Course Overview
The unique feature of this interdisciplinary academic international service learning course is that it addresses several outcomes. It will provide academic credit to students to work with people from a different ethnic background and challenge students to new levels of thinking. Students will gain exposure to the developing world health care conditions and gain skills working with an impoverished population. Even though students’ work takes them far from UM-Flint, it involves a spirit of citizenship. The immersion component of this course allows for students to experience direct contact with people in a developing country unlike their own.

Students will be visiting healthcare institutions, social agencies, local governmental agencies, education facilities, and cultural sites to enrich their view of the different health, social, and economic strata in Cambodian society.

Country Profile
There’s a magic about Cambodia that casts a spell on many who visit this charming yet confounding kingdom. Ascend to the realm of the gods at the mother of all temples, Angkor Wat, a spectacular fusion of symbolism, symmetry and spirituality. Descend into the hell of Tuol Sleng and come face to face with the Khmer Rouge and its killing machine. Welcome to the conundrum that is Cambodia: a country with a history both inspiring and depressing, an intoxicating place where the future is waiting to be shaped. Just as Angkor is more than its wat, so too is Cambodia more than its temples. The chaotic yet charismatic capital of Phnom Penh is a hub of political intrigue, economic vitality and intellectual debate.

Phnom Penh: the name can't help but conjure up an image of the exotic. The glimmering spires of the royal palace, the fluttering saffron of the monks’ robes, and the luscious location on the banks of the mighty Mekong; this is one of Asia’s undiscovered gems. But it’s also a city on the move, as a new wave of investors move in, perhaps forever changing the character, and skyline, of this classic city. Phnom Penh is a crossroads of Asia’s past and present, a city of extremes of poverty and excess, of charm and chaos, but one that never fails to captivate.

Excerpts about Cambodia from Lonely Planet.