"We got to discuss the topics with batchmates in between through breakout sessions which we never really do over here in India during regular classes."

"On various occasions, when trying to communicate with my group, I had to find an appropriate time to reach my group members to ask a question or have a discussion about our coursework... thus, our group eventually utilized WhatsApp to discuss about upcoming projects and presentations."

The most rewarding part was gaining new friends and learning to be a better teammate in a virtual working situation. We tried hard to push for the boundary between group work and teamwork.

**Theme 3:
Course Design -
breakouts,
facilitators (19
Responses)**

"It was a right blend of learning the concepts theoretically, project based learning, learning through quizzes and questions, regularly having a topic wise discussion in every breakout sessions and interacting and exchange of knowledge. Also the idea of splitting us all into the groups of mix

"... the group work and projects really made me feel like I was learning something new in terms of a certain drug class and drug interaction. It is a different way of learning that is more engaging and adds another layer to my pharmacy knowledge."

"This experience was different compared with my other classes as it was team-based learning. During this course we worked as a group and developed a shared purpose and sense of collective responsibility."

"Having breakout sessions which I have never experienced before was a very effective way by which we were able to interact with each other and share our ideas. The group projects also helped us in increasing our knowledge."

"I was able to participate more extensively in groupwork as well. This provided me the opportunity to communicate effectively with my group to discuss upcoming projects and presentations. I also value the assignments that involved creating exam questions, because it allowed me to envision the

bag students was really thoughtful. I mean it really helped us learn and collaborate in the best manner."

process of writing exams in the perspective of a faculty member."

Theme 4: Soft (transferable) skills development (18 Responses)

"Learning how to adapt and work in a new and foreign environment is a skill that will no doubt be useful. Though this was my first collaborative global learning experience, I doubt it will be my last, and hope to broaden my exposure in the future."

"I did not master the art of motivating people to take charge and be confident to produce work but I was getting better at it."

"I found the students at Nirma to be more shy and reserved in nature, which made collaborating and getting their opinion a bit more difficult. However, this forced me to take more of a leadership role within the group. This made me realize that I have the ability to be leader when it is needed . . ."

"I also believe that is important to immerse myself in new learning environments because it is critical for pharmacists to be able to adapt to changing circumstances."

"I learned how can I communicate with other healthcare professionals and learned about their background and the profession of pharmacy. I had a chance to experience a real sense of diversity and meet other educators who bring a range of educational practices and teaching styles."

**Theme 5:
Impact on
future career
(15 Responses)**

"I felt [doing the group presentations] prepared us for our futures as healthcare professionals and pharmacy experts."

"[The class] gives us the opportunity to learn how to work with people with different backgrounds, this is a useful skill to have for as we progress in pharmacy school and enter the pharmacy world as pharmacist, we will have to be able to work with people with different backgrounds both coworkers and patients."

"Global learning is important to me because a majority of the patients in the United States were born in other countries. As healthcare providers, it is important to be aware of cultural humility and continue to take the initiative to learn about the cultures around us."

"As a future pharmacist and potential faculty member in Academia, I will serve patients and students who come diverse cultures and backgrounds. Thus, it has been a very rewarding opportunity to be able to build these diverse connections beginning in pharmacy school."

"I would like to apply what I have learned through this experience to my future practice as a pharmacist because I believe in utilizing all avenues of knowledge in treating patients from different backgrounds."