



Learning Abroad

Institute for Global Engagement

2023-2024 Learning Abroad Global Experiential Opportunities (GEO) Proposal

Learning Abroad is committed to providing learning opportunities within the academic mission of the University of Houston (UH) that are accessible to our unique student body. UH is committed to providing a learning environment that not only promotes the safety and well-being of its students but also an environment conducive for students to develop to their fullest potential.

Global Experiential Opportunities or GEOs previously referred to as *Non-credit faculty-led program* are Faculty or Staff guided group travel not associated with a course taught during the same, preceding, or proceeding academic term. Examples include winter travel for a course taught the previous academic year, choir competition, study-tours, or service learning not associated a course.

We invite faculty, with the support of their department chairs and deans, to submit proposals for programs offered in the upcoming academic year. Programs will be approved on a rolling basis with the deadlines below. All programs to Elevated Risk Destinations are subject to further approval from the Global Risk and Safety Committee.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR FALL/WINTER PROGRAMS: May 1, 2023

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR SPRING PROGRAMS: July 1, 2023

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS: September 1, 2023

Per the Office of the Provost, all faculty led programs abroad must be approved by and registered with Learning Abroad. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted. Please contact Learning Abroad if you have any questions. Programs also must be approved in order to table at the spring and fall Learning Abroad Fairs. Exceptions for tabling at the fall fair in advance of program approval will be done on a case by case basis.

A complete proposal includes:

- Completed proposal form signed by your department business administrator, college business administrator, department chair, and dean. Programs with two faculty from different departments require signatures from both department chairs and deans.
- Tentative program agenda/itinerary. The agenda should include dates in all locations, including excursions. A final itinerary must be submitted to Learning Abroad at least two weeks prior to the program.
- *Optional* Flyer

GEO PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

1. All programs must adhere to all UH and IGE travel policies.
2. Travel to Elevated Risk Destinations must be reviewed and approved by the Global Risk and Safety Committee prior to departure.
3. All programs must be approved before recruiting students.

4. All faculty program leaders are required by the Office of the Provost to annually attend a Risk Management Workshop hosted by Learning Abroad in order to be eligible to lead a UH program.
5. Only UH students, faculty, and staff are permitted on UH Learning Abroad Programs
6. **Minimum GPA requirements.** Students must meet the minimum good academic and disciplinary standing (2.0 undergraduate, 3.0 graduate).
7. **Financial delinquency.** Students with financial delinquency holds on their accounts may not participate in Learning Abroad programs.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Faculty/Staff Director:

Name: _____ Title: _____
 College: _____ Department: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Will you be leading the program abroad? (If not please add below) [Click here to enter text.](#)

Additional participating UH faculty/staff members (add additional lines as needed):

Name: _____ Title: _____
 College: _____ Department: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Do you anticipate needing support staff (ie. a teaching assistant, graduate assistant, or program manager) for this program? If so, please list their name and contact information below.

Department or College Business Administrator (add additional lines as needed):

Name: _____ Title: _____
 College: _____ Department: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Program Information

Program title: _____
 Dates Abroad: _____ to _____

Location(s):

Program term/year:

Minimum number of participants:

Maximum number of participants:

Is this a recurring program? How frequent?

PROGRAM DETAILS

Rationale for Conducting Program

1. Program Description (please provide 3-5 detailed sentences):
 2. Describe the rationale for choosing the program location(s):
 3. What are the learning outcomes for the program/course(s)?
 4. How do you plan to incorporate reflection into your program?
 5. Please describe all proposed program excursions (day or overnight trips outside program location) and their connection to the academic intent of the program (regardless of credit).
 6. Has this program happened in the past? If so, what years?
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Safety and Security

1. Please describe any health, safety, or security considerations related to the location you are proposing and how it may impact the program. This may include crime statistics, geopolitical, health, environmental, cultural, or any other considerations.

 2. What is the U.S. Department of State advisory level for the country and or countries in which the program will take place? What are the concerns associated with this travel warning level? Please refer to the U.S. Department of State Travel alerts and warnings: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>.

 3. Describe the precautionary measures that the **faculty director will take to mitigate risk**.

 4. Please identify onsite support staff that will assist in emergencies (i.e. tour leader, local university contact, third party provider) include names and cell numbers if applicable.

 5. Please describe details of the procedure in case of an emergency.

 6. Please provide the following program details:
 - a. Airport travel and pick up plan

 - b. Housing/lodging onsite

 - c. Means of transportation onsite and/or to any program excursions

 7. What is your experience in the proposed location(s)? When was the last time you visited this location? If you have never visited, how will you prepare to mitigate risk in this area? (i.e. site visits, workshops with onsite staff, additional safety consultations)

 8. What is your cell phone number? All faculty must have a cell phone by which they can be reached for the duration of the program. And what is your contact plan? (i.e. WhatsApp)
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PROGRAM LEADER AGREEMENT

Activity	Description
Faculty/Staff Requirements	UH courses abroad must be directly facilitated by a person holding a full-time UH faculty or staff title (i.e. Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Instructor, Clinical Professor, etc.).
Program Approval	Program leaders must complete the Proposal Form and receive approval from Learning Abroad in advance of recruiting students .
Program Logistics Provider	If applicable, program leaders must inform Learning Abroad of the contracted program logistics provider/company after the university bidding process has taken place.
Program Recruitment	Program Leaders must conduct fair and equitable approval processes, including: no discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, ability status, or any other protected class. Program leaders must not accept students with a GPA below a 2.0. Once approved, Learning Abroad will assist faculty leaders promote programs through advising sessions, social media, flyers and Learning Abroad Fairs.
Faculty Training	Program leaders must attend the Risk Management Workshop hosted by Learning Abroad annually. Sessions will be offered in the fall and spring. The training covers emergency preparedness, student conduct, wellness, insurance coverage and Title IX and Clery Act reporting requirements.
Insurance and enrollment	Program leaders must work with Learning Abroad to ensure all students participating in the program are registered with Learning Abroad and have enrolled in approved international insurance.
Pre-departure and Onsite orientation	All program leaders are required to hold at least one pre-departure orientation and one onsite orientation. Learning Abroad must present on health and safety at one of your pre-departure orientations.
Emergency Response	Program leaders provide 24/7 emergency support for the duration of the program abroad. Learning Abroad will assist leaders to develop an emergency response and communication plan. All program leaders are required to have a cell phone on-site for emergency and ensure Learning Abroad has this information.
Post Program Evaluation and support	Learning Abroad will provide each student with a program evaluation and ask faculty to encourage students to complete. The evaluation results will be shared with you upon request in order to strengthen future programs.

All UH faculty/staff leaders of the program should review, check, and sign below:

- I have read and understand my responsibilities as a faculty/staff leader for a program abroad. I agree to fulfill the requirements set forth above:

Name (print) _____ Date _____

Signature _____

PROGRAM APPROVAL

All programs must receive approvals from Department Business Administrator, College Business Administrator, Department Chair, and Dean before Learning Abroad will accept and review for safety concerns, contact hours, and program viability. The following signatures indicate that the proposed program and/or course(s) to be taught abroad meet department and college standards and are approved to be taught abroad. If the program is cross-listed, that Department Business Administrator, College Business Administrator, Department Chair, and must approve the program.

DBA Name	Signature	Department	Date
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CBA Name	Signature	College	Date
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Department Chair Name	Signature	Department	Date
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Dean Name	Signature	College	Date
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DBA Name	Signature	Department	Date
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CBA Name	Signature	College	Date
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Department Chair Name	Signature	Department	Date
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Dean Name	Signature	College	Date
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Approved by Learning Abroad:

Andie Beer
Assistant Director, Learning Abroad

Date

Maggie Mahoney
Director, Global Engagement

Date

All documents should be submitted to Learning Abroad via email to Andie Beer (ambeer@uh.edu) or via inter-campus mail to H2039. The most successful programs work both with the College and Learning Abroad for development.

For questions about completing or starting a proposal, please contact Learning Abroad:

**E. W. Cullen Building, Suite 105
4302 University Drive
Houston, TX 77204
713-743-9167
learningabroad@uh.edu
www.uh.edu/learningabroad**