

BioCEP (BioEthics Cross-cultural Education Program)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

BioCEP (BioEthics Cross-cultural Education Program) is a multidisciplinary program created by Columbia University's Center for Bioethics. Students will have the opportunity to travel to either Bangkok, Thailand or Pune, India to engage in an onsite bioethical educational program. The primary objective is to help students understand how culture and religion influence controversial issues related to medical ethics and bioethics, including emerging infections, integration of Western and Eastern medicines, medical tourism, stem cell research, organ transplantation, informed consent, malnutrition, abortion, public health, genetic testing and reproductive medicine. BioCEP is an ideal opportunity for students and faculty to experience bioethics and public health in another country, and explore, first hand, the impact of culture and religion on global public health education and health care delivery. BioCEP participants come from diverse educational backgrounds including undergraduate students pursuing pre-medicine, health sciences, nursing, law, business and other disciplines as well as graduate students in public health, bioethics, biotechnology, dentistry and medicine. Since BioCEP's inception in 2007 over 100 students from the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, China, the United Arab Emirates, Myanmar and Thailand participated in the program. The curriculum combines lectures, seminars, professional visits and cultural excursions. Students enroll in two courses - Cross-cultural Bioethics, and Medical Diplomacy & Anthropology. Courses are taught by professors from Columbia University and host universities abroad (Mahidol University in Thailand, Symbiosis International University in India). Guest speakers from the Ministry of Health, hospitals and/or other organizations present lectures and workshops stimulate the students to think creatively and analyze some of the challenging bioethical issues.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

- **Cross-cultural Bioethics (2 weeks) July 9-Aug 13, 2011**

This course examines underlying principles of biotechnologies and ethical controversies brought about by advances in science and medicine. Students will engage in dialogue about scientific, social, legal and ethical issues related to new technology.

Topics to be covered:

- **Introduction to BioCEP, Buddhism and Science, Transport Tour**
- **Stem Cell Research, Cancer & Ethics**
- **Ministry of Public Health, Sexually Transmitted Disease and AIDS**
- **Reproductive Biology, IVF, Genetic testing**
- **Medical Tourism, Student Presentations**
- **Neuroethics, Alternative Medicines**

Columbia and Barnard Students will have an option to spend an additional week in Bangkok to shadow physicians at Yanhee Hospital for Health and Beauty. It is one of the best medical tourism hospitals in Thailand.

- **Medical Diplomacy & Anthropology (2 weeks) July 9-Aug 13, 2011**

This course examines how culture and society are organized and impacted by issues of health. Discussions center on health care demands within a global environment and topics include the definition of disease, human trafficking, and disaster prevention and management. Students will explore medical diplomacy as a form of international relations in which medical and health care assets and resources are used to encourage positive relations between nations and/or exchange specific benefits between nations.

Topics to be covered:

- **Overview Medical Anthropology, Cultural history of Thailand or India**
- **Definitions of health, disease, illness from a secular vs religious perspective and the role of the Physician**
- **Body and Meaning from religious perspective**
- **Patient-Practitioner, Obligation to Heal/Other Cultural Perspectives**
- **Medical Diplomacy-Definition**
- **Disaster, non-disaster relief/Global Healthcare Inequalities**
- **Trafficking of Human Beings, and Organ Trafficking**
- **Medical Sustainability, Evolution or Creative Design**

HOST UNIVERSITIES:

Mahidol University (MU) is the oldest institution of higher learning in Thailand. Founded in 1889 as a medical school, MU has since developed into the most prestigious university in Thailand, internationally recognized for its high-caliber curriculum, research and international collaboration. MU faculty and alumni have been recipients of numerous national and international awards. The main campus is located in Salaya, a region on the outskirts of Bangkok. The academic community consists of 5,600 professors and researchers, 9,500 undergraduate and graduate students, and 1,800 international students representing 45 countries.

Symbiosis International University, founded in 1974, is one of India's leading higher education institutions. Symbiosis consists of 17 colleges, centers, schools and museums, spread across 17 campuses, most of which are in Pune. Symbiosis enrolls more than 45,000 Indian and international students from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its faculty includes some of the top academics in the country.

Fees and Cost for Columbia and Barnard Students

The program in Pune, India is run through KEI [<http://www.keiabroad.org/>] and applications must go through them. It is a one- month session composed of two courses.

The program in Mahidol, Bangkok is handled through the Center for Bioethics. Applications are submitted to Dr. John D. Loike.

The projected costs are as follows:

1. Each session is has a special CU price of \$1600 that covers housing, touring etc.
2. Transportation costs about \$1300 and is the responsibility of the student
3. Application fee is \$45
4. Those students who were accepted last summer and did not attend need not re-apply but must send me an e mail confirming their interest.
5. All candidates will be interviewed.

APPLICATION FORM FOR BIOCEP 2011- In Mahidol University- Bangkok, Thailand

Which Course(s) would you like to apply for (please circle the courses):

**Medical Diplomacy and Anthropology –
Monday- July 11th, 2011 until Wednesday- July 27th, 2011**

**Frontiers in Bioethics-
Friday – July 29th, 2011 until Friday August, 20th, 2011**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname/Family Name: _____ First Name: _____

Social Security Number: (U.S. Applicants Only) _____

Passport Number _____

Date of Birth: ____ Month ____ Day _____ Year Gender: ____ Male ____ Female Age: ____

Ethnicity (Optional For U.S. Applicants Only! - Used for statistical purposes-please circle.)

African American Caucasian Hispanic-American Other:
Asian American Multiracial Native American

Email:

Mailing Information:

Street: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Daytime Phone: (____) __-____ Parent's Phone: () __-____

Mobile Phone: () __-____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

University/School:

Department _____ **Major** _____

Level of Education: (As of September 2010)

Undergraduate: (please circle) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

How many years have you completed in Graduate School, Medical School, School of Public Health? _____

Cumulative GPA (4.0 Scale): _____ Major(s) of Study: _____

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Are you currently under academic and/or disciplinary sanctions at your home university/school (please circle)? Yes No If yes, explain below.

Have you traveled, lived or studied overseas before? " Yes " No
If yes, please describe and give dates.

Are you in need of outside scholarship funds to help pay for this program? " Yes " No

Are you on financial aid at Columbia? " Yes " No

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

Applicants must send an official transcript from the last attended academic institution. Transcripts can be included with this application in an officially sealed envelope, or sent separately by the academic institution.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please attach a personal statement to this application describing why you want to participate in BIOCEP and what you hope to achieve and contribute. The 2-page personal statement must be typed and double-spaced, with one-inch margins and less than 500 words.

APPLICATION FEE AND MAILING ADDRESS

Applications must be mailed to Dr. John D. Loike, Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, Columbia University, 630 W. 168th Street, BB1111, New York, NY 10032. A check or money order in the amount of \$45 US must be included with this application. The \$45 US application fee is non-refundable. All checks and money orders must be indicated in dollar amounts and made payable to **Columbia University**. If you are accepted to the program the fee for each course will be \$1,600 and you will be required to deposit \$1,000 within two weeks after acceptance. **This deposit is non-refundable.** The remaining \$600 will be required by May 1st 2011. **All flight arrangements must be made by the applicant. Book your tickets before the end of March. Airfare costs from JFK to Bangkok are about \$1200-\$1300 if booked before March 31th and \$1500 if booked later.**

Tentative Schedule for Medical Diplomacy and Anthropology

Saturday Jul. 09, 2011	Arrive- and orientation
Monday July, 2011	registration
Tuesday Jul. 12, 2011	Introduction to BioCEP Overview Medical Anthropology, Cultural history of Thailand (India)
Wednesday Jul. 13, 2011	Definitions of health, disease, illness

		Buddhism (Hinduism) and role of Physician
Thursday Jul. 14, 2011		Body and Meaning from a religious/cultural perspective and Patient-Practitioner
Friday Jul. 15, 2011		Free time to prepare for student presentations
Saturday Jul. 16, 2011		Free time to prepare for student presentations
Sunday Jul. 17, 2011		Free day- Shopping in the marketplaces
Monday Jul. 18, 2011		Student Presentations : Obligation to Heal/Other Cultural Perspectives
Tuesday Jul. 19, 2011		Overview of Healthcare/Medical Diplomacy
Wednesday Jul. 20, 2011		Disaster, non-disaster relief/Global Healthcare Inequalities
Thursday Jul. 21, 2011		Trafficking Human Organs/Sex Workers
Friday Jul. 22, 2011		Student Presentations
Saturday Jul. 23, 2011		In India-Power of Yoga and Bolliwood Salsa In Thailand- visiting the Temple
Sunday Jul. 24, 2011		Free time to prepare for student presentations
Monday Jul. 25, 2011		Medical Sustainability/Genetics of species/Identification of homo sapians
Tuesday Jul. 26, 2011		Evolution
Wednesday Jul. 27, 2011		Genetics of race and gender
Thursday Jul. 28, 2011	09:00 - 12:00	Student presentations and conclusions
Friday Jul. 29, 2011	12:00 - 13:00	In Thailand- travel to a beach resort In India -Ellora and agenta caves
Saturday Jul. 30, 2011	13:00 - 16:00	In Thailand- Beach In Indai- Ellora and agenta caves
Sunday Jul. 31, 2011		In Thailand-Beach In India learning about Indian Cuisine/Indian Dance

Tentative Schedule for Frontiers in Cross-cultural Bioethics

Monday Aug. 01, 2011	Science, religion and medical ethics
Tuesday Aug. 02, 2011	Stem Cell Research, Cancer & Ethics
Wednesday Aug. 03, 2011	Human cloning and human-animal chimeras
Thursday Aug. 04, 2011	Reproductive Biology, IVF, Genetic testing
Friday Aug. 05, 2011	Medical Tourism, Student Presentations
Saturday Aug. 06, 2011	Free time to prepare for student presentations
Sunday Aug. 07, 2011	Free time to prepare for student presentations
Monday Aug. 08, 2011	Neuroethics, Alternative Medicines
Tuesday Aug. 09, 2011	Ethics of Clinical trials
Wednesday Aug. 10, 2011	Ministry of Public Health, Sexually Transmitted Disease & AIDS
Thursday Aug. 11, 2011	Nutrition & Ethics & Public Health Ethics Smoking
Friday Aug. 12, 2011	Student Presentations