

# STUDY ABROAD ISSUES PROPOSAL FORM

## STEP 1 of 4 – Prepare a Reflection Essay

Select 1 of the 6 Issues topics listed below. Reflect on the entirety of your experience abroad which includes your course work and your experiences outside of the classroom (i.e., sight-seeing, mass transportation, lodging, encounters with other people in the country, buying food, etc.). You may select topics underneath the broader issue, just be sure to list both the Issue and the specific topic you are addressing.

*(1-2 pages, single spaced)*

### Reflection Questions

1. Describe the similarities in perspective on the problem, causes, and potential solutions to the Issue between the U.S. and the country you visited.
2. Describe the differences in perspectives on the problem, causes, and potential solutions to the Issue between the U.S. and the country you visited.

### Topics or Issues

<b>Information, Innovation, and Technology</b> — including issues related to media, privacy, access, transparency, intellectual property, ethics, economics, creativity, education, politics, etc.	<b>Health</b> – including issues related to equity, disparities, health systems, finance, ethics, access, quality of care, safety, happiness, human development, genetics, etc.	<b>Human Rights</b> – including issues related to political systems, power, war, peace, violence, terrorism, wealth, poverty, privacy, religion, gender, women, children, disabilities, labor, aging incarceration, torture, etc.
<b>Identity</b> — including issues related to gender, sexuality, religion, culture, race, class, family, community, difference, education, technology, etc.	<b>Globalization</b> – including issues related to capitalism, economic justice, health, migration and immigration, communication, borders, education, etc.	<b>Sustainability</b> — including issues related to the environment, population, natural resources, economic development, social justice, energy, etc.

## STEP 2 of 4 – Complete this section of the form

Name	
Gnumber	
Email	
Host country	
Semester you studied abroad	
Name of your host institution abroad	

## STEP 3 of 4 – Identify the courses you want to propose to use towards the Issues requirement.

**Notice:** Independent study, independent research, and independent readings cannot be used towards the Issues requirement. (*XXX399 and XXX499 courses*)

### GVSU FACULTY-LED PARTICIPANTS

Please check here if you participated in a GVSU faculty-led study abroad program.

Faculty-led participants must take two courses abroad that are from two different disciplines, otherwise, only one course can be used to fulfill an Issues requirement. Please list the course(s) you completed abroad through the faculty-led program that you want to use towards your Issues requirement.

Faculty-led Course 1	
Faculty-led Course 2	

### ALL OTHER STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS

List the course(s) you would like to use towards your Issues requirement. Be sure to list the title of the GVSU course rather than the overseas course, otherwise your proposal will not be valid. If you are unsure of how your courses are transferring back to GVSU, please contact Ehren Kuzekov at [kuzekove@gvsu.edu](mailto:kuzekove@gvsu.edu).

GVSU Equivalent 1	
GVSU Equivalent 2	

## STEP 4 of 4 – Submit your proposal

Email this document with your essay to [gened@gvsu.edu](mailto:gened@gvsu.edu) within 60 days of your return from study abroad. If it is past 60 days, please contact [gened@gvsu.edu](mailto:gened@gvsu.edu).

**The email subject line should read as follows:**

*Reflection – your name (for example: Reflection – Joan Smith)*

Once your reflection has been reviewed, you and Records will receive an email approval that will allow you to use the courses proposed to fulfill your Issues requirement.

**Notice:**

Courses taken abroad that are used to fulfill the Issues General Education requirement cannot be used to fulfill a General Education Foundations requirement. Students must choose between fulfilling the Issues requirement or fulfilling a Foundations requirement.

For more information about the General Education Program, visit: [www.gvsu.edu/gened](http://www.gvsu.edu/gened)