

The Graduate School



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

TO: Council on Graduate Studies

FROM: Ryan C. Hendrickson, L.M. Hamand Dean
Andy Kabasele, Assistant Dean for International Education
Dr. David Viertel, International Education Council, Chair

RE: Proposed revision to Study Abroad IGP 46.1

DATE: February 16, 2023

Current IGP 46.1 Language:

Study Abroad or National Student Exchange

Study abroad policy states that faculty-led study abroad program must demonstrate 12.5 hours of class time/lecture for every credit earned. It is expected that 25 hours of study time will also be included for every credit. The policy states that class time is lecture, actual meetings where students are sitting down for class. Study time is anything else that engages students with the learning objectives of the course. Excursions and class activities have academic relevance to the course; they are academically focused, not tourism. No more than 1.5 credits may be earned in one 7-day week. Transit/transportation time may not count for class time or lecture.

Revised IGP 46.1

Rationale for change: Existing policy is restrictive and limits experiential learning, which in many respects defines study abroad learning. In addition, existing policies add costs to students due to the requirement to have clearly articulated classroom space where students are “sitting down for class.” This requirement forces faculty to find additional classroom space abroad that adds rental expenses that students incur. Transportation in a foreign country also often entails considerable experiential and direct learning, and may also be used as study time, and in some cases, instruction. Current policy disregards student learning that occurs during travel and forces some study abroad programs to be longer and thus more expensive in order to meet current IGP requirements.

Proposed Revision:

Highlights include newly proposed language.

Study Abroad or National Student Exchange

Study abroad policy states that faculty-led study abroad program must

demonstrate 12.5 hours of ~~class time/lecture~~ learning related to course content for every credit earned, which may be direct instruction, experiential learning, class discussions, among other pedagogies. It is expected that 25 hours of study time will also be included for every credit. ~~The policy states that class time is lecture, actual meetings where students are sitting down for class.~~ Study time is anything else that engages students with the learning objectives of the course. Excursions and class activities have academic relevance to the course; they are academically focused and have academic rigor, ~~not tourism.~~ No more than 1.5 credits may be earned in one 7-day week. ~~Transit/transportation time may not count for class time or lecture.~~

Approved by International Education Council, February 3, 2023