The Samsons PLAB course is a bi-monthly programme that seeks to familiarise international doctors with the practices of the UK NHS and help them to gain recognition as GMC-certified doctors by passing the Plab 2 exams.

Coming from a Ghanaian setting but studying healthcare operational management in mainly the UK context, I wanted to partake in a short course that will grant me an understanding and knowledge of the UK’s clinical guidelines and practices, as well as enable me to better contextualize the operational issues of the NHS that I have been studying in the MSc Healthcare Operational Management programme.

This programme was a great experience granting me the opportunity to learn with other doctors from a wide range of countries and backgrounds. The new friends and connections made the programme even more worthwhile than I anticipated.

The training provided during this course has helped me gain data interpretation skills, communication skills, and an understanding of the UK’s clinical guidelines and practices that are needed to gain recognition as a GMC-certified doctor through the Plab 2 examination route. This will permit me to take on clinical roles that I am currently unable to and give me a deeper insight into the healthcare issues I will be tasked to solve. I believe the best healthcare managers and leaders are those who have experienced the working conditions and processes they aim to improve.

I recommend that other Warwick students jump at opportunities like this that enable them to learn things outside the scope but related to their courses. I feel that due to this course and subsequent GMC registration (subject to passing the Plab exams), I will be better placed and have a competitive edge in the professional market.

I would like to thank the Short Term Mobility Bursary scheme for providing the funding that has enabled me to take this course without crippling my finances.