# INS 151
## Fall 2021

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Office Hours: Wednesdays
3.30pm to 5.00pm EST
Reynolda Hall 116

*Additional office hours upon request*

Class will be held online

**SYLLABUS** **Photo by Juan Zayed, Fall 2019, Jordan**

## Cross-Cultural Engagement Abroad

INS 151 is designed to help you maximize your study abroad experience while you are abroad using three methods. Through **observation, interaction and reflection** you will have a deeper study abroad and intercultural experience.

### Goals of INS 151

- Deepen your engagement and exploration in your host culture.
- Foster the development of intercultural competency.
- Clarify and enhance your learning outcomes from your semester abroad.

Honor Code

All students are expected to abide by the honor code and other guiding principles of the Wake Forest community. This means not cheating, plagiarizing (using someone else's work as your own), or other academic misconduct. For this or any other class, if you have any questions about what cheating or plagiarism means, please ask me. I want you to know, so that you can avoid problems and have success with your own, honest, work.

### Course Basics

This course is asynchronous which allows you to complete the readings and assignments for each module at your convenience. Each module spans about two weeks, and it is recommend that you follow the module schedule.

There is no textbook. Readings and activities will be assigned in the class and accessible in the Canvas site.

## Course Requirements & Expectations:

This course is graded on a P/F basis. To pass, you must earn a comprehensive total 70% which is a C-. Additionally, to pass in this course, you must do the following:

**Attend class and complete quality assignments.**
Log into Canvas, do the readings, watch the videos, and complete the assignments. Assignment should be thoughtful and complete. You will be asked to edit or redo assignments that have deficits in content and/or quality – please take the time to do them well the first time.

**Missing more than one module will result in an automatic fail for the course.**

## Modules and Assignments

Completing all of the modules tasks and assignments will allow you to learn more about your host culture and your home culture. You will find throughout this course that you are not only engaging deeply with your local culture and people but you will also engage deeply in learning about yourself.

The course is divided into modules, each of which contains multiple steps and assignments. Each module should be completed sequentially. As the students in this course may be studying on different programs the first half of the modules are due in mid-October and the second half are due at the end of term, with the final assignment due at the end of exam week.

We recommend that you look at your program calendar and plan out your module timeline to ensure that you are able to meet all deadlines. Ideally you will have one to two weeks to complete each module. If your circumstances abroad make it difficult to meet a deadline, please inform us in advance to consider alternative deadlines.

Office hours are each Wednesday from 3:30pm to 5:00pm EST. If this time does not work with your schedule (perhaps due to time-change) please let us know and we can make arrangements for a meeting outside of regular office hours.

## The Learning Assistance Center

(LAC) is located in 118 Reynolda Hall or at (336) 758-5929 (see lac.wfu.edu). LAC staff can help with study skills, time management, and organizational strategies. They can also help with accommodations for a learning disability. On that topic, WFU provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities.

If you are in need of an accommodation, you are encouraged to talk with your professors and the LAC as early in the term as possible.

Retroactive accommodations cannot be provided.

Photo by Karen Brosko, Fall 2018 Copenhagen, Denmark

## Final Assignments

<u>Module 7 Reflection Paper</u>
You will be asked to think about how, if at all, you have changed and then write about the ways that your views and perspectives of your host country, the U.S. and other places in the world have shifted or remained the same.

<u>Module 8 Reflection Paper</u>
You will be based to think about your first impressions of your host country and culture from when you first arrived until you are about to depart. Then reflect on how you anticipated the experience would be vs. how it was.

## Schedule and Topics at a Glance

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| Course Introduction<br><br>Please review before the first module | • Review the course syllabus<br>• Submit a VoiceThread Introduction |
| Module 1: Transitions and Observations | • Read *Intentional Observations*<br>• Watch Module 1 VoiceThread<br>• Observing in Public spaces |
| Module 2: Self-Awareness and Interpersonal Engagement | • Read *Speaking to Communicate, What Living Abroad Does for Your Self-Awareness* and *Diversity & Identity Abroad*<br>• Watch Module 2 VoiceThread<br>• Interview a Host National |
| Module 3: Enhancing Your Cultural Learning Through Community Engagement | • Watch "Danger of a Single Story" and read *What Does It Mean to Be a Citizen of the World?*<br>• Read *Cultural Intelligence*<br>• Watch Module 3 VoiceThread<br>• Social activity with a local and photo-journal |
| Module 4: Career Skills & Culture: Professional Development Abroad | • Read *Barriers to Communication, How Study Abroad will Help Your Career,* and *5 Ways Studying Abroad Helps You Get a Job*<br>• Career focused assignments |
| Module 5: Increased Engagement & Interaction with Local Culture and Peoples | • News from your Home state/city<br>• Local News & Global Impacts |
| Module 6: Career Skills & Professional Development | • Watch Module 6 VoiceThread<br>• Read two provided articles<br>• S.M.A.R.T. Goals |
| Module 7: Cultural Adaptation & Preparing for Re-Entry | • Watch Module 7 VoiceThread<br>• Reflect and write |
| Module 8: Final Reflection: Culture and Adaptation: Then & Now | • Reflect and write |

Significant portions of this course were borrowed from the CCE Course series developed by the Center for Global Programs and Studies team.

Make the most of your experience! Before you begin the course, read this list of interactive activities to help you think of ways you can increase your immersion in your host culture.

**Suggested Interactive Activities While Abroad**

- Volunteer with children at an after-school daycare or study program (if allowed)
- Join a sports club or group that meets regularly; play pick-up games
- Watch TV with a local and ask them to explain some aspects
- Get a map of the host country and/or city, take it out and ask a local to tell you about some of their favorite places and places they would like to visit.
- Learn a fairy tale or nursery rhyme from a child
- Teach a local a US pop song or folk song
- Interview people of different ages and backgrounds
- Find volunteer project in the city or countryside, such as environmental clean-ups, soup kitchens, tutoring/literacy programs, etc.
- Find local musicians to play with (or listen to regularly)
- Attend a local church service and inquire about other activities the church is involved in
- Find a language partner and set up a langue exchange
- Help your host family with a house or apartment project
- Frequent a neighborhood restaurant and get to know the workers and owner
- Get a newspaper and go over it with a local
- Have a local teach you the national anthem (music and lyrics)
- Ask the baker/butcher/shopkeeper to explain more about the products they are selling
- Go to a local barber shop/beauty salon
- Go on a weekend outing with students from your host country
- Watch a sporting event with students from your host country
- Prepare a meal for your host family and/or local friends
- Attend a political debate or town/city meeting
- Visit a farm or winery
- Visit a local elementary/middle/high school and arrange to do a presentation in their English class
- Find a place or center where elderly people congregate and see if you can talk with them
- Go sing Karaoke with fellow students
- Find an animal shelter and see if you can volunteer
- Talk to the concierge or security or maintenance workers in the building you live in, or at the university
- Take he same bus route for several days, and if there is usually the same driver, eventually introduce yourself and ask if one day you can interview them at the end of their driving shift
- Go to a museum and sign up for a guided tour
- Host a US movie night where you give a presentation about how the film relates to US culture/history
- Find an immigrant or immigrant family and ask about their life in their new country
- Locate an expatriate living in your host country and ask about their experience of the culture and if they can introduce you to activities with locals
- Go to a bike shop and compare prices with the US (talk to the people and explain that you are doing research- that will allow you to interaction with someone)
- Sign up for lessons for some hobby or activity you enjoy, such as dance, tennis, photography, etc.