



# HONORS COLLEGE

The University of Texas at Arlington

## SENIOR PROJECT GUIDELINES FOR STUDY ABROAD

(Updated July 2014)

If your major allows you to use a semester- or year-long study abroad program for the Honors Senior Project, and if you wish to take this option, you should do the following:

1. Contact the UT Arlington Office of International Education ([www.uta.edu/oie/](http://www.uta.edu/oie/)) as far in advance as possible for guidance on selecting an appropriate study abroad program.
2. Identify a UTA instructor in your department (a tenured or tenure-track faculty member or a full-time lecturer) to serve as your mentor. As a guide and coordinator of your work, your faculty mentor will, among other things, ensure that the work based on your study abroad experience will meet the standards of an Honors Senior Project. Students seeking to study abroad must have their chosen program approved *in advance* by both their departmental mentor, academic advisor, and an Honors advisor to ensure admissibility of courses toward their degree. Note: unless the chosen program is directed by a UT Arlington faculty member eligible to teach Honors classes, courses taken abroad cannot be counted toward the Honors degree. It is therefore important to complete the requisite 21 hours of Honors coursework outside the study abroad semester.
3. Working in consultation with your mentor, complete and submit a Senior Project Proposal and Proposal Form to the Honors College ([www.uta.edu/honors/documents/project/project\\_proposal.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/honors/documents/project/project_proposal.pdf)). The proposal should identify a disciplinary topic, note relevant published research on the topic, and establish how you plan to use the study abroad experience to study it. Once your proposal has been approved, an Honors advisor will contact you about enrollment in a three-hour contract course that will be monitored from the UTA campus by your faculty mentor.
4. Maintain a journal or other record of your study abroad experience and arrange to have regular contact with your faculty mentor (at least biweekly) during the semester to review your work as it progresses.
5. At the end of the semester, you will submit to your faculty mentor a portfolio that includes two parts: your notes or journal and a substantive written product. The latter should contain both an academic study of the disciplinary topic and a reflective component that outlines the academic and personal significance of the study abroad experience. You might also consider how study abroad complemented on-campus coursework in your major, or even changed your conception of that academic discipline and its contribution to society. Your faculty mentor will evaluate the portfolio and determine an appropriate grade.
6. To satisfy the requirement for the Honors Senior Project, submit the substantive written product in the Senior Project template to the Honors College for final approval ([www.uta.edu/honors/project/thesis/HonorsThesisTemplate.docx](http://www.uta.edu/honors/project/thesis/HonorsThesisTemplate.docx)), and present your project at the Honors Research Symposium (HRS). A successful presentation will not only describe the study abroad experience and its role in your academic and personal development, but also place that experience within a larger academic context, either of your discipline specifically or of the place of study abroad in higher education more generally.