Honors Self- Designed Proposal

Complete this proposal **prior** to your experience’s start date and upload it in the UHP Database (<https://webapps.uc.edu/uchonorsstudent>). Create an experience (“Add a new record”) in the “Tracking Project” tab and upload your proposal document as an attachment. The deadline for [submitting proposals](http://www.uc.edu/honors/experiences/experiencesubmission.html) is the 5th of each month (excluding July).

Proposals are intended to be well developed plans for your experience. However, experiences are exploratory in nature, and we are flexible with changes throughout the experience. If your experience changes after receiving approval on your proposal, contact your honors advisor to verify the changes still satisfy the requirements of an honors experience.

**Basic Information**  
Full Name: Jessica Hobart

Title of Project: Summer Study Abroad in Caen-Normandy, France

Thematic Area(s): Global Studies

Expected Start Date: June 10, 2016

Expected End Date: July 23, 2016

**Guidelines**

1. Proposal submission timeline: Proposals should be submitted at least one month prior to the expected start date of the experience. International experiences require at least two months’ notice. Contact your honors advisor immediately for any exceptions.
2. Proposal length: While the quality of the proposal is most important, strong proposals are typically 3-4 pages single-spaced.
3. Proposal format: Please maintain the proposal format (e.g. headers, layout)
4. Time commitment: Experiences should consist of at least 75-90 hours of preparation, execution, and reflection. This is approximately equivalent to the commitment of honors seminars and pre-approved experiences.

**Requirements for International Travel**

All self-designed international travel experiences require two months’ notice and must be at least one week in length. You will need to provide a detailed itinerary (dates, locations and activities). If participating in independent travel (not with UC faculty, staff or student group), you must also fill out a [Worldwide: Honors Experience application](http://studyabroad.uc.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=10217) via UC International.

Additionally, the [Student Travel Policy](http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/about/docs/university_policies/student_travel_policy.pdf) restricts UC-sponsored travel to countries under a [U.S. Department of State Travel Warning](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html). Those who wish to visit a country with a travel warning must seek an [exemption](http://www.uc.edu/international/study-abroad/applying-to-study-abroad/travel-restrictions---exemptions.html) through UC International. Students traveling without a faculty or staff leader must individually request an exemption. ***We cannot allow you to count this travel as an honors experience nor can we give you a grant without an approved exemption.***

1. **Abstract**

*Briefly describe the experience. What makes this experience personally meaningful? What goals do you have for this experience? What is your timeline for this experience?*

*\*If you are proposing an international experience, provide an itinerary.*

*\*\*If you are developing this experience from an existing opportunity (class with a study tour, campus organization, co-op, etc.) that is not already an honors seminar or pre-approved experience, how will you differentiate your experience from what is already required of other students?*

This experience is a six-week long study abroad trip in Caen, France. The trip is led by Anne-Marie Jezequel who is a University of Cincinnati faculty member. She is a native of France and a member of the Department of Romance Languages. Other students on the trip and I will take classes in French at the Université de Caen Basse-Normandie during the weekdays, and go on small excursions and weekend trips to other cities in France.

This experience is personally meaningful to me because I’ve been learning the French language for six years. I’ve devoted one-third of my life to the language and culture of France. I have yet to visit France and be submersed in the language and culture. This experience would be an opportunity of a lifetime. Not only will I learn about French history, language, and culture in the classroom, I will also gain skills and knowledge outside of the classroom that one can only learn with real world experience. In addition, I’m minoring in French at UC and classes I will take at the Université de Caen Basse-Normandie will give me 15 credits to apply toward this minor. This will free up valuable time during the school year that I can use to take other classes.

My goals for this experience include improving my French speaking skills, written and oral comprehension, and writing skills. In addition, I hope to learn about the culture in France from not only the classes, but from talking with people in France. Another one of my goals for this trip is to leave with a deeper understanding of France as a country.

The trip takes place from June 10th to July 23rd 2016. The itinerary for this experience varies depending upon the classes I will choose to take, but in general:

* I will attend 2-3 hours of language instruction every morning Monday through Friday, which focuses on grammar, vocabulary, and oral comprehension and expression.
* This is supplemented by three weekly afternoon sessions focusing on cultural topics (literature, history, and writing workshop)
* Cultural activities and excursions will take place on free afternoons and weekends to enhance the learning experience

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  Brief description of the experience  Personal connection to the experience  Identified goals for the experience  Timeline from start to finish  \*Itinerary (international experiences only)  \*\*Explanation of differentiated experience from what is required of other students | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **Experience Advisor**

*Identify an experience advisor and provide their contact information. Explain why you chose this person and how you plan to utilize your advisor for this experience.*

Note: Advisor(s) should have knowledge or expertise in an area related to the experience. Honors advisors, undergraduate students, and family members cannot be experience advisors.

The University of Cincinnati Professor who leads the study abroad experience, Anne-Marie Jezequel, will be my experience advisor. I selected this person because she has years of experience regarding French language and culture, and has taken UC students on this study abroad trip multiple times. I plan to utilize Anne-Marie as an advisor in a way that will help me track my progress with French oral expression, listening comprehension, grammar and vocabulary. She will be with me for the duration of the trip, so she will be able to see how I (hopefully) improve over the six-week period. Anne-Marie can be contacted at 513-556-1842 or [anne-marie.jezequel@uc.edu](mailto:anne-marie.jezequel@uc.edu).

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  Experience advisor name and contact information  Description of why advisor was selected  Specific plans to engage with advisor | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **Connection to Learning Outcomes**

*List 3* [*learning outcomes*](#ThematicAreas) *from any thematic area(s). Provide specific activities you plan to engage in to help you make progress towards the chosen learning outcomes. Describe how you expect each activity to help your progress. Include an estimated time commitment for those activities.*

1. Summarize the interconnectedness of geography, history, cultural traits and world issues.

During this experience, I can take a course about French cinema, which covers films ranging from short silent movies from the late 1800s all the way to films from the 90s. Through the media of film, I will be able to learn not only about French culture, but the historical context of each film. Therefore, this class will enable me to learn about historical and cultural traits. In addition to these traits, actually living in France will encourage me to be aware of world issues going on in France and connect these issues with the traits learned in my French cinema course. If I spend 20 – 30 minutes a day outside of the French cinema class reading up on world issues in the news and reflecting on how these connect to the traits, I should be able to summarize their interconnectedness by the end of the six weeks.

1. Demonstrate a sense of empathy, respect, and appreciation for others to build meaningful cross-cultural collaborations toward mutual growth and prosperity.

During my time in France, I will be exposed to other international students studying at Caen as well as French natives. Being able to talk and connect to these people over a long period of time (six weeks) will allow me to form deep bonds and will enrich my understanding of multiple cultures. With understanding comes respect and empathy for people with different cultures than I. Respect and empathy allows for cooperation and collaboration among peers with different cultures. Improving my French communication skills through classes taken during this trips and being exposed to those with different backgrounds than I will allow me to fulfill this learning outcome. Achievement of this learning outcome cannot be quantified, and achievement should take the entire length of the trip.

1. Develop practical travel skills that promote safe, stimulating, and productive travel throughout your life.

For this learning outcome, I intend to use one of my academic resources entitled *Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong: Why We Love France but Not the French* by Jean-Benoit Nadeau and Julie Barlow. With the knowledge from this book, I can better practice safe travel skills, especially in another country. Although I have fairly extensive travel experience, I haven’t traveled to Europe or France yet, and I will have to take completely new precautions to be safe. In addition to reading the book, I will also learn travel skills from teachers, mentors, other UC students and international students also in Caen. Each person can teach me good travel etiquette and practice concerning traveling in foreign countries that I can practice for the rest of my life.

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  3 learning outcomes explicitly identified from any thematic area(s)  Examples of activities and explanation of how each will assist the progress towards the chosen learning outcome  Estimated time commitment for each activity | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **Academic Resources Connected to the Learning Outcomes**

*List 1-2 academic resources you plan to use to enhance your understanding of the learning outcomes. Explain how each resource connects to your learning outcome(s) and helps you execute your experience. Please include the title and author/creator for each resource.*

Note: Academic resources are professional works that can be used to assist your understanding of the topic. Some examples are books, documentaries, videos, or research journals.

1. I plan on using the textbook required for my *French Language: European Framework* class. As of now, the information on the specific textbook we will utilize is not provided, but that resource will be vital in my learning of French language and culture. This resource will help me to improve my French communication skills, allowing me to better fulfill my learning outcome of cross-cultural collaboration. I plan to use this resource not only for my class but as a reference when traveling in France to help me with my communication skills.
2. Another resource I plan to use is the book *Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong: Why We Love France but Not the French* by [Jean-Benoit Nadeau](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_1?ie=UTF8&text=Jean-Benoit+Nadeau&search-alias=books&field-author=Jean-Benoit+Nadeau&sort=relevancerank) and [Julie Barlow](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_2?ie=UTF8&text=Julie+Barlow&search-alias=books&field-author=Julie+Barlow&sort=relevancerank). Although the title may seem trivial, the content is not. The authors examine the historical background to give cultural context to modern France. This scholarly book explains the behavior of the French in relation to modern French history. I plan to use this book to deepen my understanding of French culture, which will allow me to summarize the interconnectedness of history, geography, and culture in France with the addition of experiences I will gain while on the trip.

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  1-2 academic resources connected to the learning outcomes  Title and author of each resource  Description of how resources will help make progress towards learning outcomes and execution of experience | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **On-going Reflection**

*The on-going reflection should help you process the experience and progress toward your chosen learning outcomes. Describe your method for reflecting throughout the experience. Indicate specific reflection questions/topics you plan to use to guide your reflective process.*

Note: A variety of methods can be used for on-going reflection. Some examples are videos, drawings, blogs, songs, and journals. Reflection topics to consider include your ideas/insights about the experience, connection to other areas of involvement, and your progress towards the learning outcomes.

Throughout the trip, I intend to keep a journal in which I record my thoughts and experiences. At the end of each day, I will spend at least fifteen minutes reflecting on the events of the day and my reactions to them. I will use the following questions to guide my reflection:

* If applicable, what new information did I learn in my classes today and how can I apply that knowledge to the real world?
* Who did I talk to today, and what information about their culture did I learn? How will this new information change how I view others?
* How do I feel about my French language skills I practiced today? What am I most proud of and what could I have done better? What can I do to improve my skills in the future?
* Did I travel to a new place today? How does this new place broaden my understanding of new cultures?
* Am I happy with my decisions today? If not, what can I do tomorrow that will improve my decisions?

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  Method for ongoing reflection  Reflection questions/topics clearly specified | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **Sharing Your Learning**

*Describe how you plan to actively share what you’ve taken away from this experience with a targeted audience. Explain why you chose this specific audience.*

Note: While social media can be an effective platform for sharing, only posting on your personal learning portfolio or social media account(s) does not reach a targeted audience.

My targeted audience are people interested in studying abroad in France (either through this program or another one), learning more about French culture and language, improving their French language skills or taking a vacation in France. I plan to actively share what I’ve taken away from this experience by helping to recruit people to partake in the program in the following summer at study abroad fairs, in French classes, and in casual conversation.

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Must Include:  At least one method to actively share take-aways/learning from the experience  A specific audience and why the audience was selected | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

1. **Budget (if applicable)**

*Provide an itemized budget and indicate your source for cost information.*

*\*If you are engaged in an unpaid internship or research, please indicate the number of weeks and hours per week you plan to participate.*

If I participate in the full six-week study abroad program, the cost will be $4,900. This includes meals in Caen on the weekdays, living arrangements, laundry, a monthly transit pass for local transportation, train from Paris to Caen, a three day trip to Paris, daily excursions and three field trips (Mt St Michel, Plages du Débarquement, Honfleur and Etretat), program costs, and tuition at the university in France. This fee does not include air travel and meals on weekends.

The cost for the airfare would be estimated at $2,500 round trip. Meals on weekends would cost around $350 total ($50 times seven weekends). The total estimated cost would be $7,750.

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| **Advisor Feedback** | | |
| Notes:  Detailed budget of expenditures with sources to justify budget estimates  \*Indicates the number of hours per week and number of weeks of participation | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

**Thematic Area Learning Outcomes**

**Learning Outcomes for the Community Engagement Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to…

* Identify and differentiate multiple ways to contribute towards the development or achievement of the community’s goals.
* Develop a thorough understanding of the world view, beliefs, experiences, self-consciousness, or history of community members through collaboration.
* Articulate the purpose of service on a social issue or public policy and how service mutually enhances individual growth and the common good.
* Explain how education, advocacy, mobilization, or public policy can influence social issues and transform communities.

**Learning Outcomes for the Creativity Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to…

* Discover new techniques to gain knowledge, consider options, make new connections, and ask questions.
* Explore a new creative competency/medium or seek new ways to engage an existing competency/medium.
* Understand and optimize the use of people, technology, physical resources or community in a creative process.
* Articulate the broader significance of a creative project and the value of its contributions.

**Learning Outcomes for the Global Studies Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to…

* Develop practical travel skills that promote safe, stimulating, and productive travel throughout your life.
* Summarize the interconnectedness of geography, history, cultural traits and world issues.
* Articulate the interdependence of professional fields to address current and impending global issues such as technology, the environment, human rights, or politics.
* Demonstrate an understanding of cultural diversity by acknowledging the impact of their own identity and the experience of social norms, customs, or beliefs that are different from their own.
* Demonstrate a sense of empathy, respect, and appreciation for others to build meaningful cross-cultural collaborations toward mutual growth and prosperity.

**Learning Outcomes for the Leadership Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to…

* Formulate and manage a shared vision and develop goals towards its achievement.
* Motivate and collaborate effectively with others towards completion of shared projects or goals.
* Develop strategies to identify and respond to challenges and obstacles.
* Identify personal strengths and areas of growth and evaluate opportunities to maximize skills and abilities.
* Synthesize the current trends related to a specific issue or field and evaluate how thought-leaders are currently addressing them.

**Learning Outcomes for the Research Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to…

* Demonstrate the ability to locate, interpret, and critically evaluate primary sources appropriate to field.
* Identify and apply appropriate methods to collect and organize data for analysis.
* Analyze and interpret the meaning of results.
* Produce dissemination appropriate to the field in order to share the results or impact of the research.
* Articulate the broader significance of the research project and its relationship to other fields, research and ideas.