



MC GILL UNIVERSITY HUMANITARIAN STUDIES INITIATIVE

The Humanitarian Studies Initiative (HSI) is an exciting new program designed to train medical residents, fellows, nursing Masters students and faculty members with a vested interest in humanitarian relief operations to carry out effective international health and humanitarian work. The goal of the Initiative is to train participants in current humanitarian issues as well as the methodologies and essential skills that best prepare humanitarian workers to operate in the field.

HSI will offer participants the ability to interact with faculty and students from a wide variety of local and international institutions such as:

- * McGill Medical School
- * McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy
- * Harvard Medical School
- * Harvard School of Public Health
- * The John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University
- * Tufts University
- * The Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University
- * Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- * Brigham and Women's Hospital
- * Mass General Hospital
- * Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- * Children's Hospital of Boston

The HSI curriculum is flexible thus enabling each participant is to fulfill the program requirements during his or her residency, fellowship or graduate program. If the participant's program does not allow for time away to complete the HSI field placement, this could be completed immediately after their training program. The HSI program requirements include:

- * 32 hours of teaching time at McGill University
- * Involvement in the McGill Global Health Course for health profession students



McGill Humanitarian Studies Course

- * Two-week intensive course on humanitarian issues at Harvard University (separate registration and tuition)
- * Weekend long field simulation exercise in Massachusetts
- * One to three month supervised international field placement
- * Guided production of an academic work in humanitarian studies

HSI participants will receive:

- * Mentorship by both McGill and Harvard faculty
- * Certificate in Humanitarian Studies upon program completion
- * Continued mentorship and involvement with the HSIR students and faculty as alumni

We are now accepting applications for the second year of the McGill HSI program that will commence in July 2010. Registration will continue until July 2010.

In order to cover the HSI program administration costs the fee is \$500.00 payable upon acceptance to the program.

For further information, please contact:

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HSIR website: <http://www.mcgill.ca/familymed/international/hsir/>

From one of the 2009 residents who was deployed by the HSI Program to Haiti to assist post-earthquake:

“...There have been happier stories, of critically ill children whose lives we've saved. This is pretty amazing considering we are working under tents in the dirt in a giant field (kind of MASH style but bigger). One 3- month old presented post-seizure and in hypovolemic shock: IO, IV fluids and a course of Ceftriaxone and the baby is at home with mom. A 2-month came in with severe respiratory distress due to pneumonia and an oxygen saturation of 83%. Five days later the baby is off oxygen and is going home tomorrow. A 15 year old presented with signs of ruptured appendix. Luckily an Ecuadorian general surgeon had arrived the day before. He was taken to the OR within hours and 2 days later is living in the camp with his family.”