



CWIL Student Travel Grant for Surcharge Programs (Oxford Program)

Year 2021-2022

Saint Mary's College's mission includes preparing women to make a difference in an increasingly complex and interdependent world. The role of the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) within this mission is to foster the intercultural knowledge and competence critical to educating the next generation of women leaders. To achieve this, CWIL promotes intercultural engagement across the Saint Mary's campus, connecting with communities at the local, state, national and global levels. We understand intercultural engagement to consist of two essential parts which combine to result in growth: one is interacting across the boundaries that define identities, circumscribe participation, and shape encounters, and the other is reflection on and interpretation of the complexities of those interactions. Such boundaries include, but are not limited to, race, ethnicity, area of origin, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, educational level, sexual orientation, age, varying ability, and language. Everything we do or support must, in some explicit way, promote this kind of transformative intercultural engagement.

To achieve this CWIL mission, we build collaborative relationships throughout the campus and Michiana, and encourage partnering across departments, disciplines, and other traditional dividing lines. We organize our work into the distinct, but richly interconnected components of Scholarship, Community Connections, and International and Intercultural Learning. We bridge global and domestic diversity issues, mindful of the distinctions between these but also of their commonalities. We highlight the roles of women in relation to these issues, study the interconnections between gender and culture, and conduct all of our work to the end of developing women leaders. Rooted in this developmental approach, we challenge and support individuals and groups to take the next steps toward deeper intercultural experience, more sophisticated grappling with issues of difference such as power and privilege, and greater awareness of their own potential as change agents

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The CWIL Student Travel Grant provides funding to encourage students to participate in international education, a distinct goal of the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership. Increasing intercultural understanding and knowledge through interaction and reflection is a key objective of CWIL and Saint Mary's College. By participating in an international program of study which emphasizes intercultural engagement, grantees will enhance their own learning and enrich the College environment with new connections and perspectives.

ELIGIBILITY:

- A student must matriculate for at least one semester before and after the completion of her grant. Therefore in most cases, Saint Mary's First Years, Sophomores, and Juniors may apply for *CWIL Student Travel Grant on a Saint Mary's Program*. Students are eligible to receive a maximum of one *CWIL Student Travel Grant* during their degree program.
- Grant funding must be used for the programs that have a surcharge. Participants of all other semester programs are not considered.
- Funding will be a percentage of program costs based on financial need. Student financial need is determined by the Financial Aid Office and based on the current FAFSA on file at the start of the academic school year. Students who do not have financial need are not qualified for the grant.
- The program aims to support a diverse range of students who have been traditionally under-represented in study abroad. **Additional funds will be available for:**
 - Students from diverse ethnic backgrounds
 - Students going to non-traditional countries
 - Students in underrepresented fields of study, especially the STEM fields
 - Students of first generation



APPLICATION: Student Travel Grant for Study Abroad on Saint Mary's Programs

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

1. **Intercultural Learning Showcase:** Interested students are required to attend the *Intercultural Learning Showcase* on **October 20, 2020**.
2. **Study Abroad Application:** Interested students are required to apply and be accepted to a Saint Mary's College Study Abroad Program to qualify for consideration for the *CWIL Student Travel Grant on a Saint Mary's Program*.
3. **Grant Application Materials:** The *Completed Application* submitted to:
Dr. Alice S. Yang, Interim Director
Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership
syang@saintmarys.edu

APPLICATION MATERIAL TO SUBMIT BY 5:00PM, January 31, 2021

- Essay Proposal (page 2)*
- Application Form (page 3)*
- Participant's Understanding & Agreement (page 3)*
- Program Coordinator Signature (page 3)*

ESSAY PROPOSAL:

Using the outline below, please write a reflective essay of **two to three double spaced pages** addressing the following questions. Feel free to follow the suggested outline, if helpful.

I: Intercultural Consideration

- a. Please share your thoughts about the meaning of intercultural sensitivity.
- b. Please describe your specific intercultural aims for the international program that you have chosen to attend. How do you plan to maximize your intercultural experience?
- c. Describe a previous intercultural experience that you have engaged in at Saint Mary's College. Please reflect on what you perceive as the benefits and values of intercultural experiences.

II: Financial Consideration

- a. If the grant is approved, CWIL will reimburse only a portion of your expenditures. Please describe how you expect to cover the remainder of the expenses?
- b. Please discuss the impact of the grant funding and how you intend to share your experience with the Saint Mary's College community if you are awarded a grant.

APPLICATION FORM:

1. Name _____ Anticipated Graduation Month & Year _____

Campus Email _____ Phone _____

2. International Program _____ Term/Year _____

3. I agree to complete a two-page **reflective essay** on my international and intercultural experience after I return. Reflective essays are due to Dr. Alice S. Yang (syang@saintmarys.edu) by **October 1**.

4. I agree to participate in a **poster presentation** and **paneled presentation** to discuss my experience at the annual *Intercultural Learning Showcase* during the International Education Week.

5. I give my permission to **share my reflective essay and grant proposal**. CWIL will make successful proposals and reflective essays available to serve as models for other students by publishing examples on CWIL's web-site and in other publication sources.

6. I give my permission to CWIL to **contact Saint Mary's Financial Aid Office** for information regarding my financial need. CWIL will keep conversations and records of students' financial need confidential.

PARTICIPANT'S UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT:

In signing this application, I agree to the accuracy of the above information enclosed in this application and all study abroad application materials. I agree, if selected, to abide by the requirements of the grant established by the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership. I understand that if any of the application material is not accurate or if I do not follow through with the grant requirements, the funding may be nullified and I will be responsible for reimbursing the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership for the grant funds. I understand that grants are awarded for purposes described in the proposal and may not be used in support of other activities. The grant will be withdrawn if circumstances invalidate the proposed activity.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

FACULTY COORDINATOR'S APPROVAL:

This student has met with me regarding her interest in the _____ program and I approve her participation.

Program Coordinator's Signature

Date