



SCHOLARS AND LEADERS IN INTERPROFESSIONAL GERIATRICS (SLIG) SUMMER 2024 COURSE OVERVIEW & APPLICATION

OVERVIEW

Course Goal: To enable health science students who are interested in geriatrics to acquire attitudes, values and competencies necessary for practicing comprehensive, patient- and family-centered geriatric care, as part of interprofessional teams, in a variety of health care settings.

The SLIG course is designed to provide a rich learning experience for health science students with mentoring and guidance by experienced interprofessional faculty. *The dynamic and interpersonal nature of teamwork and collaboration calls for the use of experiential and interactive educational approaches (Curran, Sharpe, Flynn, & Button, 2010).* Therefore, at the heart of this course are interactive learning experiences that foster discussion and reflection on the unique qualities and needs of older adult patients across several life phases and how an integrated team of interprofessional practitioners can better address their needs.

Approach: This course utilizes a transformative learning approach to support students' development of geriatric expertise and interprofessional team skills. *Transformative learning is characterized by engagement in critical thinking and consideration of ethical conduct. According to Frenk et al. (2010): "Transformative learning involves three fundamental shifts: from fact memorization to searching, analysis, and synthesis of information for decision making; from seeking professional credentials to achieving core competencies for effective teamwork in health systems; and from non-critical adoption of educational models to creative adaptation of global resources to address local priorities."* (p. 1924)

Learners: Students from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine (COM), College of Nursing (CON), College of Pharmacy (COP), College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS), School of Public Health (SPH), and Jane Addams College of Social Work (JACSW), who are in good academic standing, are eligible to apply. See page 2 for eligibility criteria for each of the participating colleges/schools. Two students are typically selected from each college for a total of 12 scholars. One additional medical student will be selected from the College of Medicine to receive the ***Dr. Akavut Suesakul, MD Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics.***

Course Dates: An "Orientation Session" will be held virtually on Monday April 22, 2024, 5:00-8:00 pm. Class sessions will take place from Monday, June 24, 2024 to Friday, July 12, 2024. The course will **meet virtually 3 days per week.** The class will be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, in weeks one and three. During week two, classes will be held on Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday (to accommodate the July 4th holiday). The typical class hours are 9:30 am – 2:00 pm, **changes may need to be made to course days and times if needed**; students should plan for additional time to work on course assignments. The final SLIG “Showcase” will be held on the last day from 9:30 am-2:00 pm on July 12, 2024.

Expectations and Time Commitment: Students will meet **virtually** on the scheduled class days and will have an estimated equivalent amount of preparatory and reflective work each week. Preparatory work will include completing assigned readings, watching online video modules on topics pertaining to practice in geriatrics, preparing for in-class discussions and activities, and writing a final paper and presentation for the “SLIG Showcase” scheduled at the end of the course. Students will be asked to keep their schedules open during weekdays from June 24 to July 12 because the course schedules are based on community partners and faculty availability and are therefore subject to change. Absences will be excused only for health and other serious reasons. Please note that after each session you will be asked to complete a brief evaluation of the session. Completing the session evaluations is a SLIG course requirement.

Learning Activities: The SLIG course engages students in understanding and addressing the needs of the older adult as a whole person in diverse care settings: (1) community and home-based care, (2) acute care, (3) post-acute care, long-term care and (4) end of life care, including hospice care. Together, the didactic and interactive learning activities cover the trajectory of an illness, at different levels and across care environments. The teaching and learning activities focus on how an integrated team of interprofessional health practitioners can optimize the health, well-being, and quality of life of older adults. Our partners from a variety of care settings will deliver presentations and provide interactive activities. Learning activities include class sessions as well as self-study of course readings and online educational modules on topics pertaining to interprofessional geriatric practice created by the ENGAGE-IL team. These learning components address the continuum of care of older adults, including the trajectory of illness, at different levels and across care settings.

Each SLIG Scholar will research and develop a paper, which they will present at the end of program SLIG Showcase. The topic selection for the paper will start with the student’s application in the personal statement. After further discussion of the topic at course orientation on April 22, 2024 a written proposal will be due by May 28, with final papers due on July 11 and presentations on July 12, 2024.

Stipend: \$3,000* will be awarded to each scholar who successfully completes the program. Scholars may consider registering for an Independent Study to gain elective credit for this learning experience. Please note: Course credit is up to the discretion of the students’ College/department and thus may not be possible to be granted to students in some colleges.

*Current HRSA Federal Grant (# U1QHP28730) stipend restrictions that include:

1. If a student receives federal loans, the stipend may be applied to his/her student loan instead of being disbursed directly to the student.
2. Stipends will be disbursed into students’ UIC accounts, not directly disbursed to students. To learn more please visit <https://financialaid.uic.edu/aid-process/disbursement/>

3. If a student is a Foreign National, existing federal HRSA grant restrictions do not allow stipend payments, however, students are able to participate in the program without receiving stipend

Eligibility Criteria: Health science students in the COM, CON, COP, AHS, SPH and JACSW who are in good academic standing per participating schools/colleges and who meet the below criteria are eligible to apply.

COM students rising M2 students who have completed their M1 course work in the first semester successfully are eligible

CON students only graduate students are eligible

COP students P2 and P3 students are eligible

AHS students who meet the additional criteria described below are eligible:

For the Department of Occupational Therapy

- Graduate students who are licensed occupational therapists (e.g., post professional OTD students, PhD students)
 - o Note: Due to schedule conflicts involving required courses and fieldwork, students enrolled in the entry-level OTD program are not eligible

For the Department of Physical Therapy

- Current entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) professional program students (*Please refer to details that follow*)
 - o Note: Due to schedule conflicts involving required courses and fieldwork, 1st year and most 2nd year DPT students enrolled in the DPT program are not eligible.
 - Second year DPT students whose summer clinical experience could not be scheduled would be eligible to apply.
- Graduate students who are licensed physical therapists (e.g. PhD students, MS in Rehabilitation Science students) in the U.S. or another country are also eligible to apply.

For the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition

- Students enrolled in the graduate nutrition programs

SPH students MPH, MHA and doctoral students are eligible

JACSW students only graduate students are eligible

DISABILITIES NOTIFICATION: The Office of Disability Services works to ensure the accessibility of UIC programs, classes, and services to students with documented disabilities, including vision or hearing impairments and emotional or physical disabilities. If you need accommodations, be sure to register with the UIC Office of Disability Services and notify your professor of your needs before the Orientation Day. Students with disability/access needs or

questions may contact the Office of Disability Services at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY only) or visit <http://drc.uic.edu/>

POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: As an academic community, UIC is committed to providing an environment in which research, learning, and scholarship can flourish and in which all endeavors are guided by academic and professional integrity. All members of the campus community—students, staff, faculty, and administrators—share the responsibility of insuring that these standards are upheld so that such an environment exists. Instances of academic misconduct by students will be handled pursuant to the Student Disciplinary Policy: <https://dos.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/262/2021/09/Student-Disciplinary-Policy-2021.pdf>

REFERENCES

- Curran, V.R., Sharpe, D., Flynn, K., & Button, P. (2010). A longitudinal study of the effect of an interprofessional education curriculum on student satisfaction and attitudes towards interprofessional teamwork and education. *J of Int Care*, 24, 41-52.
- Frenk, J., Chen, L., Bhutta, Z.A., Cohen, J., Crisp, N., Evans, T., Zurayk, H. (2010). Health professionals for a new century: Transforming education to strengthen health systems in an interdependent world. *Lancet*, 376, 1923-1958.
- Gruss, V., Hasnain, M. Building the Future Geriatrics Workforce through Transformative Interprofessional Education and Community-Engaged Experiential Learning *Journal of Interprofessional Education & Practice*. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xjep.2020.100389> Epub 2020 Dec 8.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS & DATES

- **SLIG Course application submission deadline: February 15, 2024**
- Notification to selected Scholars: by end of March 2024

Applicants must complete the **Program Application (Appendix A)** and submit it by **February 15, 2024** to engageil@engageil.com

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a Selection Committee. Two students from each of the six participating professions will be selected. An additional one medical student will be selected for *The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics* (see **Appendix B** for details). The decision of the Selection Committee will be communicated to applicants by end of March 2024.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Scholars who are selected and agree to participate in the SLIG program will be required to fulfill their commitment and learning agreement. Declining to participate in the program after acceptance creates substantial logistic challenges for the organizers and also takes away the scholarship opportunity from other potential candidates.

Attendance: Students will be asked to participate in all scheduled course activities, including the course orientation on Monday, April 22, 2024 evening. Student must keep their schedules open during weekdays from June 24 to July 12, 2024 for scheduled classes as well as course assignments. **The course scheduled activities are based on community partners and faculty availability and are subject to change.** Absences will be excused only for health and other serious reasons.

Course Evaluation: Please note that after each session students will be asked to complete a brief evaluation of the session. Completing the session evaluation is a requirement of the SLIG Course.

Please consider applying for this course only if you are able to comply with the above course requirements.

Funding: The SLIG course is funded by a federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant #U1QHP28730. **The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics** is funded by the UIC COM Department of Family & Community Medicine.

SLIG Course Co-Directors	
Memoona Hasnain, MD, MHPE, PhD Professor and Associate Head for Faculty Development & Research Dept of Family & Community Medicine Project Director, Engage-IL Associate Dean for Faculty Development College of Medicine, UIC memoona@uic.edu	Valerie Gruss, PhD, GNP-BC, FAAN Professor Emeritus Project Co-Director, Engage-IL Past Director, Interprofessional Education CON AAN, <i>Edge Runner</i> BioBehavioral Nursing Science College of Nursing, UIC vgruss@uic.edu

Core Faculty

College	Faculty	Contact
Applied Health Sciences	Elizabeth Peterson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	epeterso@uic.edu
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Staff

Jacob Yaeger, SLIG Coordinator, jyaeger3@uic.edu

Kanwal Haque, MPH, PMP, Research Associate, khaque2@uic.edu

Appendix A

Scholars and Leaders in Interprofessional Geriatrics (SLIG) 2024

Application

1. Applicant information

Please print legibly or type

Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address: _____

UIC College/Profession: _____

UIC Email address: _____

Alternate Email address: _____

Preferred telephone contact number(s): _____

2. Current curriculum vitae (CV)

3. **Personal Statement.** Please describe why you would like to participate in the SLIG Course and what makes you a strong candidate for this course, focusing specially on the following four IPEC interprofessional competency domains:

- Values and ethics
- Role and responsibilities
- Interprofessional communication
- Teamwork

For each domain, please reflect on and share what skills you bring or would like to develop.

As part of your learning experience, you will choose a topic for a paper presentation. In your statement, please include 1-3 potential topics for your scholarly paper based on your prior experiences and interests, along with a brief explanation of why you are interested in the chosen topic(s). Your proposed topic(s) will be discussed during the SLIG course orientation session on April 22, 2024 and will be refined with faculty input. Each SLIG scholar will submit a paper proposal by May 28, 2024 and present their completed paper at an end of program at the **SLIG Geriatrics Learning Showcase** on July 12, 2024.

Personal Statement should be maximum 2 pages, double spaced, with one-inch margins, using at least an 11-point font).

Complete the application and email or submit electronically to: engageil@engageil.com

When submitting your application, please include all sections as **one document**, in the following order:

1. Applicant Information
2. CV
3. Personal Statement (see specifications above)

Applications must be received by February 15, 2024

Application Review Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Alignment of applicant's interests and commitments with program goal
2. Overall quality of the application
3. Evidence of applicant's ability to successfully participate in the program (based on CV & Personal Statement)

Appendix B

The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics



Akavut (Tyse) Suesakul, MD
1981-2019

Dr. Akuvat Suesakul, MD was a family physician who received medical training in his native country, Thailand, and later in USA. He was passionate about high-quality, patient- and family-centered care for older adults and had a special interest in providing home-based care. Dr. Suesakul served as the Director of UI Health Family and Community Medicine Team Home Visits Program.

Dr. Suesakul exemplified compassionate care, leadership, advocacy, and scholarship in primary care geriatrics. To commemorate and honor the memory and contributions of Dr. Suesakul, the UIC COM Department of Family Medicine has established ***The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics***. This distinguished scholarship will be awarded annually to one selected UIC Medical Student between 1st and 2nd year of medical school. Medical students interested in careers in Family and Community Medicine and Geriatrics are encouraged to apply. Applications will open each year in the fall and the award will be announced in the spring. Training will be provided in the summer. The scholarship will include six weeks of learning experiences in interprofessional clinical work, leadership, advocacy, and scholarship in the care of older adults. The medical student selected for the Suesakul Scholarship will receive a \$3,000 stipend as part of the award, funded by the UIC Department of Family & Community Medicine.