

**Official Transcript**  
**Boston College's Global Proficiency Program**

**Courtney Pladsen**

**I. International Experience**

**Guatemala City, Guatemala**

*August, 2006*

- Organized and lead a 2 week trip to Casa Bernabe; an orphanage with over 200 children
- Lived with the children and participated in the daily care of children ranging from infants to teenagers
- Participated in the construction of a new building

**II. Academic Component**

**Major:** *Nursing*

Languages: Spanish

- 2 college courses in intermediate Spanish including medical Spanish

Social Science, Business, Education Courses:

- Community Nursing Theory
- Community Nursing Clinical
- From Poor Law to Working Poor: Low-Income America

Humanities Courses:

- Literature of the World
- Religious Quest I & II: a comparative between Christianity and Hinduism

**III. Co-curricular Activities**

**Activity 1: Volunteer, Crittenton Women's Union**

*January, 2007- May, 2007*

- Description: Volunteered as a babysitter and support figure for a group of homeless women and their children. Lead a teaching project about nutrition for a group of 40 women at the homeless shelter.
- Skills: Utilized and improved Spanish speaking abilities. Learned about and shared resources regarding public housing and economic support. Improved advocacy skills while maintaining the individual's dignity.
- Time Commitment: 2 hours per week

**Activity 2: Medical Volunteer, International Service and Learning**

*March, 2006*

- Description: Trained for two days learning medical Spanish, triage, and tropical medicine. Traveled through central Mexico setting up temporary health clinics in rural areas in order to provide free medical care including medications and various minor surgical interventions.
- Skills: Improved medical Spanish vocabulary and increased comfort speaking with the patients. Learned how to provide culturally sensitive medical care. Widened knowledge of medical issues plaguing impoverished populations and how to give treatments and recommendations while being mindful of their limited resources.
- Time Commitment: 14 days

**Activity 3: Volunteer, Sociology Department Nicaragua Service Immersion Trip**

*September, 2004 – April, 2005*

- Description: Studied Nicaraguan culture and Spanish language. Traveled to San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua for a ten-day service immersion trip and lived with a local family. Worked in conjunction with the Nicaraguan Public Health Department to implement a vaccination campaign, helped construct healthy, energy efficient stoves for the community, and taught English classes to the community schools.
- Skills: Demonstrated leadership, planning, organizational, and programming skills.
- Time Commitment: 2-4 hours per week for 5 months and a ten day trip to Nicaragua

**Service Project: Global Health Initiative, Boston College**

*September, 2006 – March, 2007*

- Description: Created and implemented this initiative in the nursing school to bring mindfulness of healthcare in developing nations, specifically Nicaragua, in order to encourage the learning of culturally sensitive care and medical Spanish. Weekly seminars incorporated a language and culture component taught by a Spanish Professor. Developed as a group, four health teaching projects to be presented in Nueva Vida, Nicaragua and studied medical issues within rural areas of Nicaragua. The ten day trip included working in the Nueva Vida Health Clinic which serves 200,000 people in a resettlement community. Studied Nicaraguan history and economic at the Center for Global Education in Managua, Nicaragua
- Skills: Developed program, improved medical knowledge applicable to developing nations, worked as part of a team, and increased awareness and knowledge of sustainable economic development, and fair trade organizations.
- Time Commitment: 2-4 hours per week for 20 weeks and a ten day trip

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Cheryl Presley,  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
Boston College

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Cutberto Garza,  
Provost and Dean of Faculties  
Boston College