



**I. HUM490 International Missions/Service Learning Practicum**

**Professor of Record:** Charlie Harrisberger, California Baptist University  
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**On-site mission mentor:** Varies by program location and term

**II. Language of Instruction:** English

**III. Audience:** Veritas Christian Study Abroad students only.

**IV. Contact Hours:** 40 total hours per semester or summer term spent in classroom, in service location, working on assignments.  
Credits earned: 1 US pass/fail

Students who log more than the minimum 40 hours may receive more than 1 US credit per the following requirements:  
80 hours = 2 US Credits pass/fail  
120 hours = 3 US Credits pass/fail  
(log of hours will be submitted electronically by the end of the first week after the program ends)

**V. Course Description**

This course provides upper division service-learning credit for International Missions Projects, an extended missions experience designed to acquaint students with the implementation of missions principles in an international context through Veritas Christian Study Abroad programs.

**Learning Goals**

Upon completion of this course and related program elements and experiences students will:

- Understand the realities of living and ministering in a culture different from their own culture.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of the Christian faith as contrasted with the principles of the major religion(s) of the culture.
- Accomplish ministry service learning that may include: Bible study, youth-related activities, church services, children's ministry, refuge ministry, orphanage work, prayer walking, and other mission service activities per location.
- Engage in critical reflection concerning their cross-cultural ministry experience by writing the specific details of the missions experience as well as the personal significance and long-term value of their time abroad.



### **Course Meeting**

The weekly Mission Mentor Meeting is your weekly class session. Attendance for this will be tracked through your Mission Mentor. Records will be submitted to the professor of record. Meeting times will be determined per program and site. Meetings will be approximately two hours per week.

### **Course Requirements**

All work for this course must be completed and submitted **by the end of study abroad program**. All papers should be written using a consistent style (MLA or APA, for example), **double-spaced using Times New Roman 12 pt. font, in Spanish**. All papers will be submitted electronically as a pdf. The journal (if handwritten) should be converted to an electronic format (scan as a pdf file, for example) and submitted electronically.

1. **Cultural Research Summary.** The student will be expected to accomplish research related to the *history, culture, and the major religion(s)* of the host culture. At least **three (3) sources** should be utilized, including **at least one (1) that is in book form**. The student should write a formal 3-page paper that explains details about the history, culture, and especially the religion(s) for the country related to your assignment. The paper should include proper citation of any sources utilized in research. This paper must be submitted electronically through the student portal ***before you depart on your program***.
2. **Worship Reflection.** The student will write a formal three-page reflection that summarizes the worship experiences at a local church in the host city. If possible (from the student's experience), this should include a comparison of evangelical and non-evangelical traditions (if appropriate and possible) within the given culture as well as comparison/contrast to their past worship experiences from their home culture perspective. This should include observation of the worship practices of the persons who are a part of the culture as well as the student's personal experiences.
3. **Critical Reflection Journal.** The student will maintain a ***daily journal*** that includes the specifics of the ministry accomplished and cross-cultural encounters during the study abroad program. The student is encouraged to begin journaling prior to departure, so that the journal is a reflection of the full experience. Certainly reflection related to specific interaction with the culture on both a personal and ministry level is expected. A single pdf document containing 12 representative pages of your journal should be submitted electronically as a pdf in your student portal.
4. **Impact Assessment.** Using the previous assignments as a foundation, the student will write a formal minimum three-five page summary assessment of the program in regard to the effectiveness of ministry accomplished, what they have learned from their mission mentor, the personal value of the experience, and how the experience has impacted the student's life and faith (*how will you be different because of your*



*participation in the program? How have your cultural views changed? How has your understanding of cross-cultural ministry been affected?).*

**DUE DATES for the Worship Reflection, Journal, and Impact Assessment are: by the end of the first week after the program ends. See dates listed in student portal**

**VI. Course Pre-Requisites: none**

**VII. Suggested resources**

**Websites:**

[www.thetravelingteam.org/team\\_resources](http://www.thetravelingteam.org/team_resources)

[www.Joshuaproject.net](http://www.Joshuaproject.net)

[www.Everyethne.org](http://www.Everyethne.org)

**Other:**

General Orientation “Ready, Set, Go” (in student portal)

Site Specific Orientation Handbook (in student portal)

**VIII. Course Calendar**

Date	Time	Location	Description
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**XI. Evaluation Criteria**

**Credit for the course:** A student cannot receive credit for the course without adequate and timely completion and submission of assignments (see due dates above). In other words, failure to complete *any* of the five assignments or failure to complete the program itself will prohibit a student from receiving credit for the course.

**Grade for the Course:** The course is a **Pass/Fail** course and will be received as transfer credit from California Baptist University (CBU). Credit will be issued on your CBU transcript that you will receive with your host university transcript. Transcripts may take up to 90 days to be sent to your host university.

**X. Attendance Policy**

Students are required to attend all Mission Mentor meetings (unless ill or in class), participate in ministry activities and attend church worship services (number of services based on term).

Summer worship attendance requirements—2 Sundays

Semester worship attendance requirements—6 Sundays