

Cross-Cultural Experience:

The mission of Providence Christian College as a Reformed Christian institution is to equip students to be firmly grounded in biblical truth, thoroughly educated in the liberal arts, and fully engaged in their church, their community and the world. In keeping with mission and educational goals of the college, students are expected to complete a significant cross-cultural experience during their four years at Providence as a requirement for graduation. A significant cross-cultural experience should be of sufficient duration that the student is able to interact with and get to know the people in the culture with which he/she is interacting. The experience should also encourage the student to reflect on what he/she has learned about another culture, how this learning has caused him/her to evaluate his/her own cultural understanding, and how a Christian perspective has grown as a result of the experience. Mere tourism is not adequate. A significant cross-cultural experience will not only involve preparation and but also serious reflection.

A cross cultural experience involves interaction with a cultural or ethnic community distinct from the student's own. **This requirement may be met by one of the following options:**

- 1) Cumulative three-week internship, ministry, volunteer, or mission experience in another culture. This could include an experience in a multi-cultural setting—an urban setting such as central Los Angeles, a rural setting, areas affected by hurricane or other disaster, a ministry of a church to another culture, an experience in another country such as neighboring Mexico, etc.
- 2) A May term with an expressly cross-cultural purpose.
- 3) A term (quarter or semester) of study abroad through a program accredited by another college or university.
- 4) A proposal made by the student for a cross-cultural experience that meets the basic criteria above, that is approved by the academic advisor, and that is validated by a director, supervisor, or minister who knows the work of the student.

In order to receive credit for the cross-cultural experience a student must:

- 1) Complete the Cross-cultural Experience form and submit it to his/her academic advisor for approval prior to the experience.
- 2) Submit verification of completing the cross-cultural experience—a course transcript, letter from teacher, director, supervisor, minister, etc. that describes the nature and duration of the experience.
- 3) Submit a reflection paper that meets the criteria listed on the cross cultural experience form.
- 4) Advisor's signature indicating successful completion of the experience.

Submit the completed form to the registrar.



Cross-cultural Experience Form

To be complete prior to participation in the cross-cultural experience:

Name of student _____

College graduation year: _____

Brief Description of the Cross cultural experience:

Location of the experience: _____

Dates of the experience: From ___/___/___ to ___/___/___

Approval of Academic Advisor: _____

Signature of advisor

To be completed after completion of the experience:

- 1) Attach verification of completion of the experience (letter from supervisor, faculty member, transcript, etc.).
- 2). Attach a reflection paper (1000-1250 words) which does the following:
 - Compare and contrast the culture with which you interacted and the one in which you were raised.
 - How did you prepare for this experience (reading, research, interviewing people involved in this culture, etc.)
 - Describe the nature of your involvement in this experience.
 - Discuss at least three new insights you gained as a result of this experience.
 - Conclusion on how this experience affected your Christian perspective and living.
- 3) Advisor's signature indicating that the student has satisfactorily completed #1 and #2 above.

Advisor's signature

Submit the completed form to the registrar.