

Interprofessional health care education at George Brown College

George Brown College is among the leaders in the interprofessional health care education movement in Canada. Within our Centre for Health Sciences, we are creating innovative and interactive opportunities to bring students and faculty of different professions together.

Interprofessional Education (IPE) involves learning *with, from and about each other*, and sharing our different perspectives while learning together in areas of common interest in the practice of health care. Our goal is to enable our graduates to be successful collaborators in health-care practice with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes.

Definition of Interprofessional Education (IPE)*

Interprofessional Education (IPE) occurs when two or more professions learn with, from and about each other to improve collaboration and the quality of care. IPE includes all such learning in academic and work based settings before and after qualification, adopting an inclusive view of 'professional'.

**Source: CAIPE 2002 (UK Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education)*

George Brown College's Four IPE Learning Outcomes

- 1. Appraise the relationship between one's own profession and the background, scope and roles of other healthcare professionals.*
- 2. Evaluate one's ability to work in a team.*
- 3. Participate collaboratively as a health team member to support patient/clients' achievement of their expected health outcomes.*
- 4. Assess the impact of the broader legislative and ethical framework on inter-professional practice.*

IPE occurs throughout the curriculum, whether in the classroom, simulation lab, clinic or field placements. Here are a few great examples of *IPE in action* at George Brown College. For more detail, please visit our website at <http://www.georgebrown.ca/healthsciences/interprofessional-education/IPE-in-Action.aspx>



IPE in the classroom

GSSC 1053 Collaboration: The Future of Health Care in Canada

Our first formal IPE course has been offered each semester since Fall 2007. This 42-hour course provides students with a theoretical and practical understanding of collaboration and teamwork within Canada's broad health care system. Working within teams of mixed professions, students research and discover how collaboration and teamwork among health care workers occur within actual health care practices. Students learn and apply the theories of effective teamwork while collaborating in completing their semester team project and presentation.

IPE in the simulation lab

Nursing – Dental Hygiene Skill Development

Since 2006, nursing and dental hygiene students have participated in an unique annual interprofessional practical skill development experience. The nursing students demonstrate, teach and assist dental hygiene students in practicing manual blood pressure technique. The dental hygiene students, in turn, demonstrate, teach and assist nursing students in practicing oral care at the bedside.

IPE in the clinic

Health Promotion Hub

Based at our Interprofessional Learning Clinic at Casa Loma Campus, the Health Promotion Hub provides an unique interprofessional applied learning experience in the practice of health promotion. Initiated in September 2007, the health promotion hub supports the community clinical / field placement requirements of students from various programs. In the 2008-09 academic year, our health promotion teams include students from Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Fitness & Lifestyle Management, Hearing Instrument Specialist, Health Information Management, Social Service Worker, Activation-Gerontology programs and Medicine (through our relationship with the Fitzgerald Academy at St. Michael's Hospital). This supervised field experience supports collaboration and interprofessional student learning, applied practice and scholarly research related to community-based health promotion.

IPE in the field

Learning To Care Together (LTCT)

This is a three-year provincially funded project, involving an unique collaboration between George Brown College and Revera Inc., operator of long term care and retirement living residences across North America. Our mutual goal is to create an innovative interprofessional education partnership including preceptored interprofessional field placements for our students at Revera residences and new interprofessional curriculum for our students and Revera staff in key areas related to the care of seniors.



Current Health Sciences Programs at George Brown College

<http://www.georgebrown.ca/centres/HS/index.aspx>

School of Nursing (over 1,200 students)

Nursing is experiencing an unprecedented growth in career opportunities: Toronto-area jobs are expected to grow by almost 40 per cent by 2011. George Brown College offers a wide range of nursing programs that will prepare graduates to fill this demand and deliver quality nursing care and personal support services. Students benefit from faculty who are engaged in their profession, superior facilities, and access to clinical placements in leading health-care organizations, located just minutes from our campus.

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Collaborative Nursing) - S118
- Personal Support Worker - C112
- Practical Nursing - S121
- Critical Care Nursing (Post-Graduate) - S402
- Critical Care Nursing Program - On-line -S422
- Operating Room Perioperative Nursing Program -On-line Delivery - S424
- Operating Room Perioperative Nursing - (Post-Graduate)- S414
- Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing (Post-Graduate) - S404

School of Dental Health (over 560 students)

Our reputation as Canada's largest and most diverse educator in dental health has created a very high demand for the dental assistants, hygienists, dental technicians and denturists who graduate from George Brown College. Students learn from qualified faculty in an exceptional environment that meets the industry's highest standards.

- Dental Assisting Level I and II S113
- Dental Hygiene - S112
- Dental Technology- S100
- Denturism - S101
- Restorative Dental Hygiene (Post-Graduate) - S400

School of Health & Wellness (over 450 students)

Our Orthotics / Prosthetics programs prepare students to make braces and artificial limbs and the Hearing Instrument Specialist program trains students in the testing and dispensing of hearing aids – two unique career opportunities to improve the quality of life of many patients. Activation Coordinator / Gerontology students acquire specialized knowledge in the field of aging and learn to design programs that increase the physical activity of older persons in community centres and other facilities. Our Fitness and Lifestyle Management program has been recognized as a premier educator of health and fitness specialists for more than 30 years. As the field of fitness grows, so will the demand for qualified specialists.

- Activation Coordinator / Gerontology - C102
- Clinical Methods in Orthotics / Prosthetics (Post-Graduate) - S407
- Fitness and Lifestyle Management - S114
- Hearing Instrument Specialist - S117
- Orthotic / Prosthetic Technician - S102

School of Health Services Management (over 300 students)

Office administrators and information managers are key players in dental and medical offices, clinics, hospitals, and a wide variety of health-related businesses. Our programs provide specialized computer and business skills, and the clinical knowledge necessary to become a valuable team member.

- Dental Office Administration - S115
- Health Informatics (Post-Graduate) - T402
- Health Information Management - C139
- Office Administration - Medical - C115



Some Useful IPE Web Links:

George Brown College Interprofessional Education Web Page

<http://www.georgebrown.ca/healthsciences/ipe.aspx>

George Brown College Interprofessional Health Promotion Web Page

<http://www.georgebrown.ca/healthsciences/health-promotion/index.aspx>

National Health Sciences Students Association

<http://www.nahssa.ca/>

Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative

<http://www.cihc.ca>

Health Canada: Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Primary Health Care (EICP) Initiative

<http://www.eicp-acis.ca/en/resources/language/definitions.asp>

Health Canada Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient-Centred Practice

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/hhr-rhs/strateg/interprof/synth_e.html

University of Toronto Office of Interprofessional Education

<http://ipe.utoronto.ca/>

CAIPE (UK Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education)

<http://www.caipe.org.uk>

