

**A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY ON SOCIAL
EXPERIENCE OF INTERNATIONAL NURSING
STUDENTS IN THEIR CLINICAL AREA**

THESIS

**DESS O. CATALO
GABRIEL C. MORDIDO**

**College of Nursing
CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY
Indang, Cavite**

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ABSTRACT

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In the current administration of Cavite State University, the administration lead by Dr. Hernando D. Robles marks the transformation of Cavite State University as it moves forward in one direction to become a Global University in 2020. In line with this event, a thematic analysis was conducted to describe the social experience of international nursing students in their clinical area. Six (6) international nursing students who had been exposed in clinical area were selected purposively. Each of the selected participants has undergone semi-structured interviews. Thematic analysis revealed a superordinate theme that answers the perceived social needs of international nursing students in their clinical area: (1) Belongingness, (2) Interpersonal Relationship needs, and (3) Communication needs. Another superordinate theme that answers the perceived social struggles of international nursing students in their clinical area was revealed: (1) Language differences, and (2) Cultural Differences. And lastly, a superordinate theme answers the perceived social conflict of international nursing students in their clinical area: (1) Poor Communication.

Keywords: *International Nursing Students, International Students, Social Experience, Clinical Area, Social Needs, Social Struggles, Social Conflict, semi-structured interviews, thematic analysis*

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**Dess O. Catalo
Gabriel C. Mordido**

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INTRODUCTION

The demand for higher education continues to grow as universities compete globally to attract and encourage students to travel outside of their home countries to pursue better education. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization UNSECO in their 2009 World Conference on Higher Education report, over 2.5 million students were studying outside their home country. Additionally, UNESCO predicted that the number of foreign students might rise to approximately 7 million by the year 2020.

According to ICEF Monitor in their 2014 report, increases in regional mobility are being fuelled by improved capacity and quality in regional education hubs. In addition Open Doors in their 2009 report, annually around 750,000 Chinese and 400,000 Indian students apply to overseas higher education in the USA. This places