

Global Learning: Preparation

UNIV 394, 1 credit hour, Spring 2020
Wednesdays 3:00-5:30pm in AGHILL 126
Dates: 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15 (Hidatsa, MU), 4/22

C. Dominique Speer, M.S.
MU 116, M-F 1:30-3:30 by appt
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COURSE PREREQUISITES

Approval to study abroad, and/or instructor approval.

NDSU CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

Individual student work on research or criticism under the supervision of a professor.

DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

Congratulations on your decision to study abroad! This is a life-changing opportunity. Through this Pre-Departure Course, I hope to help you with planning for both the logistics of the experience and to help you make the most of this opportunity to grow.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. **Demonstrate independent thought and actions in preparing for a study abroad program** by making travel arrangements and describing travel expectations; explaining money management in the context of study abroad; outlining communication options and requirements; planning for a healthy experience abroad; identifying best practices for safe travel and devising plans for reacting to safety scenarios abroad; and constructing personal and professional goals for participation.
2. **Recognize and describe identity and values to prepare for interactions in a multicultural context** by outlining aspects of their personal identity and explaining how the interactions between self and society affect the formation of self-identity.
3. **Describe intercultural awareness and skills as a global citizen** by explaining the concept of culture shock, when it occurs, and how to deal with it; comparing similarities and differences between cultures; and considering their impact on the world and individuals as a study abroad participant.

COURSE POLICIES

Participation: You are expected to prepare for and attend all class meetings, as well as participate in each class. Preparation includes completing all assigned readings, submitting assignments, and bringing a copy of any assigned readings to class.

Respect: This class is intended to be a helpful and supportive class for people who are preparing to study abroad. As such, politeness and thoughtful engagement in the material is required. You may be wrestling with some topics that challenge you. Being respectful of others and of yourself is important for building an environment of trust and communication.

Electronics: Turn the sound off for your cell phone and do not allow them to interrupt the course. If you are aware that there might be an emergency for which you need to answer your phone then please speak to me before class. Laptops and tablets are allowed, but only for class-related purposes (i.e. no facebook or messaging during class).

ATTENDANCE STATEMENT

According to [NDSU Policy 333 \(www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/policy/333.pdf\)](http://www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/policy/333.pdf), attendance in classes is expected. Veterans and student service members with special circumstances or who are activated are encouraged to notify the instructor as soon as possible and are encouraged to provide Activation Orders.

Because this course only meets five times, it's critical that you attend each class. If you are not able to attend due to a medical or family emergency, please contact the instructor right away for alternative arrangements. For classes missed for any reason other than an emergency, you will be responsible for viewing the recording of the pertinent lecture and submitting your assignment by email. It will not be possible to make up the presentation points for a course missed for any non-emergency reason.

COURSE FORMAT & DELIVERY

This course is delivered through an in-person format, with half of the course devoted to lecture and half to discussion and activity.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course, are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor and contact the [Disability Services Office \(www.ndsu.edu/disabilityservices\)](http://www.ndsu.edu/disabilityservices) as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity, and fair play. [NDSU Policy 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct](#) applies to cases in which cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct have occurred in an instructional context. Students found guilty of academic misconduct are subject to penalties, up to and possibly including suspension and/or expulsion. Student academic misconduct records are maintained by the [Office of Registration and Records](#). Informational resources about academic honesty for students and instructional staff members can be found at www.ndsu.edu/academichonesty.

COURSE MATERIALS & RESOURCES

There are no required books for this course. All readings will be provided in PDF format the week before they are due.

ASSIGNMENTS

- **Essays (60%):** Four (4) essays will be due throughout the course of this course looking at areas of your preparation for going abroad. As a minimum, each essay is to be 500-1000 words (but no longer), and to have been edited, spell-checked, etc. Successful completion of these essays will require demonstrating thought and consideration in your writing. Each reflection essay is worth 15 points, for a total of 60 points.

Essays may be submitted on blackboard any time before the start of class. Late assignments will result in a 3-point deduction. Bring a copy of your essay to class to consult for your presentation/discussion, though this does not have to be on paper if you prefer a digital copy.

- **Presentation/Discussion (15%):** During three classes where an essay is due, there will be time designated for discussion. Each participant will talk briefly (2-3 minutes) about what they have written, and there will be time for others to ask questions. These questions are intended to be a

helpful and interesting dialogue on what you have found or are thinking about. This is not a formal presentation, but your presentation of thoughtful content and asking active questions for others is needed for full points. Each discussion is worth 5 points, for a total of 15 points.

- **Reflective Journal (25%):** As part of this class, you will start a reflective journal and complete a series of practice reflections both in and outside of class. You will be asked to submit your journal in a scanned, photographed, or in-person format to demonstrate completion of the requirements, but the journal will be graded based on self-assessment. Your reflective journal is worth 25 points.

The journal may be submitted by email to c.dominique.speer@ndsu.edu or in person any time before the start of class. Late assignments will result in a 3-point deduction.

GRADING

Assignment	Points Per Assignment	Number Required	Total
Essay	15	4	60
Presentation/Discussion	5	3	15
Reflective Journal	25	1	25
			100

SCHEDULE

Date	Class Topic	Assignment Due This Day
March 25	Overview & Logistical Introduction	None
April 1	Travel, Money, & Communication	Essay on Goals Presentation / Discussion
April 8	Culture, Narrative, & Stories	Essay on Cultural Toolkit Presentation / Discussion
April 15	Identity & Culture Shock (combined with non-credit sessions)	Essay on Travel Planning
April 22	Health & Safety Global Impact Professional Development	Essay on Impact Reflective Journal Presentation / Discussion