Brookes's Major: Nursing

Program: UW Nursing in Malawi, Summer

Academic Life: The class that the Nursing in Malawi trip completed was the N419 community clinical. The classroom component was not a traditional sit down classroom experience. We met a few times in a room at the Lodge we were staying at, and we met at different locations while we were out and about in the country to discuss academic material. The meetings were typically fairly brief, around an hour each, and occurred every few days. The meetings included all of the UW-Madison nursing students who had come.

Brooke's Fieldwork: I completed fieldwork while in Malawi at both Miqlat Orphan Care Center and conducting interviews of community individuals. At Miqlat we completed teaching projects, where we gave the children a presentation about diarrhea, HIV/AIDS, and malaria.

Cultural Difference: People in Malawi are very friendly and welcoming. They are not rushed, and most interactions include a somewhat lengthy hello/welcome and thank you/goodbye.

Advice for Someone Considering Brooke's Program: The Malawi nursing study abroad program is an excellent opportunity to broaden your cultural competence and diversify your clinical experiences. I would suggest it to anyone considering the program, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

“I have more experience at being flexible, working with diverse cultures, and working with individuals who speak a different language than I do.”