

International Partnership Overview & Guidelines

Program Overview

Students may complete up to three upper-division Honors credits (one per semester) by participating in the International Partnership (IP) program. Participants are matched with an international student as a language partner, and are required to meet with them at least five times a semester for a total of 10 hours of interaction together. Five reflection papers are required along with a completed time sheet to receive Honors credit. Honors students may receive up to three IP credits throughout the duration of their Honors Program experience, but they are limited to one IP credit per semester. Students may participate in the program beyond three semesters, but will not be eligible for additional credit.

Honors Credit

IP participation is expected to challenge students to engage in cross-cultural communication, raise their cultural competency and provide a service to the SLU community. Reflection papers should thoughtfully consider these themes, not simply provide a synopsis of the meeting. A description of the activity is acceptable, but only as a pretext to the larger discussion about cultural awareness/ exchange. In other words, reflection papers should demonstrate critical analytical skill. Papers that merely summarize event proceedings will not receive credit.

Good questions to consider are:

How is your partner transitioning to life in St. Louis or the United States, in general?

How are you and your partner similar?

What struggles might your partner be facing currently? What resources might you be able to provide him/ her? What might he/ she need to succeed?

GREAT questions to consider are:

How has your partner changed your perspective and/ or challenged your worldview?

What lessons or newfound knowledge did you gain from your partner?

How is this experience changing you? What will you do in light of this change?

IP Reflection Paper Requirements

In order to receive credit, reflections must:

- 1. Be submitted by deadline (as specified in the calendar below).
- 2. Contain at least 700 words (approximately two pages), including a brief (2 sentence) synopsis of the meeting location and date.
- 3. Contain a critical analysis of each meeting, addressing and building upon questions like those above.
- 4. Use clear, concise language. Document should be free of errors, easy to read, and structured in an organized way.

Submissions that satisfy all of the above conditions will receive full credit. No exceptions will be given for late submissions. At the discretion of the Honors Program, reflections that do not address the stated criteria and/ or exhibit poor grammar or punctuation may be returned for revision or not receive credit. If requested, revisions must be returned within 48 hours of notification. Failure to return a revised draft or submission of a revision that fails to improve upon a previous draft will result in no credit.

Fall 2015 Calendar Sessions (tentative)

Time Frame	Reflections Due (by midnight CST) to course Blackboard site
Session 1: August 24 September 13	September 13
Session 2: September 14 October 4	October 4
Session 3: October 5 October 25	October 25
Session 4: October 26 November 15	November 15
Session 5: November 16 December 6	December 6