

HONORS SELF-DESIGNED PROPOSAL

Complete this proposal **prior** to your experience's start date and upload it in the UHP Database (<https://webapps.uc.edu/uchonorsstudent>). Create an experience ("Add a new record") in the "Tracking Project" tab and upload your proposal document as an attachment. The deadline for [submitting proposals](#) is the 5th of each month (excluding July).

Proposals are intended to be well developed plans for your experience. However, experiences are exploratory in nature, and we are flexible with changes throughout the experience. If your experience changes after receiving approval on your proposal, contact your honors advisor to verify the changes still satisfy the requirements of an honors experience.

Basic Information

Full Name: Grace Hertlein

Title of Project: Papal Pilgrimage 2015

Thematic Area(s): Global Studies, Community Engagement

Expected Start Date: September 25th, 2015

Expected End Date: September 28th, 2015

GUIDELINES

1. Proposal submission timeline: Proposals should be submitted at least one month prior to the expected start date of the experience. International experiences require at least two months' notice. Contact your honors advisor immediately for any exceptions.
2. Proposal length: While the quality of the proposal is most important, strong proposals are typically 3-4 pages single-spaced.
3. Proposal format: Please maintain the proposal format (e.g. headers, layout)
4. Time commitment: Experiences should consist of at least 75-90 hours of preparation, execution, and reflection. This is approximately equivalent to the commitment of honors seminars and pre-approved experiences.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

All self-designed international travel experiences require two months' notice and must be at least one week in length. You will need to provide a detailed itinerary (dates, locations and activities). If participating in independent travel (not with UC faculty, staff or student group), you must also fill out a [Worldwide: Honors Experience application](#) via UC International.

Additionally, the [Student Travel Policy](#) restricts UC-sponsored travel to countries under a [U.S. Department of State Travel Warning](#). Those who wish to visit a country with a travel warning must seek an [exemption](#) through UC International. Students traveling without a faculty or staff leader must individually request an exemption. *We cannot allow you to count this travel as an honors experience nor can we give you a grant without an approved exemption.*

1. Abstract

Briefly describe the experience. What makes this experience personally meaningful? What goals do you have for this experience? What is your timeline for this experience?

**If you are proposing an international experience, provide an itinerary.*

***If you are developing this experience from an existing opportunity (class with a study tour, campus organization, co-op, etc.) that is not already an honors seminar or pre-approved experience, how will you differentiate your experience from what is already required of other students?*

From September 25th to the 28th of 2015 , I will be travelling to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with 56 other students from the University of Cincinnati. The students going on this trip, myself included, are young Catholics who regularly participate with St. Monica St. George Parish in Cincinnati, Ohio. In Philadelphia, we will be attending speeches, rallies, and a mass given by Pope Francis during his monumental visit to the United States. As a lifelong Catholic, this experience connects deeply to my faith and I will appreciate the spiritual connection to a political trip. Additionally, the trip will be featuring community service and interaction with the homeless of Philadelphia, as we will be living at Project HOME, a transitional homeless shelter. This is a rare experience that will grant me a broader perspective into the lives of others, and allow me to expand my global citizenship.

Because St. Monica St. George has never planned a religious pilgrimage, the details of the itinerary are very loose. However, there are some details about which we are sure. Before the trip, we will be completing research about the Pope and the topics about which he will speaking. The majority of the travelers meet once weekly to discuss and strengthen their faith, and before the trip, we will be sharing research, information, and our opinions and fear about the upcoming trip. Upon arriving in Philadelphia, our first destination is Project HOME, our temporary "home" for the weekend. HOME is a transitional shelter for the homeless, so we will have the opportunity to interact with formerly homeless residents of Philadelphia. After our debriefing at HOME, we will have a short period of free time, followed by volunteer service at the Grotto of Mary, Undoer of Knots. This is a public arts exhibition in which people can write prayers on fabric and tie them into a "grotto" - a large structure made of wood. During this time, we will be able to listen to Pope Francis' many speeches on topics like immigration, religious freedom, and citizenship. This in itself will promote community engagement and global studies: hearing a major world leader state his opinions on controversial topics will be a monumental experience. Additionally, as I am pursuing a Spanish minor, listening to world leaders speak in Spanish will help develop my vocabulary and give me an insight into non-American politics. On Sunday, we will be attending the mass of Pope Francis, which will be an all-day event. We will return to the University campus early on Monday morning. After the trip, we will reflect in small youth groups to share our experiences.

This experience is different than many others because I am choosing to travel for a religious and political experience. I am using this trip as a way to connect more deeply to my faith, devote time to a community that is not mine, and engage in a worldwide political event. Roughly 60 students from UC are taking this trip, and I am proud to call myself one of them. Rather than going out or relaxing on a weekend, we have decided to devote three days to service and to God.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| <p>Must Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief description of the experience Personal connection to the experience Identified goals for the experience Timeline from start to finish *Itinerary (international experiences only) **Explanation of differentiated experience from what is required of other students | <p>Required Revisions:</p> | <p>Effective:</p> |

2. Experience Advisor

Identify an experience advisor and provide their contact information. Explain why you chose this person and how you plan to utilize your advisor for this experience.

Note: Advisor(s) should have knowledge or expertise in an area related to the experience. Honors advisors, undergraduate students, and family members cannot be experience advisors.

Michael Schreiner
 St. Monica-St. George Newman Center
smsgnewman@gmail.com

Michael Schreiner is the trip leader and coordinator, and works closely with UC students as the director of the Newman Center. He coordinates small group meetings and has planned the entire itinerary of the trip. He has agreed to advise me through this process by way of reflecting with me following the trip.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| Must Include: | Required Revisions: | Effective: |
| Experience advisor name and contact information | | |
| Description of why advisor was selected | | |
| Specific plans to engage with advisor | | |

3. Connection to Learning Outcomes

List 3 *learning outcomes* from any thematic area(s). Provide specific activities you plan to engage in to help you make progress towards the chosen learning outcomes. Describe how you expect each activity to help your progress. Include an estimated time commitment for those activities.

- *Community Engagement:* Explain how education, advocacy, mobilization, or public policy can influence social issues and transform communities.

My trip will involve working closely with the homeless of Philadelphia to advocate the ending of hunger and homelessness in the United States. While most of our service will be internally at the shelter, we also plan to speak with traveling Catholics in Philadelphia to sign a petition advocating legislation ending hunger and homelessness. We will be able to speak intelligently to strangers about the value the petition can have in changing public policy to enhance the common good.

- *Community Engagement:* Develop a thorough understanding of the world view, beliefs, experiences, self-consciousness, or history of community members through collaboration.

Throughout this trip, I will have the opportunity to work directly with formerly homeless members of Philadelphia society. Although a brief trip, I will be able to hear their stories and experiences and develop a consciousness about what homelessness really means. I want to leave this trip with a deeper understanding of the concept of homelessness, putting a face on an abstract concept. I hope that my collaboration with community members in the signing of petitions and volunteer work at the art exhibit will expose me to the history of the community and the beliefs of others.

- *Global Studies:* Develop practical travel skills that promote safe, stimulating, and productive travel throughout your life.

This trip will be a practice in safe traveling skills, as our only transportation will be to and from Philadelphia in a bus. This means that we will be required to walk or take the subway; thing I am not accustomed to doing in my own major city. I will be have the opportunity to practice traveling in a hectic downtown area with millions of other

people. Additionally, security will be extremely tight in the city and I will be able to practice traveling through security checkpoints. These are skills I can carry with me regardless of where I am for the rest of my life.

- *Global Studies*: Demonstrate an understanding of cultural diversity by acknowledging the impact of their own identity and the experience of social norms, customs, or beliefs that are different from their own.

Because of the political nature of this trip, I will have the ability to see and speak with people from all over the world. I will be listening to speeches that directly affect the lives of people who are of a different culture (for example, immigration speeches affecting immigrants), and I will be there with them to see how his words immediately impact their lives.

Each of the above directives should be accomplished within the weekend in which I am travelling; however, each of these are lifelong skills that can be developed over a lifetime, not solely a weekend.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| Must Include: 3 learning outcomes explicitly identified from any thematic area(s) Examples of activities and explanation of how each will assist the progress towards the chosen learning outcome Estimated time commitment for each activity | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

4. Academic Resources Connected to the Learning Outcomes

List 1-2 academic resources you plan to use to enhance your understanding of the learning outcomes. Explain how each resource connects to your learning outcome(s) and helps you execute your experience. Please include the title and author/creator for each resource.

Note: Academic resources are professional works that can be used to assist your understanding of the topic. Some examples are books, documentaries, videos, or research journals.

"Laudato Si"

Laudato Si is a publication/encyclical written by Pope Francis that states his opinions on controversial issues such as climate, immigration, and religious freedom. Before our trip, several of us have read parts of the encyclical to fill in background information about the Pope's opinions, so that we may understand more intelligently about what Pope Francis will be speaking.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| Must Include: 1-2 academic resources connected to the learning outcomes Title and author of each resource Description of how resources will help make progress towards learning outcomes and execution of experience | Required Revisions: | Effective: |

5. On-going Reflection

The on-going reflection should help you process the experience and progress toward your chosen learning outcomes. Describe your method for reflecting throughout the experience. Indicate specific reflection questions/topics you plan to use to guide your reflective process.

Note: A variety of methods can be used for on-going reflection. Some examples are videos, drawings, blogs, songs, and journals. Reflection topics to consider include your ideas/insights about the experience, connection to other areas of involvement, and your progress towards the learning outcomes.

As a graphic design student, I will be journaling my trip through photography and sketches. Rather than just "touristy" photography, I intend to work in a photojournalistic manner - photographing that which is politically relevant. I intend to photograph and sketch travelers, speakers, the pope (If I am lucky!!) and other things relevant to my trip. Additionally, I have always found that art and religion go well together, so I will be drawing things that I see throughout my trip that relate to me on a spiritual level.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| Must Include: | Required Revisions: | Effective: |
| Method for ongoing reflection | | |
| Reflection questions/topics clearly specified | | |

6. Sharing Your Learning

Describe how you plan to actively share what you've taken away from this experience with a targeted audience. Explain why you chose this specific audience.

Note: While social media can be an effective platform for sharing, only posting on your personal learning portfolio or social media account(s) does not reach a targeted audience.

A large part of my pilgrimage is centered on listening to the speeches given by Pope Francis, many of which will have to do with immigration. In high school, I took a class called Contemporary Hispanic Studies, which largely focused on Hispanic immigration to the United States. I have arranged with my former teacher to come to her class and present my findings from the trip in the context of global citizenship and immigration. This is impactful because my trip can be meaningful for those who are not Catholic when placed in a different context.

| Advisor Feedback | | |
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| Must Include: | Required Revisions: | Effective: |
| At least one method to actively share take-aways/learning from the experience | | |
| A specific audience and why the audience was selected | | |

7. Budget (if applicable)

Provide an itemized budget and indicate your source for cost information.

**If you are engaged in an unpaid internship or research, please indicate the number of weeks and hours per week you plan to participate.*

My budget for this trip is roughly \$200. Here is a breakdown of how that money will be spent:

- the cost of the trip is \$60 for transportation.
- I will be spending approximately \$50 for food throughout the week, including groceries and eating out.
- I will be spending approximately \$75 on souvenirs and precious religious artifacts to be blessed bring back with me for my family and friends.
- I will be spending approximately \$15 to donate to Project HOME along with my time.

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| <p>Notes:</p> <p>Detailed budget of expenditures with sources to justify budget estimates</p> <p>*Indicates the number of hours per week and number of weeks of participation</p> | <p>Required Revisions:</p> | <p>Effective:</p> |
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THEMATIC AREA LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes for the **Community Engagement Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to...

- Identify and differentiate multiple ways to contribute towards the development or achievement of the community's goals.
- Develop a thorough understanding of the world view, beliefs, experiences, self-consciousness, or history of community members through collaboration.
- Articulate the purpose of service on a social issue or public policy and how service mutually enhances individual growth and the common good.
- Explain how education, advocacy, mobilization, or public policy can influence social issues and transform communities.

Learning Outcomes for the **Creativity Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to...

- Discover new techniques to gain knowledge, consider options, make new connections, and ask questions.
- Explore a new creative competency/medium or seek new ways to engage an existing competency/medium.
- Understand and optimize the use of people, technology, physical resources or community in a creative process.
- Articulate the broader significance of a creative project and the value of its contributions.

Learning Outcomes for the **Global Studies Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to...

- Develop practical travel skills that promote safe, stimulating, and productive travel throughout your life.
- Summarize the interconnectedness of geography, history, cultural traits and world issues.
- Articulate the interdependence of professional fields to address current and impending global issues such as technology, the environment, human rights, or politics.
- Demonstrate an understanding of cultural diversity by acknowledging the impact of their own identity and the experience of social norms, customs, or beliefs that are different from their own.
- Demonstrate a sense of empathy, respect, and appreciation for others to build meaningful cross-cultural collaborations toward mutual growth and prosperity.

Learning Outcomes for the **Leadership Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to...

- Formulate and manage a shared vision and develop goals towards its achievement.
- Motivate and collaborate effectively with others towards completion of shared projects or goals.
- Develop strategies to identify and respond to challenges and obstacles.
- Identify personal strengths and areas of growth and evaluate opportunities to maximize skills and abilities.
- Synthesize the current trends related to a specific issue or field and evaluate how thought-leaders are currently addressing them.

Learning Outcomes for the **Research Thematic Area:**

By engaging in this thematic area, you will make progress towards learning how to...

- Demonstrate the ability to locate, interpret, and critically evaluate primary sources appropriate to field.
- Identify and apply appropriate methods to collect and organize data for analysis.
- Analyze and interpret the meaning of results.
- Produce dissemination appropriate to the field in order to share the results or impact of the research.
- Articulate the broader significance of the research project and its relationship to other fields, research and ideas.