**Self-Designed CCE Petition**

Self-designed cultural immersions may be extraordinary educational experiences that truly meet the requirements and objectives of the CCE program. However, the University is unable to take on the risk and liability of letting students complete these as part of a course. Students who have a plan for a genuinely immersive self-designed CCE may choose to complete the experience on their own and then petition *after the fact* to have it approved to meet their CCE immersion component. Students who do gain approval will still need to complete a section of CCS 300 so as to earn the required credits.

A significant experience in another culture may count as the immersion portion of Carroll’s Cross-Cultural Experience (CCE) requirement if:

1. The cross-cultural immersion occurred while enrolled at Carroll University (the committee may be willing to consider experiences prior to a student’s enrollment at Carroll as long as they took place after high school and within 5 years).
2. The experience was at least 10 days (not counting travel time) and the immersion involved at least 60 hours of meaningful interaction with persons of a different culture (note that not all work or volunteer hours may count as **immersion** hours—they must be time spent interacting with people in the local culture).
3. The experience offered something extraordinary that a student could not get through an existing Carroll CCE opportunity.
4. The experience was genuinely immersive and allowed a student to learn about another culture at a deeper level than tourism or visiting with family or friends; the experience involved reciprocity or mutual exchange of ideas and values with persons of the other culture.
5. The student did some work before the immersion to help prepare for the experience. This preparation might include but would not be limited to reading about the culture (both nonfiction and literature), viewing documentaries or movies about that culture, reading materials related to intercultural communication, volunteerism, and/or related relevant topics. Travel preparation does not meet this requirement. The committee suggests a minimum of 20 hours of preparation.
6. The student critically reflected upon the cross cultural experience **while it was on-going and upon return**. Reflection is a critical component of the CCE. Reflection must be more than a detailed daily itinerary.

**Students who have an experience that matches these requirements should fill out the petition form and send it to the Assistant Director for CCEs Lezlie Weber lrweber@carrollu.edu.** **The deadline for these petitions is August 3rd 2018**. The Director of General Education and the CCE Subcommittee of GCCE Committee, will review petitions during fall and spring terms and respond in one of two ways:

1. The experience meets the immersion portion of the CCE requirement. In order to complete the CCE requirement, student will need to take a 2-credit course to research and reflect upon the experience. The two-credit Self-Designed CCS 300 course will be offered at least annually (**fall only**) to accommodate students with approved self-designed immersion experiences.
2. The experience does not meet the immersion portion of the CCE requirement. In this case, the student will need to meet the CCE requirement through successful completion of one of Carroll’s CCE courses. Students who feel a negative judgment was made in error can submit an appeal to the GCCE committee.

**Note:**  Students who elect to develop and participate in a cross-cultural experience of their own devising do so at their own risk and must be aware that, when they appeal after the fact for approval, **there is no guarantee of approval**. Carroll University does not support or take any responsibility for such trips. The CCE Subcommittee of GCCE Committee will make the **final, binding determination** for approval after the fact, based upon the petition and any accompanying materials. A student who is unable to make a strong and articulate case for a genuinely immersive experience will not be approved.

**Petition for Self-Designed CCE Approval**

Submit completed form to the Assistant Director for CCEs Lezlie Weber (lrweber@carrollu.edu), Jones Hall, 120 E. Wright Street in pdf, word, or excel documents or hard copy. **Do not send any items through Google Drive**

**Name:**

**Expected Graduation Date:**

**Major:**

**Place of Cross-Cultural Immersion:**

**Dates of Cross-Cultural Immersion:**

**\*\*Contact information of individual or organization that can verify the experience:**

**\*\*Attach other information that can verify experience, such as program description or itinerary. Applications for international experiences must include copy of plane ticket.**

Please answer the following questions and attach the answers to your completed petition form.

1. Describe the nature of your cross-cultural immersion. Address the reason for your immersion and your activities. Provide specific examples of instances in which you directly communicated with persons from the different culture and what you learned from them. It is essential that you ask questions of others when you do not understand or are troubled by unfamiliar aspects of the culture and that you reflect on the responses. This intercultural communication should be documented in your daily reflection. You may wish to do additional research on these topics to include in your application packet. **No applications will be considered that do not include this kind of documented interaction.**
2. Describe not only what you learned about the culture you visited but also what you learned about yourself and your own culture as a result of the experience. Again, include specific details and examples. The committee will be looking for learning that goes beyond surface-level cultural observations. It is not enough to say “this is different.” Why is it different? What does that say about the culture? What does it say about your own culture that something seems strange or wrong to you? What did you learn about your own assumptions and biases?
3. During your immersion how did you interact, communicate, and work across cultural boundaries in meaningful ways? Specifically, what were the challenges you experienced in this regard and how did you address and/or overcome them? Be sure to explain why something was a challenge and why overcoming it was significant.
4. Describe the methods of reflection you used during the experience. All students are expected to reflect daily in some kind of journal. Critical reflection is more than just a detailed daily itinerary. It includes examination of how you felt, how you reacted, and what troubled or concerned you. It is not sufficient to say something happened or you felt a certain without critically reflecting on why that might have been. It is critical to describe actual incidents or stories in your journal.
5. Describe the steps you took to prepare yourself for the experience beforehand. Provide an annotated reading or viewing list, as well as any materials that might help to support the preparation element of the experience. Remember that we are looking for preparation for the cultural immersion, not merely logistical preparation for the travel.