UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER
CORE CURRICULUM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
International Perspectives Proficiency Credit Guidelines

International Perspectives Philosophy:

The objectives of the International Perspectives requirement is to ensure that UC Denver graduates have an appreciation for and an understanding of the history, culture, social characteristics and/or economy of any nation or region of the world that is not the United States. UC Denver seeks to prepare students to better understand and succeed in a dynamic, globally interactive world. Thus, the focus of the International Perspective courses in the UC Denver Core Curriculum must be a country/region other than the United States.

The Core Curriculum Oversight Committee (CCOC) encourages students to use a study abroad experience to satisfy the International Perspectives portion of the UC Denver Core Curriculum. Students who successfully apply an international experiential learning to the International Perspectives core requirement will receive proficiency credit, rather than academic credit.

Proficiency Credit

Proficiency credit satisfies the International Perspectives requirement, but does not result in academic credit on a University of Colorado transcript or produce a letter grade that influences a student’s University of Colorado GPA.

Study Abroad Experiential Learning Guidelines:

The decision to award proficiency credit from a study abroad experiential learning activity towards the International Perspectives requirement lies with the advising office of each undergraduate school and college. Students must demonstrate through written documentation, journal reflections, contemporary media, etc. that they meet the following guidelines established by the CCOC.

1. International students, defined as any student with a F1 visa, or a student who graduated from high school in a foreign country, are exempt from the International Perspectives core requirement. Colleges will have some discretion to waive the International Perspectives core requirement for students who have substantial international primary and secondary education, but technically graduated from a US high school.

2. The study abroad experiences considered for International Perspectives core curriculum proficiency credit may be sponsored by any University of Colorado campus, a consortium of study abroad programs to which UC Denver belongs, or an international experiential learning program independently arranged by the student. UC Denver travel study courses may also be considered for the International Perspectives Core Curriculum requirement.

   An experiential learning program on a Native American reservation, Peace Corps experience, an eco-tourism program, or a mission affiliated with a religious denomination will not satisfy the International Perspectives requirement.

3. The international experiential learning program that serves as the basis for proficiency credit in the International Perspectives component of the Core Curriculum must be post high school, and is typically taken during the student's college career. The experiential learning program does not have to be taken while a matriculated UC Denver student.
4. A study abroad experience for the International Perspectives core requirement is encouraged to be in a country where the primary language is different than the native language of the student. If this condition is not the case, it will be the student's responsibility to demonstrate how International Perspectives' objectives (introductory paragraph) were satisfied.

5. The study abroad experience must be a minimum of three weeks. This minimum time frame coincides with the UC Denver Maymester, or similar interim period. The length of time is less important that the immersion into the international culture, which is to be illustrated and supported by the student in their reflection piece (see 6. below).

6. Each student participating in an international experiential learning program that serves as the basis for International Perspectives proficiency credit in the core, must demonstrate through written documentation, journal reflections, contemporary media, etc. that the International Perspective objectives (introductory paragraph) were satisfied. The reflective documentation is kept in the student's official advising file and is available to the CCOC for core assessment.

7. The international experiential learning program must be independently verified to receive International Perspectives proficiency credit. When the experiential learning is part of an academic study abroad, the student must provide a copy of the academic transcript supplied to the UC Denver Office of Admission.

8. The student may appeal a negative decision for International Perspectives proficiency credit by the student's home college to the UC Denver Core Curriculum Oversight Committee. In addition to a copy of their original application to the undergraduate college, the student is to supply CCOC with a cover letter outlining the reasons for the appeal. The undergraduate college is to supply CCOC with a cover letter outlining the reasons for the original denial. The appeal decision of the CCOC is final and not subject to further appeal.