

Stephanie Kraft-Terry, PhD
Study Abroad Resident Director Application
Summer 2024

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PLAN

Aloha! It is my honor to work with you as your Resident Director as you explore Dublin, Ireland, while working towards the completion of essential coursework for your degree program. As your Resident Director, I will be there to support your cultural exploration and academic success for the duration of the program. In addition to the excursions organized by the host school, I will schedule outings within the area that we will engage in as a group, helping you to experience the unique host-culture. Should you need anything while you are participating in this Study Abroad Experience, please be sure to reach out to me.

To complement the courses you will be completing, I will be guiding you in your experiential learning outside the classroom, helping to to embrace and reflect on your experience living and learning abroad. This experiential learning component will contribute to the final grade you receive for your Study Abroad courses this summer. The assignments will ensure that at the completion of the program, your work will demonstrate you have achieved the Study Abroad Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate awareness of own cultural values and biases and how these impact their ability to work with others.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of diversity with a focus on the population or topic of interest in the specific Study Abroad program.
3. Communicate appropriately and effectively with diverse individuals and groups.
4. Demonstrate an increased capacity to analyze issues with appreciation for disparate viewpoints.

To achieve these outcomes, you will complete journal entries throughout the program, designed to help you reflect on your lived experience and how studying abroad is helping you to develop respect for, and an increased understanding of, diverse cultures. In addition, you will complete weekly message board activities that will allow you to learn from and engage with your peers as everyone shares and reflects on their experiences. The rubric below will be used to evaluate your experiential learning products.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING RUBRIC

Learning Outcome	Below Expectation	Satisfactory	Exceptional
Demonstrate awareness of your own cultural values and biases and how these impact your ability to work with others.	Does not submit journal entries. Assignments that are submitted do not address the assigned topics.	Regularly submits journal entries, ensuring they address their own cultural values and biases.	Journal entries express a deep understanding of how their cultural values and biases affect their interactions with those from other cultures and how the experience has influenced the way they will work with diverse people in the future.
Demonstrate knowledge of diversity with a focus on the population or topic of interest in your Study Abroad program.	Does not submit journal entries or participate in message board activities. Submission are incomplete or fail to address the topics focused on their observations of the diversity within Ireland	Submits journal entries and message board posts that are complete and address the topic of their observations of diversity within Ireland.	Expands beyond the basic response to journal entries and blog posts to draw conclusions about the similarities and differences between diversity in their home country and the diversity in Ireland, including how historical events contributed to the current diversity.
Communicate appropriately and effectively with diverse individuals and groups.	Poor attendance or participation in UCD and Resident Director-coordinated excursions. Poor or inappropriate communication on message board interactions.	Regular attendance and active participation UCD and Resident Director-coordinated excursions. Demonstrating a respect for diverse opinions when communication in message board interactions.	Applies classroom and excursion learning to everyday living experiences.
Demonstrate an increased capacity to analyze issues with appreciation for disparate viewpoints.	Fails to complete journal and message board activities.	Journal entries at the conclusion of the program demonstrate growth in identifying and appreciating disparate viewpoints when compared with entries at the beginning of the program.	Journal entries articulate a connection between study abroad experiences that contributed to growth in identifying and appreciating disparate viewpoints.