



MEMORANDUM

To: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences
From: Robert M. Jenkins, Chair, Study Abroad Advisory Board
RE: Report on Review of Fall 2017 Proposals
Date: November 21, 2017

Note to Administrative Boards for January 2018 meeting: please review only items #4 and 5 below. The other proposals were approved at the December 2017 meeting.

The Study Abroad Advisory Board (hereafter, Advisory Board) has met four times during the fall 2017 semester and had a series of email discussions to review proposed study abroad programs. The Advisory Board reviewed four new Minimester proposals, four additional faculty-led summer programs, and two exchange programs. The Minimester proposals were first solicited by the College of Arts and Sciences in spring 2017. For these new three-week programs, modeled on Maymester courses, the Advisory Board developed evaluation standards (attached to this document) and then applied them to proposals. The Advisory Board ultimately approved two of the four Minimester proposals and has asked for further revisions on the remaining two. The Advisory Board also approved three faculty-led summer programs and two exchange programs. A summary of the approved proposals is included on the final page of this memorandum.

The Advisory Board will have one more meeting in December to review two additional exchange programs and one faculty-led summer program that is still under revision.

Participating in these discussions were the following members of the Advisory Board:

Luca Grillo (Classics)
Richard Langston (Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures)
Christopher Nelson (Anthropology)
Susan Harbage Page (Women's and Gender Studies)
Marcey Waters (Chemistry)
Milada Vachudova (Political Science and Global Studies)
Elaine Yeh (Biology)
Robert Jenkins, Chair (Political Science)
Robert Miles, *ex officio* (Study Abroad)
Rudolph Colloredo-Mansfeld, *ex officio* (College of Arts and Sciences and Anthropology)

Proposals

1. UNC English in Dublin – Global Minimester

This proposed program is an adaptation of a campus based course (ENGL 127). The program will be offered in June 2018 and will combine critically reading, discussing, and writing about literature in the context of the sites in which the literature was produced in Dublin and Northern Ireland. The program offers a unique opportunity to investigate literature in its local context.

The Advisory Board sought clarification of the writing requirements, suggested increasing the time for work outside of class, recommended structuring of assignments to allow for earlier feedback during the program, and requested clarification on how the teaching of the Minimester course will differ from the semester course. These revisions were made and the Advisory Board enthusiastically endorsed the proposed program.

2. Burch Minimester: Time, Tides and the Cosmos in London

This proposed program is new course, ASTR 105H, but does involve an adaptation of an existing course (ASTR 205). The proposed course focuses on the development of observational evidence that overturned theories in the history of mechanics as well as informed thinking about the solar system. This observational evidence was heavily embedded in the world of seafaring tradesmen who competed with university professors over celestial knowledge. The course will take advantage of English locations to investigate two maritime museums and Oxford University (where theoretical developments took place). Emphasis is on both understanding the evolution of scientific thought and learning methods of celestial observation.

The Advisory Board was initially very positive about this proposal. It did suggest that the amount of work and contact time be reduced to enhance the learning experience. The Advisory Board also asked for clarification on how the teaching of the course will differ from the related on-campus course. With this additional information, the Advisory Board was happy to offer its strong endorsement of the proposal.

3. UNC Psychology in Stockholm – Summer

This proposal is for a UNC faculty led program involving sequential courses over six weeks. The first course will be Social Psychology (PSYC 260), co-taught by two UNC faculty members. This course will receive UNC graded credit. The second course will be an elective course from several provided by the local partner, DIS Stockholm. The Social Psychology course takes advantage of the Stockholm location by introducing guest lectures, taking field trips, and holding a conversation with a panel of young Swedes. There are also organized cultural encounters.

The Advisory Board sought syllabi from the DIS courses and five examples were produced. In addition, the Advisory Board recommended that the three 10-page papers could be scaled back and a revised proposal reduced the length to 3-5 pages each. The Advisory Board then gave its approval to the revised proposal.

4. Scandinavian Student Exchange Programs – Stockholm University (Sweden), Gothenburg University (Sweden), and Aarhus University (Denmark)

Due to strong demand from UNC students seeking semester programs in Scandinavian countries, existing exchange programs at Lund University (Sweden), University of Copenhagen (Denmark), University of Oslo (Norway) and University of Helsinki (Finland) are unable to provide sufficient opportunities. The new proposed exchange partners are well established and academically respected universities with strong English language course offerings. The Advisory Board gave quick approval to these proposed new exchanges.

5. Exchange Program between Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), Spain, and UNC Chapel Hill

The proposed exchange program is an outgrowth of an evolving cooperation between the two universities. Joint participation in the Trans-Atlantic Science Student Exchange Program (TASSEP) has existed since a 2012 Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the universities. From 2016-17, UNC-CH has been a participant in an Erasmus Plus project with UCM that is funded by the European Commission. This program involved exchanges of UNC undergraduate students to UCM and of a UCM doctoral student to the UNC Department of Computer Science. A more recent Erasmus Plus proposal expanded to include the UNC School of Media and Journalism (SMJ), with SMJ faculty and a staff member from the UNC Study Abroad Office in residence at UCM. The new exchange program will be open to students in the College of Arts and Sciences as well as in the School of Media and Journalism. Other opportunities for inter-institutional collaboration are also possible. The Advisory Board also gave quick approval to this proposed new exchange.

6. Faculty led Summer Economics Program in Croatia

This proposed faculty-led program involves a combination of UNC graded credit, Economics of Sports (ECON 485), and transfer equivalent credit for the locally taught course, European Economic Integration. The program proposes to expose students to both Eastern Europe and the European sports model by combining academic rigor, locational integration, and cultural experiences.

The Advisory Board sought a calendar combining requirements for the two courses and also encouraged revisions that gave greater attention to local cultural experiences. The revised proposal includes such experiences and also has incorporated a local sports venue and a brief field trip to Bosnia-Herzegovina to enhance the unique learning opportunities. The Advisory Board gave its approval to the revised proposal.

7. Summer Program: Democratic Governance & Human Rights in Malawi

This proposal is a faculty-led summer program that offers two UNC courses, Regional Seminar (AAAD 412) and Human Rights Theories and Practices in Africa (AAAD 403), in field settings in Malawi. The field settings allow students to interact with the Center for Human Rights and Rehabilitation as well as a number of experts and practitioners of human rights and politics in Malawi.

The Advisory Board received this proposal very recently and was impressed by the academic substance of the proposal. However, it did have some concerns about the number and length of assignments on the program. The revised version has taken these concerns into consideration and reduced assignments. In response, the Advisory Board has given its enthusiastic support to the proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert M. Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Summary of Fall 2017 Study Abroad Proposals

Program	Begins	Expected Number	Credit Type	Requirements
Minimester: UNC English in Dublin	Summer 2018	10-20 students	UNC: ENGL 127	2.75 GPA; rising sophomore status
Minimester: Burch Field Research Seminar: Time, Tides & Cosmos in London	Summer 2018	10-15	UNC: ASTR 105H	3.0 GPA; rising sophomore status
UNC Psychology in Stockholm (Summer)	Summer 2018	12-30	UNC Credit: PSYC 260 and 3 TREQ credits	3.0 GPA; rising sophomore status; one semester of Introduction to Psychology at university level
Scandinavian Student Exchange Programs: Stockholm, Gothenburg, Aarhus,	Fall 2018	1-2 students per university	Minimum of 12 TREQ credits	2.75 GPA; rising sophomore status
Complutense University of Madrid	Fall 2018	1-2 students per term	Minimum of 12 TREQ credits	2.75 GPA; rising sophomore status; 5 semesters of Spanish
UNC Economics in Croatia (Summer)	Summer 2018	12-17 Students	UNC Credit: ECON 485 and 3 TREQ credits	2.50 GPA; rising sophomore status; ECON 400 and ECON 410
Democratic Governance & Human Rights in Malawi (Summer)	Summer 2018	10-15 Students	UNC: AAAD 412 & AAAD 403	2.75 GPA; rising sophomore status

Evaluation Framework for Minimester Proposals

Essential Elements of Proposal	Proposal
Dates (arrival & departure)	
Target audience: Does course address underserved populations?	
General Education, Major Credit	
Course prerequisites: including minimum GPA	
Course goals & learning objectives: Clearly identified?	
Linkages to local context: Local justification? Attention given to local history, culture, society?	
Course taught on campus? How adapted to length & location?	
Course requirements: What assignments?	
Readings	
Contact hours: Distinguish in-class & experiential	
Non-contact hours: Sufficient for completion of requirements & location exploring?	
Evaluation & grading: Details provided	
Logistics: housing, classrooms, internet, travel, safety, medical	
Additional Comments	