**Graduate Certificate in International Education (IE)**

The Graduate Certificate in International Education prepares graduate students for careers in international education, including but not limited to education abroad, international student services, and placement in other international organizations which support the exchange of students in higher education. This certificate is designed for any University of Kentucky graduate student (or admitted post-baccalaureate student) wishing to enhance their graduate degree.

The curriculum combines nine hours of core courses and six hours of elective coursework. Students receive a foundation in comparative higher education, organization and administration in higher education, and student services. Through elective courses appropriate to student interests, students will develop a regional area of cultural expertise and participate in at least one professional vocational experience with an emphasis on developing skills in evaluation/assessment, management, and program development. Although the certificate does not require language coursework as part of the curriculum, participants must establish their language proficiency relative to their professional and regional concentration so that they are prepared to be effective and competitive in the field.

Particular base skills and knowledge developed in the certificate include:

- understanding how formal education operates within and across nations
  (coursework in: comparative/international education; higher education)
- familiarity with programming, services, laws and regulations for students entering and enrolled in higher education
  (coursework in: student services, higher education)
- intercultural understanding and communication
  (world language experience, international in situ experience, regional area studies)
- professional experience
  (work experience, internship, graduate assistantship; elective coursework in program evaluation or research design)

**Learning Objectives:**

In addition to the rich set of experiences each student brings from their home graduate department, the proposed certificate is intended to provide the following additional skills and knowledge sets:

- Knowledge of best practices in undergraduate Student Services, including Education Abroad and International Student Services.
- A comparative understanding of academic policies, organization and administration of higher education institutions in the United States and abroad.
- An understanding of how to identify program learning objectives behind international study and affective frameworks for evaluation and assessment of those goals.
- An ability to design recruitment, orientation, program implementation, and follow up activities for an assortment of international education programming, including developing budgets and data management systems.
Course of Study (18 Credits)

Required Courses (9 Credits):

EPE 555 Comparative Education (3): This course introduces the use of comparative study for global and cross-cultural examination of education. The course uses selected educational systems, with an emphasis on the peoples of Asia and Africa, to learn about education in cultural, political, economic, and historical contexts. Comparison will be made of educational structures, institutions, policies and pedagogies as they engage their socio-political contexts at the local, state, international levels. Concepts addressed include globalization, democracy and postcolonialism, markets, and equity and social justice. The course reviews the various methods of comparison used to study policy, programs and change from an international perspective.

EPE 632 Student Services (3): This course focuses on students services (broadly defined) and those who work with college and university students outside of the academic arena. The course not only surveys the history of student services but critically examines its theoretical bases and current practices with special attention paid to the relationship between student services and other segments of campus, including education abroad and international student services.

EPE 676 Organization and Administration in Higher Education (3): This course introduces the purposes and scope of higher education, organization, general administration, faculty administration, inter-institutional cooperation, and allocation of financial resources. Students also explore different state systems of higher education in the US, international models of higher education and relationships within higher education areas.

Elective Courses (9 Credits): In consultation with their department advisor and the Certificate Director, students should choose three electives with an eye toward developing in-depth area of professional expertise for a particular “field”. Because of the breadth of possibilities for regional study, a complete list of approved courses is unreasonable. The choice of focus for an individual’s graduate certificate will depend on that person’s undergraduate coursework, professional and personal experience prior to entering the certificate program, professional goals, and graduate degree/s major. Students must therefore work with the Certificate Director and their major professor or program advisor to design the best course of study for their needs using the attached Course of Study & Regional Concentration Proposal form.

Additional Recommendations for Planning the Course of Study:

Language Proficiency: The level of language proficiency recommended of each individual will be determined in consultation with the Certificate Director in light of the student’s professional and regional concentration. All certificate students will be required to have completed the minimum world language proficiency level set for UK undergraduates and many will be expected to reach an intermediate-mid ACTFL level. These are understood as minimum requirements, ones that can be raised by the Director in consultation with individual students. On a case-by-case basis, the Certificate Director will determine whether a more advanced level of proficiency is appropriate based on what language experiences and proficiency fit the individual’s career goals in relation to the certificate. We deliberately have left this flexible as some careers in international education with a focus on student services require more global expertise rather than a high level of bilingualism. At the same time, individuals must have some experience of learning and using a second language in order to work effectively in multilingual, multicultural contexts. Sufficient language experience (although perhaps not fluency) is critical to effectively understand the challenges that students participating in international exchange encounter. Thus, language proficiency, in this context, also implies the ability to assess different study abroad programs on a basic level, in terms of their approach to language learning. Students are expected to describe
the level of language proficiency they have obtained relative to their professional and regional concentration in the attached Course of Study & Regional Competency Proposal form.

**Professional Competence:** To complete the certificate, candidates must demonstrate competency in an area of professional practice appropriate to their interests. This may include methods of management, evaluation and assessment, event planning, faculty and program development. These may be acquired through internship or other forms of experiential learning (e.g. graduate assistantship). Students pursuing this certificate are strongly encouraged to apply for internship and experiential learning opportunities abroad. Some experience of international living is a requirement. That experience may have occurred prior to beginning the certificate. Students will be expected to provide evidence of their professional competency as part of their Course of Study & Regional Competency Proposal form.

**Certificate Admission Process**

This certificate is designed for students pursuing graduate degrees in higher education or students pursuing other graduate degrees who wish to add a practical international component. Post-baccalaureate students are also eligible to apply for the IE certificate. Graduate students in the following areas of study are especially encouraged to apply for this International Education certificate program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Anthropology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modern &amp; Classical</td>
<td>Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>International Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic Studies</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Diplomacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Behavioral Science</td>
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**Application Process:** Application for the IE Certificate must be made before completion of coursework for the certificate. Award of the Graduate Certificate in International Education requires formal admission to the certificate, approval of a Course of Study Worksheet and Certificate Completion Worksheet. Admission to the IE Certificate Program requires that applicants:

- Satisfy requirements of the graduate school for admission to certificates (see the Guidelines for Graduate Certificates).
- Submit a letter of support from the graduate advisor (for current graduate students), DGS (for new graduate students), or research supervisor (for postdoctoral students). Individuals who are non-degree-seeking, have already received their doctorate or other terminal degree, and/or who are enrolling at UK only for the Certificate must submit two letters of recommendation.
- Complete the certificate application form.

**Admissions Process:** Applicants who are not currently matriculating for a graduate degree at the University of Kentucky must first secure admission to the Graduate School as post-baccalaureate students. Admission to the Graduate School must, in all cases, precede admission to the International Education Graduate Certificate Curriculum. Please notice that some requirements for the IE Graduate Certificate Course of Study exceed minimum requirements of the Graduate School for Post-baccalaureate status. For this reason, as well as others, admission to the Graduate School does not guarantee admission to the International Education Graduate Certificate Course of Study.
Applications will be reviewed by the Certificate Director to assure that the student has met the University of Kentucky enrollment requirements, is a student in good standing, has clearly articulated goals for professional development in this field that can be met through completion of the certificate, and has the support of their home department.

Certificate Administration
The Certificate director is Dr. Beth L. Goldstein, Department of Educational Policy Studies & Evaluation. She can be contacted at bethg@uky.edu and by phone at 859/257-2705.

The Certificate is further guided by an advisory committee comprised of faculty from the targeted graduate programs described above along with one professional staff person from the Office of International Affairs. These individuals serve three year, renewable appointments. This committee regularly review curriculum requirements, consider student petitions for course inclusion, assess quality of the experiential learning components, and evaluate overall program quality.
Graduate Certificate in International Education
Course of Study & Regional Competency Proposal

Name ____________________________________________SSN or Student ID___ / _ / ___

Graduate Program ________________________________________________________________

Graduate Advisor ________________________________________________________________

Date of Application ______________________________________________________________

Professional Goal ________________________________________________________________

**Proposed Course Work (18 hrs)**

- EPE 555 Comparative Education (3 hrs)
- EPE 632 Student Services (3 hrs)
- EPE 676 Organization & Administration in Higher Education (3 Hrs)
- Elective ____________________________
- Elective ____________________________
- Elective ____________________________

**Professional Preparation:**

**Statement of Language Proficiency** (To what extent are you prepared to meet the minimum language requirements* of your professional and regional concentration?):

*Please attach any evidence of language competency testing results if appropriate.

**Statement of Professional Competency** (In what ways are you particularly prepared to meet the professional requirements** of an international education position?):

** Please attach description of your international living, study, and/or working experiences and evidence of your skills such as artifacts of these as appropriate.

For more information, contact Dr. Beth L. Goldstein, Certificate Director, at bethg@uky.edu or 859/257-2705.