

HONORS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

Complete this proposal **prior** to your project's start date and upload it in the UHP Database (<https://webapps.uc.edu/uchonorsstudent>). Create a project ("Add a new record") in the "Tracking Project" tab and then upload your proposal document as an attachment. The deadline for [submitting proposals](#) is on the 5th of each month.

While the quality of the proposal is most important, strong proposals are typically 3-4 pages in length (single-spaced). Please maintain the proposal format.

Basic Information

Full Name: Lindsey Schneider
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 College: McMicken College of Arts and Sciences
 Major: Organizational Leadership – HR Track
 Title of Project: Changemakers in Peru
 Thematic Area (choose only one): Global Studies
 Expected Project Start Date: March 12, 2015
 Expected Project End Date: March 22, 2015

Project Information

1. Provide a detailed abstract of your proposed honors experiential learning project.

During the 2015 spring semester, I will be enrolled in a course called OLHR2011: "Changemakers - Lessons Learned Through Travel in the Developing World." This is an Organizational Leadership course that includes a 10-day study abroad component in Peru. The Changemakers course is designed to provide us with an opportunity learn about various global and social issues and the role of social entrepreneurship in addressing those issues. A particular focus of this class is on issues affecting developing countries. Our travels in Lima, Peru will give us the opportunity to learn from a wide range of organizations that are working for social change and truly "changing the world." These organizations address issues such as economic inequality, gender inequality, environmental concerns, and health and education issues. I will experience such realities and gain first-hand knowledge of the complexity of these issues during the study abroad part of the course. Upon returning to the U.S., I will be given an opportunity to reflect upon what I have learned and develop a short-term action plan articulating the steps I can take as an individual to affect positive change on an issue I will study.

Our first few days in Peru are focused on observing and supporting non-profit organization addressing various social issues in Peru. The remainder of the trip provides an opportunity to explore modern Lima and historical Cuzco, Peru to delve into two extremely different Peruvian cultures. We will also spend a day at the 15th-century Incan ruin, Machu Pichu, one of the 7 Modern Wonders of the World.

<Insert Itinerary, currently unavailable.>

Clearly and thoroughly address how each of the following elements will be exhibited in your work:

2. Connection to Learning Outcomes within the Honors Thematic Area (identified above)
- Possess global literacy, including knowledge of geography, history, current world issues and similarities and differences among cultures
 - My trip to Peru has two components, and the second of these components involves exploring the historical Peruvian city of Cuzco and visiting the pinnacle of Peruvian history, the Incan city of

Machu Pichu. Though these opportunities, in addition to the time traveling from Lima to Cuzco, I will learn about Peruvian geography and history, as well as this the effect of Peruvian culture and history on other nations and cultures.

- By traveling to Peru and diving into social issues affecting this country through the eyes of non-profit organizations, I will have the priceless opportunity to explore current world issues and analyze the similarities and differences between America and Peru. During the trip, I will be focusing on a specific issue in the developing world that highlights the difference between my life and the life of someone in a developing country. I will be creating a short-term action plan to address this issue.
- Interact with individuals from different cultures and express a sensitivity, appreciation and respect for the complex range of experiences of diverse peoples
 - A significant portion of this trip will be spent engaging in service learning in tandem with non-profit organizations in Peru. Thus, I will have the opportunity to interact with many individuals from a variety of backgrounds, ranging from the directors of these organizations to the people and families who benefit from these programs. I look forward to speaking with these people and gaining a better understanding of their situations and cultures.

3. Connection to Goals and Academic Theories (include reference list, as appropriate)

A. In regards to my personal goals, it is my desire to travel abroad at least three times during my collegiate experience, and Machu Pichu has long been etched upon my bucket list. This program is a natural choice because it is an organizational leadership course, and thus, it coincides with my academic growth as an organizational leadership major. I love traveling, but the prospect of unfamiliar languages and cultures and the developing world certainly makes me nervous. This anxiety is exactly how I know that this program would be beneficial to me. If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you. There's a fabulous quote by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf that goes, "If your dreams don't scare you, they're not big enough." It is my goal to dream beautiful dreams, to dream scary dreams. It is my personal goal to make those beautiful, scary dreams into beautiful, life-changing realities.

As for my professional goals, as an Organizational Leadership major, so the content of this course and program speaks to my educational pursuits. One potential career path I am examining is the world of non-profit organizations, and this program offers wonderful opportunities to learn about and work with non-profit organizations in Peru. This experience will be priceless in furthering my understanding of where I hope to steer my education and career path.

B. I will be utilizing two required reading books for this course and also the travel blog of "Nomadic Matt" to prepare and gain background for this trip and project.

- *The Last Days of the Incas* by Kim McQuarrie: This book tells the epic story of the fall of the Inca Empire to Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro in the aftermath of a bloody civil war, and the recent discovery of the lost guerrilla capital of the Incas, Vilcabamba, by three American explorers. This book will help me gain an understanding of Peruvian history as it relates to the conquest of the Incan Empire in order to achieve the learning outcome of possess global literacy and history of the country I'm visiting.
- *The Peru Reader: History, Culture, Politics* by Orin Starn, et al. This volume covers Peru's history from its extraordinary pre-Columbian civilizations to its citizens' twenty-first-century struggles to achieve dignity and justice in a multicultural nation where Andean, African, Amazonian, Asian, and European traditions meet. The collection presents a vast array of essays, folklore, historical documents, poetry, songs, short stories, autobiographical accounts, and photographs. This book will again help me develop a background in Peruvian history, culture, and politics so that I can maximize my time in Peru.
- *Nomadic Matt- Travel Better, Cheaper, and Longer*: This blog is full of excellent tips and wisdom about traveling abroad. With over 5 years of backpacking and traveling experience, the author of this blog offers priceless insight about how to get the most out of traveling. This resource will help me gain background about etiquette, packing, and preparing for my experience in a different country.

4. Initiative, Independence, and/or Creativity

As an Organizational Leadership major and someone with several years of experience working with non-profits and domestic travel, I believe I will be a helpful addition to this group of students as we support non-profits during our studies. In addition, I love team environments and I know that I will be an asset to the community that will form during our travels.

I have demonstrated initiative by embracing my goal to study abroad and searching for a program that is right for me. I applied for my passport and applied for the program before the deadline.

5. Reflection

I plan to actively reflect on my travels by journaling each night during my time in Peru and asking the following questions.

- What did you do today?
- Who did you meet?
- What's the most important lesson you learned today?
- What did you see today that reminded you of home?
- What did you see today that is utterly Peruvian?
- Overall feelings about the day?

In addition, I plan to take videos each day and compile them into a chronological mash-up of my experiences.

6. Dissemination

I plan to share this experience with the high school students who are apart of the FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) chapter at my school. A large component of FCCLA involves college and career preparation, in addition to becoming a global citizen and leader in today's society. The story of my opportunities at UC in additions to the lessons I learned traveling to Peru could have a major impact on young people in FCCLA. I plan to visit the school and speak to each Family and Consumer Sciences class (total of 160 students) about the lessons I learned about the developing world and how it relates to their projects in FCCLA and how they can become global citizens. In addition, I will be cataloging my pictures via Instagram and Facebook for my peers to see and read about.

7. Project Advisor(s)

The course is taught by:

Jonathan Weller, PhD
 University of Cincinnati
 Director, International Admissions
 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Organizational Leadership

In addition to teaching the course, OLHR2011, Dr. Weller will also be one of the faculty members escorting us on this trip. He will assist us in understanding Peruvian culture and will be our guide in identifying how to be a Changemaker in the developing world.

8. Budget (if applicable)

Program Costs

What amenities are provided?

- Housing / Accommodations
 - All hotels; professional translator; entrance fees and private guides at historical sites - including Machu Picchu
- Meals
 - All breakfasts and some lunches and/or dinners

- Transportation
 - International airfare from Cincinnati to Peru; group transportation within Peru

How much will it cost to participate?

- Room & Board - Included in program fee
- Airfare - included in program fee
- UC International Block Grant: \$600
- Tuition
 - 3 credit hour course applied to spring schedule

Total Program Costs

\$3,500 (includes all items above line). With the block grant factored in, students will be expected to pay \$2,900.