Summer Trip Abroad



This Summer the School of Business and Economics (SBE) took students to study healthcare service delivery in Barbados. This study abroad course was different than the typical course, because the primary focus of this experience was research. The students worked closely with medical staff in three medical clinics for two weeks performing process-flow and patient satisfaction data collection. This research was performed in collaboration with the University of West Indies and multiple government officials in Barbados. The potential benefits were deemed so impactful that the study team was featured on a national morning talkshow in the Caribbean. Students were immersed in Barbadian culture – living and working with locals; and participated in ethnographic research steps, such as workflow observations and patient and clinician interviews. They were able to apply concepts learned in the classroom in a real-world setting and gain an appreciation for the importance of research which considers a broad range of factors, including national cultural differences. Through opportunities such as this, the SBE seeks to provide training that may inspire students to consider careers in research as well as business and management.



