

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Sub-Committee 1: Develop Students' International Experience

Global Option (GO): An Undergraduate Certificate
Proposal for a Structured International Learning Experience

Topic	Framework for a curriculum enhancement program that permits students to acquire a documented international expertise integrated into any major.
Goal	Providing a curriculum resulting in a certificate for students who wish to acquire a meaningful international experience and global perspectives as part of their major without adding time to graduation.
Who	Students in participating curricula, commit as soon as they declare a major, and who are in continued good standing with a minimum 2.5 GPA.
How	Commit by contract to a career-long challenge curriculum related to international themes and global dimensions (see "Components" for details).
Result	Satisfactory completion of the contract results in a certificate upon graduation. Non-completion of the contract will not carry any penalty and will still leave the student with the experience and credit of the parts completed.
Components¹	<p>Courses, international experiences, language, and reflection in six areas constituting a special engagement well beyond standard requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. 1 Freshmen/Sophomore year 4-week Early Exposure (e.g. Global May) Education Abroad program (3 credits) AND/OR 1 discipline-related international experience (3 credits) B. 2 Courses with strong international focus, preferably within major (6 credits) C. Advanced proficiency in one language (other than English or native language) at level 2 ACTFL. For foreign language majors, the level of attainment is 3 (6+ credits) D. 1 capstone project in discipline or an international theme (research, internship, service learning) (3 credits) E. Evaluation of global competencies on a standardized assessment (pre-evaluation when joining the Global Option; post-evaluation before graduation) F. Comprehensive e-portfolio of international activities <p>Programs will set requirements by defining the departmental specifications for each group A to F that constitute special achievement for a given major.</p>
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining major with strong international enhancement • Increasing educational attainment with international experience and global perspectives • Developing a set of global skills² to a higher performance level • Preparing for a transnational competitive work environment with global challenges • Combining academic achievement with active experience and application

¹ This is a recommendation that allows variation within the framework by colleges and departments.

² The five skills: ability to work effectively in international settings, awareness of and adaptability to diverse cultures, perceptions and approaches, versed in current issues and major global trends, capacity for effective communication across cultural and linguistic boundaries, ability to comprehend the international dimension of one's field of study

Advising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of UAFYE orientation (possibly also a recruiting tool) • General advising • Colleges/departments provide curriculum guides and major advising • On-line advising, consultation, and advisor contact • Contract can be established up to beginning of Junior standing • Contract can always be abandoned without penalty
Academic Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops courses that satisfy the Global Option program by focusing on one or more of the observable and measurable competencies (entire course or “embedded”; courses are open to all students meeting course prerequisites) • Develops/identifies discipline-specific international experiences beyond standard expectations (internships, service learning, long-term study abroad programs, oversee international research collaborations for special projects, etc.)
OIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops Early Exposure (e.g. Global May general education) Education Abroad Programs and work with A&S and academic units in creating/identifying discipline-specific experiential opportunities • Facilitate global competencies assessment for student awareness and growth • Facilitate language proficiency testing (in collaboration with FLC)
Metrics and Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of framework (2010-11) and institutional approval (2011-12) • Of 160 programs, 15% with up to 5% students in GO by 2015 = 340 students (add 3-4 programs/year over the college clusters) • 33% of programs with 7% students by 2018 in GO each = 1000 students (add 10 programs/year over the 3 college clusters)
Assess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input: Numerical goals of participation (units, diversity, students; see above) • Output: Number of certificates (350/yr by 2018) • Outcome and Impact: Increase in global competencies assessment scores compared to cohort (NSEE scores, Freshmen compared to Seniors) • Career path of graduates including international work/travel business here and (longitudinal, in collaboration with Alumni Association)
Oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Option establishment for a given curriculum follows standard program approval process from academic unit to college to CAA • Delivery of Global Option programs requires the same CAA approval and monitoring of curriculum delivery
Cost Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Early Exposure Education Abroad 4-wk programs (including A&S general education) • Academic unit international experiences require advising staff for Education Abroad opportunities plus specific Global Option advising • Academic units invest in capacity to teach international courses • IT based advising tools to be developed and maintained by academic units and OIA.
Roll-out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with different colleges, pilot programs in 2011-12 (Soc Work & Pub Health) • Produce UAFYE and OIA promotional materials (mainly IT based) • Focus on program accessibility (disciplines, student demographics, academic achievement level) • Position alongside Honors & Scholars, but more hands-on, with direct experience and highly inclusive.
Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provost’s Council has approve general idea as did IAC. • Framework has been presented to CAA (Oct.’12) and there was no objection to proceed with program development.

