

Senate Recommendation 2024-01-01 *Proposal to Revise Academic Policy – Faculty Led Programs*
January 25, 2024 meeting.

Susan Eagle 2/23/2024

Robert Finley 02/27/2024

Colonnade Committee
Proposal to Revise an Academic Policy
(Action Item)

Contact Person: Merrall Price, senior associate dean, PCAL merrall.price@wku.edu

Identification of proposed policy revision: Considering eligible Study Abroad courses to fulfill the Colonnade category “International Experience.”

1. **Statement of existing policy:** none.
2. **Statement of proposed policy:** Effective ~~fall-summer~~ 2024, all WKU Faculty-Led Study Abroad courses that are a) graded P/F or A-F, b) offered for at least three credit hours, ~~at a regionallyan appropriately accredited institution,~~ and c) not being counted elsewhere in Colonnade will be considered to meet the criteria for the Colonnade Connections category “International Experience.” as long as the student is eligible for Connections courses. Artifacts from these courses will be assessed in the same way other Colonnade artifacts are assessed; collecting these artifacts in a timely way is the responsibility of the instructor of record. Instructors who choose to include their courses in the International Experiences category will demonstrate how their course meets the CLOs as part of the Faculty-Led Program proposal process. ~~Instructors concerned about being unable to demonstrate how their course meets the outcomes may choose to opt out.~~
3. **Rationale for proposed policy revision:** The International Experience category has existed since 2019, but only contains three courses, making it effectively irrelevant to most WKU students. Students who have studied abroad either go on to fulfill all three other categories, or have to petition the Committee on Credits and Graduation to have their international experience count. On the principle that any credit-bearing Study Abroad class will automatically meet the learning outcomes and demonstrate some of the KYGPA competencies for “International Experience,” viz: a) articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place, b) develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures, and c) explore other people’s values and clarify their own, this proposal removes the barriers of taking Study Abroad courses one at a time through the Colonnade approval process,
4. **Impact of proposed policy revision on existing academic or non-academic policies:**
 - 4.1 Impact on policies: None.
 - 4.2 Impact on populations that may be affected: Students who study abroad will be able to know ahead of time that their program will fulfill this Connections category, freeing them from the obligation of an additional course. This may also increase interest in Study Abroad programs.
5. **Proposed term for implementation:** Fall-Summer 2024
6. **Dates of prior committee approvals:**

WKU Colonnade Program: _____

University Senate: _____