



GLBL 350 International Experience

3 credits
Semester/Year

Professor:
Office:
Office Hours:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Meeting Dates/Times:
Meeting Location:

Welcome! Study abroad is a transformative journey, life-changing and life-enhancing...and you have just begun!

A Global Studies major is required to complete an **international experience** appropriate to the student's area of concentration and language study. This experience must involve significant cultural immersion outside of the U.S. (6 weeks minimum) as approved by the Global Studies Coordinator and in a program or partnership authorized by Shepherd University. Students should have completed the foundations courses for the Global Studies Major before starting this international experience.

GLBL 350 *International Experience* entails pre-study abroad orientation sessions, independent study and/or group study, one-on-one guidance on research projects, written and oral assignments, and post-study abroad reflection and summation. The course is repeatable for up to 6 credits.

Catalog Course Description:

GLBL 350 – INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (3 – 6 cr) After approval by the Global Studies Coordinator, each student will participate in an international experience appropriate to his or her background and concentration within the major. The experience shall involve significant cultural immersion, such as study abroad, an internship, or service learning project. Specific course requirements will be outlined in the course syllabus, e.g., a research paper, field notes, reflective paper or journal. It is recommended that students complete the Global Studies foundations before enrolling in this course. *Permission of Global Studies Coordinator required.*

The international requirement may be satisfied by a variety of options external to the U.S., e.g., an individualized course of study with a culminating research project; a service project in conjunction with a culminating research project; an international internship satisfying appropriate internship requirements; course work at a college or university outside of the U.S.; immersion courses in language and culture; a teaching practicum; and volunteer work with an international organization coupled with a culminating research project. The Global Studies Coordinator-advisor will work with each student to design the specific international experience, student learning outcomes, and learning assessments.

An international requirement is consistent with the Global Studies program vision statement that students will “excel in cross-cultural, multilingual environments.” An international

International Experience

experience also supports the Shepherd core values of “learning” and “engagement” and its mission as “a gateway to the world of opportunities and ideas.”

Essential Learning Outcomes (Association of American Colleges and Universities)

Your participation in an international experience is intended to enhance your:

- ✓ Knowledge of human culture and the physical and natural world
- ✓ Intellectual and practical skills
- ✓ Personal and social responsibility
- ✓ Integrative learning

Course Competencies:

Competency	How the competency is met:
Written Communication	Assigned papers and research project
Experiential Learning	Study abroad experiences; learning expressed through journal or field notes and reflective papers.
Global Understanding and Respect	Readings; assigned papers and research project; experiential opportunities while abroad.
Multiculturalism and Diversity	Readings; assigned papers and research project; experiential opportunities while abroad.

By the end of your international experience, you should:

- have an enhanced understanding and appreciation for different cultures, attitudes, beliefs, and perspectives;
- have a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of individuals, societies, and countries;
- demonstrate substantive knowledge of the physical, cultural, economic, and political characteristics of the host country or society;
- have a deeper understanding and appreciation for the cultural and ideological differences between the United States and the designated country or society; and
- appreciate the impact of your personal experience and culture on your perception of the world.

Common Readings (required):

All students enrolled in this course must complete a common core of readings. Additional reading assignments will be tailored to the individual on the basis of his/her concentration and corresponding international experience. Students are required to make reference to/use examples from the common readings in some course assignments.

Duke, Steven T. *Preparing for Study Abroad: Learning to Cross Cultures*. Stylus Publishing, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-1579229948

Selected readings and activities from:

Berardo, Kate, and Darla K. Deardorff, editors. *Building Cultural Competence: Innovative Activities and Models*. Stylus Publishing, 2012.

Stringer, Donna M., and Patricia A. Cassiday. *52 Activities for Improving Cross-Cultural Communication*. SAGE, 2009.

Handouts and other ancillary materials as needed or requested.

Additional Resources: Your research and paper assignments will require that you utilize a variety of hard copy and online resources for text, data, and imagery as, for example, United Nations and World Bank publications, CIA -The World Factbook, and Google Earth imagery at earth.google.com. For an atlas, www.mapsofworld.com is one of many good online options. If you are searching for full-length journal articles, the Scarborough Library provides online access to dozens of databases including LexisNexis and JSTOR, as well as access to a mountain of resources provided by the Federal Depository program.

For learning phrases in another language, the web provides a multitude of good options, from pronunciation guides to translators, e.g., translate.google.com. If your interest is Chinese, go to <http://www.chinese-lessons.com/mandarin/> or for help with Russian, see http://www.linguanaut.com/english_russian.htm

Since you are preparing to study abroad, it is important that you read, watch, or listen to reliable news sources on a daily basis as, for example, the BBC, NPR, CNN, CBC (Canadian Broadcasting), The New York Times, and The Guardian.

Sakai: This course is web-enhanced through the use of the Sakai course management system. Check the Sakai page regularly for announcements, reading materials, video clips, assignments, and feedback on your projects. Utilize this tool while you are researching and studying abroad; the chat room and discussion board will be valuable online venues.

Class Sessions: This course requires at least three face-to-face class sessions prior to travel and two post-travel debriefing sessions. Upon returning to the U.S., the student will prepare and deliver an oral presentation, i.e., on his/her research project and/or reflection on the time abroad. ALL educational sessions before and after the international experience are mandatory. In addition, there will be expected ongoing electronic communication between the student and Coordinator-advisor during the time abroad. Students are expected to use their Shepherd e-mail addresses and the Sakai course management system.

Assignments and Evaluation: The grade for the course will be based on the following assignments:

Journal or field notes	25%
Research paper	35
Written reflection and summation	15
Oral presentation	15
Participation at pre- and post-travel sessions	10

Evaluation will be based upon a percentage of total points as follows:

A	90-100%	D	60-69%
B	80-89	F	0-59
C	70-79		

In instances where the student has a field supervisor for the international experience, the field supervisor will submit a written evaluation of the student's performance based on agreed upon evaluation criteria, e.g., internship evaluation form. (Special handouts for internships.)

The student will be provided with specific guidelines, tips, and grading criteria for the journal or field notes, research paper, reflection paper, and oral presentation. To some extent, the

International Experience

assignments will be tailored to the student's specific international experience. The following common criteria will be used in grading written work:

1. Adherence to assignment guidelines, including references to/examples from the common readings for this course, e.g., *Preparing to Study Abroad*, 2014.
2. Adherence to deadlines
3. Accuracy and completeness
4. Evidence-backed analyses
5. Clarity of expression
6. Mechanics: no typographical, spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors
7. Use of APA style

Written assignments are to be uploaded to Sakai under the heading "Assignments." They should be in Word or PDF format, double-spaced in Times New Roman 12 point font with one inch margins. Pages are to be numbered. Please note that Sakai is linked to the "turnitin" software which will check your work for plagiarism. Failure to meet established deadlines will result in a loss of points, i.e., ten percent per day, and could result in failure of the course.

Course Outline: Primarily individualized and independent study, based on your concentration and specific international experience.

Pre-Study Abroad Sessions (minimum 3)

Introduction, preparing for going abroad, crossing cultures
Journaling, field notes, and conducting research – methods, sources
Cultural competence – models and activities
Country – mini-case study/briefing

Post-Study Abroad Sessions (2)

Debriefing – transformative learning
Student oral presentation – research and reflection

Expectations of the Student:

- Attend and participate in all pre- and post-study abroad sessions. This includes reading all assigned readings in advance of the sessions, arriving on time for sessions, attending the full sessions, and participating in all session activities and discussions.
- Provide the Study Abroad Office (see below) with all required and pertinent information prior to departure.
- Exhibit professionalism and courtesy in the destination country as an ambassador of Shepherd University.
- Maintain ongoing electronic contact with the Program Coordinator-advisor throughout the study abroad, seeking guidance on research and relevant matters as needed.
- Follow assignment specifications and submit assignments on time.
- Celebrate and promote study abroad opportunities!!

Required Travel Arrangements:

- ✓ You must register your international experience through the Shepherd University Study Abroad Office. <http://shepherd.abroadoffice.net/dates.html>

International Experience

- ✓ As required by policy, all participants in the international experience must purchase insurance through the Shepherd University Business Office.
- ✓ Participants must have a valid passport that will not expire for at least 6 months after returning to the U.S.
- ✓ Participants who intend to travel on non-U.S. passports must have a completed FORM I-20 for readmission to the United States.
- ✓ Participants must provide a copy of their passport to the Shepherd University Study Abroad Office prior to departure of the tour.
- ✓ Participants must provide emergency contact information to the Shepherd University Study Abroad Office prior to departure (as well as to any tour company if applicable).
- ✓ Participants must report any potential travel problems to the Program Coordinator and Study Abroad Director prior to departure as, for example, legal issues that may hinder return to the U.S.
- ✓ Any fees associated with this international experience are to be paid through the Shepherd University business office unless other arrangements have been approved.
- ✓ All participants in the international experience must sign a waiver with Shepherd University.

Attendance: You **must** attend classes or **your financial aid may be revoked** either partially or in full. Refer to shepherd.edu/faoweb for more details.

Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism: These infractions are grounds for failure of the course. See “Academic Integrity Procedures” in the university’s Student Handbook.

Policy on Late Assignments: Ten percent will be deducted for each day the assignment is overdue (a weekend is counted as one day). In some cases: No late papers accepted.

Academic Support Center – Free Tutoring: Visit the Academic Support Center in the Library for free tutoring, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 876-5221. www.shepherd.edu/ascweb

Accessibility Services: Students who need special accommodations are encouraged to contact the Office of Multicultural Student Services, Student Center 201, 876-5453. Accommodations must be documented and notice provided to instructors. Please see <http://www.shepherd.edu/mcssweb/dss/default.html> for more information.

Notes:

Please note that normal Shepherd policies outlined in the Student Handbook apply to this course.

The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments in this syllabus.