

NARRATIVE IN TIMES OF TRANSITION

A NOVEL CURRICULUM DURING COVID-19

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Background

- Pandemic 2020 up-ended education
- Local, national, global events
- Traditional transition time (M3 --> M4)
- Questioning their role in healthcare
- Call for non-clinical electives
- Narrative in Times of Transition offered
 - self & shared inquiry
 - developing professional identity
 - antidote for isolation

Methods

- Group meetings weekly
- Daily journaling
- 1:1 peer meetings
- Weekly readings and writing prompts
- Themes:
 - Looking back - self reflection
 - Looking present - current identity
 - Finding meaning - writing a personal statement
 - Being together - collaborative writing

Results



link to student reflections video

"Slowly I began to feel my brain open up and shake off cobwebs that had gathered in its creative corners." -Brett

A weekly writing practice allowed me to put myself on the page. I wrote through my anger at the application game, COVID-19, and at being stuck at home. -Alison

"Currently, the fault lines in both our medical education and national healthcare system are in plain sight; this course allowed us to grow individually and as a group." -Taylor

"They wrestled with words, letting them sink or fly with abandon before gently reconstructing lost narratives, finding the threads of old and new narratives, and then lifting themselves and each other back to their feet through creativity."
-Dr. Lahti



Scan to hear the poem: Eight Threads

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