ANALYTICAL PAPER FOR
GLOBAL AND CULTURAL AWARENESS
GE REQUIREMENT

When students take part in a semester-long or two-term-long study abroad, international internship, or service learning program, they have the option of writing an analytical paper to fulfill the Global and Cultural Awareness (GCA) GE requirement. This paper should demonstrate the student’s “informed awareness of the peoples, cultures, languages, and nations of the world” (Aims of a BYU Education). Below are specific instructions on paper format, paper content, and the procedure to receive the credit.

FORMAT

The paper should include the following elements:

- Double spaced, 1” margins
- 7 pages minimum for the body of the text
- Font: 12 pt Times Roman or equivalent
- Style guide (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.)
- Proper citations from sources within the body of the text for the appropriate style
- At the end of the paper (not part of the 7 pages minimum) include a list of sources: References (APA), Works Cited (MLA), Bibliography (Chicago), etc.

PAPER CONTENT

We are assuming that the student has already written a paper for the instructor or coordinator of the study abroad, international internship, or service learning program. That paper could be adapted to include an analysis of the experience by addressing issues based on the Global and Cultural Awareness Foundation Document. If such a paper has not been part of the program or the focus of the paper is does not appropriately address the criteria listed below, a new paper should be written.

The GCA requirement objectives included in the Foundation Document should be addressed in the paper:

1. Students will acquire informed awareness of either
   a. A culture outside their own, or
   b. The interplay of cultures, languages, and/or nations at an international level.
2. Students will experience thoughtful reflection on the above, as demonstrated in a structured, guided manner under the direction of a faculty member. Evidence of reflection implies written . . . analysis that will include a consideration of the student’s own responses to the culture or global issue, often involving comparison, and will demonstrate informed awareness.
3. Students will develop greater empathy and charity, and begin to gain a global perspective, by learning to see themselves from another’s point of view.
Often papers written for the above programs include reflection about students’ experiences with the specific program; however, the paper for the GCA requirement will need to be adapted so that personal reflection about relationships with other BYU students is eliminated and the paper focuses on thoughtful analysis of the culture and how the student’s awareness was augmented by experiencing a new culture and interacting with people from that culture. The paper should be scholarly in tone and should include references from readings; the audience is an academic community. The paper should not read like a personal journal.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING THE PAPER

When the paper has been written or adapted to meet the above requirements, students should follow this procedure:

- Check first with your college advisement center to make sure this is a viable option
- Talk with the faculty member in charge of the study abroad, international internship, or service learning program, notifying him or her that you will need a cover memo of support
- Paper is revised and given to the faculty member in charge of the program or course
- Faculty member goes over the paper to make sure that it meets the requirements listed above
- Faculty member fills out the cover sheet and attaches a letter or memo of support
- This letter or memo and cover sheet is sent to the Administrative Assistant for General Education, 350B MSRB
- The student initiates a GE course substitution; information is found at http://ge.byu.edu/ge/gca-credit
- The Administrative Assistant will look over the paper and will write a memo signed by the Associate Dean of General Education to the faculty member with a copy to the student
- The Administrative Assistant will also process the GE course substitution.
- An email will be sent to the student’s college advisement center and to Graduation Evaluation where the GCA requirement will be entered on the student’s record showing that this requirement is complete.
- If this requirement does not show up as being completed on the students’ MyMAP Academic Planning report after three weeks, the student should contact General Education at (801) 422-5641 or gen-ed@byu.edu.

After you have submitted the paper to your faculty advisor, you need to do a petition for a substitution. Please follow the directions under Appeal Procedure. You, your college advisor and the Graduation Office will receive an email with the decision and your transcript will be updated.