

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION OF OR ALTERNATIVE TO STUDY ABROAD REQUIREMENT (SPANISH)

- The Study Abroad committee consists of three tenured/tenure track faculty members in Spanish who will be charged with reviewing petitions from students who seek an exemption from the requirement or who are requesting an alternative plan.
- Since student circumstances vary widely, the committee shall decide the merits of the request on a case by case basis.
- The committee will also work with the individual students to articulate all requirements in writing. The semester-long study abroad experience is intended to help students fulfill several requirements of their teaching certification, including having experience in the target culture and achieving Advanced Low level on the Oral Proficiency Interview. Please keep in mind that you must still fulfill these requirements in order to achieve certification to teach by the College of Education and the State of Michigan.
- The study abroad requirement includes everyone seeking secondary teaching certification/endorsement in Spanish, beginning with catalog year 2014.

FOR THE STUDENT. Please complete the relevant section of this form: **1.** request for exemption (for students who have had a comparable experience abroad) **or 2.** alternative plan (for students who are unable to fulfill this requirement.)

1. EXEMPTION (This request is for a student who has had a comparable experience abroad.)

- ☐ I am requesting an exemption from the requirement to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country for one semester (12-15 credits in Spanish at the 300-level) because I have comparable experience abroad.

Please explain your previous experience abroad.

- Include where you lived, how long you lived there, what you were doing in the country (taking classes/working/ doing volunteer work, etc.).
- Attach documentation, such as a letter or contract from an employer, a copy of a temporary resident visa, an apartment/house lease or utility bill, or other.

Your name: _____

Your signature: _____

G-number: _____

Check one: ☐ SPA major ☐ SPA minor

Name of your SPA advisor: _____

2. ALTERNATIVE PLAN (This request is for a student who needs to pursue an alternative plan.)

☐ I am requesting the approval of an alternative plan to the requirement to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country for one semester (12-15 credits in Spanish at the 300-level) because I am not able to fulfill this requirement.

- Keep in mind that most of the alternative plans require additional coursework. This is *not* a complete waiver of the requirement.
- If the committee accepts your request, you will need to meet with a Spanish advisor to determine the specifics of the alternative plan. The options for alternative plans are:
 - **For a Spanish major:** a) two summer programs; b) one summer program plus an additional 400-level class at GVSU; c) an internship of 150 hours plus an additional 400-level class, or d) another appropriate off-campus semester study program. (Details of these options must be obtained through your advisor.)
 - **For a Spanish minor:** a) two summer programs; b) one summer program plus a 300-level literature class at GVSU; c) an internship of 150 hours plus a 300-level literature class, or d) another appropriate off-campus semester study program. (Details of these options must be obtained through your advisor.)

* The alternative plans are part of the study abroad requirement proposal approved by the Provost on March 20, 2014.

Please explain why you are unable to fulfill the study abroad requirement:

Your name: _____

Your signature: _____

G-number: _____

Check one: ☐ SPA major ☐ SPA minor

Name of your SPA advisor: _____