INTERNATIONAL HONORS PROGRAM
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE GUIDELINES
Adopted by the Honors Council 9-24-08; Amended 4-11-11; 2-13-12

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF SHORT TERM OR ALTERNATIVE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

All semester-long study-abroad experiences that are supported by the International Programs Center are, by definition, approved international experiences. The expectation of Lloyd International Honors College is that students in the College will spend a semester or more studying abroad. However, some students are unable to leave the country for a semester or longer, and for these students there is a set of approved short-term programs maintained on the Honors College website from which students may choose in order to fulfill the international experience requirement for International Honors.

The minimum characteristics that alternative and short-term programs must meet are:

• Sufficient intellectual content so that students engage in critical and reflective thinking before, during, and after the time that they are engaged in cultures different from the cultures that they grew up in. The level of intellectual content should be equivalent to at least 6 semester hours of academic credit and should include ethnographic study of the cultures in which they are immersed.
• A level of immersion in a culture other their own that gives students culturally transforming experiences. (Those experiences should result in students going beyond culture shock and coming to terms with cultures different from the ones that they grew up in.)
• A transnational character that adds to the cross-cultural nature of the experience almost always requiring the student to travel and spend significant time beyond U.S. borders.

PROPOSAL & APPROVAL PROCESS FOR A SHORT-TERM OR ALTERNATIVE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Once a year at a regularly scheduled meeting in the fall semester, the Honors Council will review the list of approved international experiences and consider whether it wishes to revise the list for the future. At that time it will consider any proposals from students or UNCG faculty for the addition of short-term programs. An Honors student interested in completing a short-term study abroad program rather than participating as expected by the Honors College in one of the approved UNCG semester-long programs must select from the approved list maintained on the Honors College website. In addition, the student must provide in writing a rationale for choosing this alternative and provide evidence that he/she has discussed these plans with the International Programs Center.