



Cross Cultural Field Experience

Independent Experience

HUM2040

Instructor:

TBD

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Cross-Cultural Field Experience is a part of the Grace Core, a set of general education courses required for Grace undergraduates. Through this first-hand experience, students will have the opportunity to engage in a culture (i.e. ethnicities or nationalities) other than their own and to master six interrelated cross-cultural skills.

CCFE Independent Trip philosophy: In contrast to a Go Encounter trip, which is organized by faculty/staff and the Institute for Global Studies (IGS), Cross-Cultural Field Experience (CCFE) trips are planned by students and approved through IGS. Students must plan their trips independently, though they receive feedback on their trip when they submit a proposal. Students must carefully read and follow this syllabus, including turning in all assignments on time, because HUM 2040 does not meet as a class. Students should proactively communicate with the Institute for Global Studies about any changes to their itinerary or travel plans, and any revisions to their proposal. **Students selecting HUM 2040 must be willing to take on all planning and organizational duties for their trip and the required assignments.**

All independent trips must take place during Christmas, spring, or summer breaks. The Cross-Cultural Field Experience must adhere to the academic calendar that is set by the Office of Academic Affairs.

All trips must be **pre-approved by the Institute for Global Studies by the students completing the proposal form showing how the trip meets and/or exceeds the HUM2040 credit course outcomes.**

Students must complete all required work for the credit course, including a debriefing presentation in the same semester they are registered. Students who do not complete all coursework by the final day of classes in the semester they registered will be required to retake the class the following semester.

Completion of all HUM 2040 assignments will grant the student the required CCFE credit.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- A:** Student is able to demonstrate humility in approaching a new culture and/or experience.
- B:** Student is able to respectfully engage, ask questions, and converse with people of a different ethnic or national background.
- C:** Student is able to critique his/her own instinctive response to cultural difference and imagine a cultural representative's perspective.
- D:** Student is able to examine another culture deeply to debunk common stereotypes, preconceived notions, and myths about that particular culture.
- E:** Student is able to examine him/herself in regard to a different culture/situation and think deeply about their own presumptions and their own cultural values and beliefs.
- F:** Student is able to express appreciation for various aspects of the culture they encounter, such as history, art, traditions, etc.

PRE-APPROVAL:

Students are required to complete a proposal through a Google form, including a minimum of 7 full day itinerary explaining how the trip meets and/or exceeds the HUM2040 credit course outcomes. The proposal must be completed by the published due date. Submissions after due dates may incur additional fees or be rejected immediately. Exact due dates for trip proposals can be viewed on the global website (<https://globalatgrace.wixsite.com/global>). Cruises, adventure tours, honeymoons, and resort stays are not accepted.

To be considered for approval, trips must include:

1. Minimum of 7 full days immersed in a community of people from a different ethnic or national background than your own. Immersion = active participation.
2. Significant, intentional time spent with people of a different ethnic or national background than your own
3. Significant, intentional time learning about the culture, beliefs, and worldview of the people of a different ethnic or national background than your own.
4. Examples of immersion include but are not limited to:
 - staying with a host family for at least one night
 - attending a church service led by nationals in the country
 - going to a sporting event in a foreign country with locals
 - attending ceremonies with different traditions such as weddings, funerals, and holiday festivities
 - A service project with the locals from the different ethnic or national background

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS:

Pre-departure assignments:

1. Cultural Values reading and quiz
2. Student's answers to a set of Cross-Cultural Interview Questions

3. Short research paper

Assignment completed during trip:

4. Cross-Cultural Interview Questions: Get answers to 2 questions from each of the 10 categories

Assignments turned in after trip:

5. Paragraph responses to selected Cross-Cultural Interview Questions
6. Trip Response Paper
7. Trip Presentation

Detailed Assignment explanations

1. **Cultural Values reading and quiz**

Students are required to complete a short reading on Cultural Values and pass a quiz over the content. Students must receive a minimum score of 85% before departure for their trip to be eligible for CCFE credit. The reading and the quiz will be provided on the Canvas site. **This assignment must be submitted on Canvas at least one week before departure.**

2. **Student's Answers to Cross-Cultural Value Questions**

Students are required to provide a 3-4 sentence personal answer to 3 questions from each of the 10 categories in the Cross-Cultural Interview Questions, explaining their own views as clearly as possible. **This assignment must be submitted on Canvas at least one week before departure.**

3. **Short Research Paper**

Students must research the **cultural values** of the people group and area they will be visiting and write a two-page paper describing what they have learned and citing their sources. Reliable sources include books or articles but also reputable websites written by an authority and/or a cultural representative. Email global@grace.edu for clarification if you are not sure whether a source is reputable. **This assignment must be submitted on Canvas at least one week before departure.**

4. **Filling Out the Cross-Cultural Value Interview Questions**

During their trip, students must find answers at least two questions from each of the 10 categories in the Cross-Cultural Interview Questions. Some answers may be provided based on students' observations of the surrounding culture and/or informational sources like museums and cultural centers. **At least 8 questions** must be asked directly of a cultural informant (i.e. someone from the culture), including someone you talk to at a market or shop, a member of a family you are staying with, a tour guide or uber driver who is from the culture, etc. The answer cannot be simply "yes" or "no" but must involve explanation of the person's views. Denote which 9 questions you have asked directly to a cultural informant.

5. **Answers to all selected Cross-Cultural Value Questions**

You will write a short, clear paragraph about each of the 20 questions you found answers for, explaining what answer you found, defining what evidence helped you to answer the question—your own observations, conversations with cultural informants, information at museums or cultural centers, etc. A rubric for this assignment can be found on your Canvas site. **This assignment must be submitted on Canvas no more than one week after your return.**

6. **Trip Response Paper**

You will complete a series of short responses based on the course learning objectives. These responses must be detailed and specific to your trip—you are encouraged to take notes during your trip to prepare for the assignment. **This assignment must be submitted on Canvas no more than one week after your return.**

7. Trip Presentation

You will prepare and present a 20-minute presentation about your trip and the answers you found to your Cross-Cultural Value Questions, as well as comparison of your own values to those you encountered on your trip. Please include photos on the PowerPoint Presentation from your trip. An outline and rubric for the presentation can be found on your Canvas site. **You must email the instructor to schedule your presentation no more than two weeks after your return.**

WRITING LAB:

Free writing assistance is available on the main floor of the Morgan Library-Learning Center. The writing tutors are there to help you succeed! They can assist you in the organization of papers, sentence and paragraph structure, grammar, punctuation, spelling, documentation of research, and building your knowledge and confidence in writing. Writing tutors are available for appointments (writinglab@grace.edu) or during walk-in hours. For hours and more information, see <http://libguides.grace.edu/writinglab>. (Updated summer 2023)

TITLE IX AND OTHER HARASSMENT:

Grace College and Seminary cares about the health and safety of all our students. The Office of Civil Rights makes it clear that sexual violence, quid pro quo, hostile environment, and other sex-based harassment are civil rights offenses subject to the same kind of accountability and support as with other protected categories such as race, disability, and national origin. This prohibited conduct protects and applies to students, employees, and visitors to campus.

If you or someone you know at Grace has experienced sex-based harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, we encourage you to report it to Carrie Yocum, Title IX Coordinator for help and support (yocumca@grace.edu, 574-372-5100 x6491, McClain 102).

Please be aware that faculty and staff of Grace College are obligated to report information about sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office, including disclosures of experiences that happened before you came to Grace, but they are committed to connecting you with people who can help. You do not have to respond to the outreach by the Title IX Coordinator.

If you would like to speak with someone who does not have this reporting obligation, you may contact Health and Counseling Services (574-372-5100 x6472, GHAWC) or go to our Title IX web page to find additional information about Grace's other confidential services, harassment and nondiscrimination policies (including pregnancy), and reporting options.

(Updated summer 2024)

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

Your experience in this class is important. If you have already established accommodations with Student Disabilities Services (SDS) please communicate your approved accommodations to me as soon as possible so we can discuss your needs in this course.

If you have not yet established services through SDS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions including but not limited to, attention, health, hearing, learning, mobility, physical, psychiatric, or vision), please contact Connie Burkholder, Coordinator of Student Disabilities Services at x6423, via email at burkhoc@grace.edu or stop by the Morgan Library room 203. SDS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and SDS. It is the policy and practice of Grace College and Seminary to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. (Updated Summer 2023)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic dishonesty—in all forms—is a serious violation of academic integrity, Grace's community standards for scholarship and behavior, and Christian morality. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, falsifying or fabricating data, stealing or interfering with another student's work, the use of professional paper writers, unauthorized use of artificial intelligence-created content, and submitting substantial portions of the same work for more than one course without prior consent from the instructor. Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy will result in proportional consequences, which include but are not limited to, failure of the assignment, course grade reduction, and failure of the course, as stated in the course syllabus. All instances of cheating will also be discussed with the Office of Student Affairs. See the Academic Integrity Policy in the Student Handbook and Academic Policies Manual for details.

RIGHT OF REVISION:

The college reserves the right to change any statements, policies or scheduling as necessary. Students will be informed as soon as possible of any changes.