

Southern New Hampshire University

PDGC 480A – FUNDAMENTALS OF GLOBAL ENTERPRISE

Course Information			
Instructor:	SNHU Adjunct Instructor		
Gap Program Coordinator at SNHU:	Kelsea Moulton efcredit@snhu.edu	Phone:	802.489.5080
Course Site Location:	Online		
Course Meeting Dates:	This is 3-credit undergraduate level course is designed to be an 8 to 16 week class depending on the pacing of the student.		
Course Meeting Times:	Asynchronous course centered on reflective practices in online journals and submissions.		
Course Prerequisite:	Registered for EF Gap Year or EF Gap Semester Program		

Course Description

In this undergraduate-level course, students engage within or explore an international organization or international business setting to research professional and cultural differences that influence workplace values. A focus is placed on students developing keen analytical skills necessary to understand and navigate diverse workplace cultures.

Depending on the EF Gap arrangement, students will participate in direct service as an intern in a business setting, or research an international organization. As part of their immersive learning experience, students will research concepts of work and cultural differences that influence workplace values. Students will research the origins of their workplace and the needs the organization/company seeks to address within a historical and cultural context. Students will engage in reflective documentation and identify areas of skill-development, cultural influence, transferrable skills and future career-orientation interests. Through this experience, students will develop keen analytical skills to understand and navigate diverse workplace cultures.

In this undergraduate-level course, processes involved in observation, research and reflection are stressed, practiced and related specifically to students' experience as part of an extensive international experience.

Course Overview

This course examines personal learning, skills-development and cultural values through experience in global internship placements or research-based inquiry into global workforce. Throughout the course, students will reflect upon personal strengths and skill development, career-goals and comparative observations about workplace customs and cultural concepts of work. Students will utilize reflective documenting and research

skills to hone their observation skills. Students will have the opportunity to observe, research and reflect on what they are discovering about workplace values in a new cultural context.

The goal of this course is to provide students with the knowledge and skills to confidently and respectfully navigate new cultural contexts, while developing their skills in observation, research and reflection.

Areas of focus will include: 1) observations of key tenets of personal and cultural identity; 2) ways to evaluate continuous learning progress including reflective journal documentation; 3) demonstration of inquiry, research skills, and analysis of business environment and 4) a reflective analysis of their personal growth, goals for future-career, and understanding of the cultural values that make up identity.

Course Essential Questions

During this course, we will explore the following questions:

1. What strengths and transferrable skills did you identify before your experience? What skills have you had the opportunity to hone or develop through your cultural immersion experience?
2. What are you learning about the local culture and customs by observing and / or thinking about workplace environments? What differences or similarities do you see between concepts of work in your location v. your home country?
3. What is the origin story of your workplace? What is the company ethos and how do workplace customs reflect cultural values?
4. What new skills have you had the opportunity to explore? What new discoveries have you made about cultural values as a result of your research and internship experience?

Course Objectives

During this course, it is expected that the class will have specific learning goals and objectives to suggest. Students will have an opportunity to develop individual objectives to help extend learning and development through observation, research, and reflection.

In order to achieve successful completion of the course, students will demonstrate the following:

- **Understanding Cultural Concepts of Work**
- **Research & Observation Skills: Contextualizing Work**
- **Cultural Competency and Skills Development**

Reflective Area #1

Self-Reflection: Share your Inspiration Story

- What interests inspired you to pursue a Gap tour experience?

- Why did you select this particular organization to investigate?
- What goals do you have for your learning?

Reflective Area #1

Applied Research: Your Workplace

- What is the origin story of your workplace? Who are the founders?
- What is the nature of the work you will be doing?
- How do the work environment and customs reflect workplace and/or cultural values?

Reflective Area #1

Reflection: Transferrable Skills

- What strengths or skills did you identify before your immersion experience?
- What skills have you had the opportunity to hone or develop as a result of your global internship experience?

Reflective Area #1

Research: Workplace and Cultural Values

- How does the culture of work in your travel destination compare to where you live?
- "Work ethic" is sometimes used as an evaluation tool in a workplace. How is work ethic viewed in your destination? How is this the same or different from your home location? Does work continue even outside of the physical work space?
- How are achievements in the workplace acknowledged?
- Think about work habits or norms within the workplace. How do customs and policies reflect workplace and/or cultural values?

Reflective Area #1

Research Analysis and Reflection: Cultural Values

- What skills are valued most in your internship? Compare this to how those skills might be valued in your home culture. What does this say about broader cultural values?
- How does work reflect cultural values?

Assessment and Evaluation Criteria: (See Schoology)

In this undergraduate-level course, processes involved in observation, research and reflection are stressed, practiced and related specifically to students' experience as part of an extensive international immersion experience.

Specific formative assessment and evaluation activities to be used include:

- reflective journal documentation
- planning and implementation of workplace culture research project of their own conception
- analysis of data and reflection upon findings in relation to broader meaning of personal and cultural values related to work

Participants will be reviewed in a progress monitoring assessment system that will follow the course objectives. Participants will reflect on their progress to date and provide feedback to a peer if at all possible within the context of the online format. All course activities will be used to assist participants in providing evidence for personal and peer reflections in analyzing performance in the course.

Grading Policy

The SNHU Vermont Campus feels strongly that the learning that occurs in each class is very individualized and that assessment should occur based on each individual's ongoing improvement and progress. Evidence for that progress is therefore determined based on regular self, peer, and instructor assessment throughout the varying activities and discussions during every class session as well as any assignments given for outside of class time. Engagement in course activities and discussions is very important in order to provide that evidence of continual learning.

Attendance Policy

A great deal of the learning in this course will occur asynchronously as a result of the implementation of constructivist teaching, field-based course design, and subsequent learning for all. It is therefore crucial to attend all scheduled online discussions. Planning ahead by looking at the activities within each module on the Schoology platform, communicating effectively with your instructor, and prioritizing your coursework is mandatory. However, emergencies do happen, and, in the very rare cases they occur, immediate communications with your instructor to determine how to proceed are required.

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. The SNHU Copyright Policy can be accessed from the Shapiro Library's Copyright LibGuide at <http://libguides.snhu.edu/content.php?pid=5411>. Questions regarding copyright may be addressed to the Dean of the University Library.

Academic Honesty Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Students

involved in such activities are subject to serious disciplinary action. Plagiarism is defined as the intentional or unintentional use, whether by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another without full and clear acknowledgment. Cheating includes the giving or receiving of unauthorized assistance on quizzes, examinations, or written assignments from any source not approved by the instructor.

For a full definition of academic dishonesty, please refer to the undergraduate or graduate catalogs.

Disability Services - ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University is committed to and concerned with meeting the needs of students challenged by physical, sensory, psychiatric and/or learning disabilities with regard to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as amended, and Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act. At the beginning of each term, or as soon as you become aware of a disability, we encourage you to contact the Office of Disability Services to discuss accommodations for which you may be qualified.

For questions concerning support services, documentation guidelines, or general disability issues:
Office of Disability Services, Exeter Hall, Suite 59 Hyla Jaffe, Director
603.626.9100 ext.2386 h.jaffe@snhu.edu

For questions concerning disability related compliance matters, grievance or legal issues: Ms. Jet Goldberg, ADA/504 Compliance Officer
Director of Wellness Center
603-645-9679 j.goldberg@snhu.edu

Library Resources

In addition to the intellectual resources available on site and online (<http://www.snhu.edu/library>), Shapiro Library makes available group and one-on-one instruction in information literacy, enabling students to define and articulate what knowledge-based resources are relevant to their research interests. Library staff are available to assist students in effectively and efficiently accessing information from credible sources, to compare new knowledge with prior beliefs, and to consider the related ethical, legal, and socio-economic issues that are inherent in scholarly investigation.

Web-based Instruction Required

YES NO ___ The use of Web-based supplemental instruction is required in this course.