In Spring 2016, SON faculty will offer a study abroad course to rural Honduras for graduate students in select DNP-APRN specialties. The course will be offered as a component of a practicum course (to be specified) and meet a portion of the requirement for clinical hours. Applications will be requested starting November 2015.

In Summer 2016, the course will be offered to MN-year 1 students as an option that will meet practicum requirements for N5033: Population-focused health in public health and mental health nursing. Applications will be requested starting April 2016.

**Course Description:**
In this rural immersion course with a service-learning focus, students will develop a more informed understanding of nursing as a global profession, as well as considerations when practice occurs in a low-income country with limited resources. Working with partner, Shoulder to Shoulder (http://www.shouldertoshoulder.org), a nonprofit, non-governmental organization that has provided primary care and public health services since 1990 to local communities in the southwestern mountains of Honduras, students will explore factors that impact the health of individuals, families and the community through a variety of faculty-supervised, community-based field experiences, which will include:

- Public hospital tour to learn about health services and health care delivery in rural Honduras
- Educational exchanges with community health volunteers, health promoters, physicians and nurses
- Blood pressure screening and lifestyle modification counseling during local market day
- Child and adolescent health screening with focus on risk reduction and protective factors
- Small group work with adolescents to promote healthy decision making
- Health promotion ‘charlas’ (group presentations) for a variety of audiences
- Home visits to conduct assessments & provide lifestyle counseling
- Village life: visit pulperias (small stores), play soccer, take a sunrise hike and enjoy the local cuisine

**School of Nursing Faculty (tentative):**
March: Marti Kubik PhD, MSN, RN and Mary Mescher Benbenek PhD, RN, CPNP, CFNP
August: Marti Kubik PhD, MSN, RN and Karin Larson, RN, MS, CNM

**Estimated cost per student:**
SON administrative course fee of $400, International Travel Insurance of $15.75 (required by the UM) and the Shoulder to Shoulder brigade fee of $1250, which includes all lodging, meals, and transportation while in Honduras. Other costs include airfare (current advertised cost is $787).

*Please note:* Honduras is listed on the US Department of State's travel warning website. Review the warning at http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings/honduras-travel-warning.html. The course will require approval by the University of Minnesota International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee.