

## **UNIV 370/371 – Study Abroad/Domestic Travel Study**

### **Syllabus**

In addition to the credit courses in which you are enrolled during your study abroad program, you are also enrolled in the zero-credit course UNIV 370, Study Abroad (or UNIV 371 for domestic travel study programs). The purpose of this course is to document, via self-assessment and reflection, the Discovery Learning Experience required for all University of Delaware undergraduates.

A Discovery Learning Experience (DLE) involves academic instruction and learning outside of a traditional classroom and beyond typical curriculum courses. Therefore, participating in study abroad and domestic travel study programs for credit fulfills the DLE requirement.

### **Grading**

- This is a pass/fail course which appears on your transcript like all other courses.
- A grade of P (pass) documents the fulfillment of the required Discovery Learning Experience.
- A grade of F (fail) indicates that the student did not complete the course requirement.
- This is a zero-credit course, so the P and F grades do not impact your gpa.
- The P/F grades will be given by study abroad program coordinators in UD's Institute for Global Studies.

### **Assignments**

There are only two assignments required in order to earn a P (pass) grade:

- Read the two learning goals for DLE and the six learning goals for global education below, and, during your travel-study program, **reflect (think)** about how your experiences relate to each of those learning goals. Although not required, if you are a journaler or blogger, you might even make note of specific incidents or experiences that relate to a particular learning goal.
- In order to earn a grade of P, you **must complete** an online evaluation and assessment by the designated deadline. For most students this can be completed in 20-30 minutes. Towards the end of your study abroad program you will receive an e-mail from the Institute for Global Studies containing instructions for completing the assessment. Within a two-week period two additional reminder e-mails will be sent, at least one of which will be sent after all programs have ended.

Students who do not complete the evaluation and assessment by the deadline will receive an F in the course. This grade of F will appear on your transcript.

## Learning Goals (Why is this important?)

The University's Faculty Senate has stated that DLE courses must incorporate these learning goals:

1. Students will apply critical thinking skills and academic knowledge/concepts to develop effective responses to, and make informed decisions about, problems or situations encountered in the course of the learning experience.
2. Students will engage in reflection, which incorporates self-assessment and analysis of the learning that has occurred as a result of their participation in the DLE. At a minimum, students will be expected to examine and demonstrate what they have learned as a result of the DLE, how they have learned it, the impact of their learning on their personal and professional growth, and how to apply that learning in other situations or contexts.

You will certainly address item #1 in the credit-bearing courses you are taking abroad with your faculty director(s) and/or local instructors.

Item #2 may be more difficult to address in your regular courses. **The assessment associated with UNIV 370/371 provides the opportunity for the reflection necessary for students to process the unique experience of learning abroad and meet their DLE requirement.**

The assessment also includes additional learning goals designed to prompt reflection in specific areas of global education:

### Knowledge

- Understanding one's own cultural norms and expectations, as well as the cultural norms and expectations of others
- Possessing general knowledge of the program region(s) or country/countries

### Skills

- Adjusting successfully to life outside of one's own culture
- Adapting one's behavior to interact effectively with those from the host culture

### Attitudes

- Accepting that one's own world view is not universal
- Appreciating the language, art, religion, philosophy, and/or other human artifacts of the host culture

By collecting feedback about students' learning abroad, the Institute for Global Studies will be better able to determine the extent to which the learning goals stated above have been met. Please take the time to reflect on your own experiences and learning off-campus and to submit a meaningful evaluation/assessment.