Global Communication Practicum Proposal

Students are responsible for finding a suitable practicum experience.

Important background information
The global communication practicum is designed to tie together the various elements of the global communication major through practical experience in a cultural community distinct from the student’s own culture. These experiences may be tied to internships, service-learning projects, extra work related to study abroad programs, or other appropriate experiences determined in consultation with the student’s faculty advisor.

The global communication major is focused on preparing students with the knowledge, motivation, and skills necessary to thrive in an intercultural context. The major requires the students to engage in coursework related to languages, culture, communication, ethics, and world affairs. The practicum serves as a capstone type of experience that allows the students to bring together the diverse knowledge base developed through this coursework in a setting that requires practical application.

Although the specific details of the practicum are approved by the student’s advisor, it is understood that the experience must involve time and effort appropriate for a three credit semester long experience (135 hours of work) and requires close interaction with members of a cultural community distinct from the student’s own culture. Although the supervising faculty member will help to guide and direct the experience, the student is primarily responsible for how much they learn.

Criteria for participation in the global communication practicum (the student should verify that s/he will have met this criteria by the time the practicum begins).

• Completion (not concurrent enrollment in) of at least 18 credit hours in the major
• GPA of at least 2.75 in courses taken for the major.
• Have a faculty advisor approved plan for their practicum at least one month prior to the practicum (including providing the instructor a release of liability form once the proposal has been accepted).

Credits and Evaluation
The practicum is a three credit course taken on a pass/fail basis. This is the only course in the major that may be taken on a pass/fail basis. Evaluation for the course will be based on three elements: practicum experience (60%), journal (15%), and a final report (25%).

• Students should have an on-site coordinator (willing to provide feedback) and should provide the contact information for this person to the faculty advisor in advance of the practicum.
• The exact nature of the journals should be worked out with the faculty advisor, but these provide an important opportunity for students to reflect on their specific experiences during the practicum. Typically, the journals will be completed through e-mail.
• The final report should be a typed, comprehensive review of the practicum experience (typically 15-16 pages long). This report allows the student an opportunity to systematically synthesize information from a variety of sources in ways that help to both create a big picture perspective and give tangible suggestions for specific situations.
Student Name____________________  Student A-number_________________

Student E-mail ___________________

**Proposal** (please describe both what you will be doing in the practicum and how you feel this practicum will help you increase your understanding of issues related to global communication. In addition, describe how this practicum will connect particular topics or competencies from specific classes you have taken and how your practicum will help you build on these. Feel free to attach an additional one to two pages).

Approved by (faculty name, signature, and date): ________________________________
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT

I. In consideration of permission to participate in the Global Communication practicum specified below, I hereby covenant not to sue and do release Utah State University, its employees, agents and volunteers (hereinafter referred to as Releasees) from any and all liability, claims, demands, and action whatsoever related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or to any property belonging to me, as a result of my participation in this activity, whether caused by the releasees or any other participant in the activity.

II. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage, personal injury, including death that may be sustained by me, as a result of participation in this activity. I also acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to fill out the International Travel Insurance Application available to USU students. This application can be found at:
http://www.usu.edu/riskmgt/docs/International%20SOS%20Travel%20Application.pdf

IN SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPRESENT THAT I have read the foregoing Waiver of Liability Agreement, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statement, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made; I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent; and I execute this Release for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

Activity Description:

Activity Date(s):

PARTICIPANT: ________________________________  ____________

    (signature)  (date)

RMS 99-2