

The Global Scholars Distinction Learning Contract

The Global Scholars Distinction (GSD) is meant to honor students who distinguish themselves as globally minded scholars and who demonstrate a high quality of intellectual achievement within their international experiences. Students achieving the mark of GSD will receive recognition upon graduation and on their transcript. The GSD can be earned by completing the following:

1) Participation in an SMCM-approved internationally focused experience for a total of 16 credits, specified as:

a) An Integrated Inquiry that either includes or is “capstoned” by an SMCM-approved short-term education abroad program or an SMCM faculty-led study tour; **OR**

b) The completion of a semester-long SMCM-approved study abroad experience.

AND

2) Fulfillment of the final requirements of the Global Scholars Distinction by enrolling in a one-credit GSD Workshop course, taught by a SMCM faculty member. This course will guide and support students to complete the following final requirements:

a) Collaboration with the Office of International Education (OIE) and/or the International Languages and Cultures (ILC) Department to assist in at least one international campus activity, such as helping with the Study Abroad Fair;

b) Presenting their achievements in global learning by putting on a Global Scholars Fair (GSF), held at the end of the semester, which will be open to the whole campus. At the GSF, students will create a display (e.g., poster, slideshow, etc.) and make a presentation, in which they will detail and discuss their IE experience relative to the GSD learning objectives; **AND**

c) Gathering together all of their class projects and papers from their Global Learning classes into an e-portfolio. This e-portfolio will begin with a one-to-two page “Ars Universus” statement, in which Global Scholars articulate their achievement of the GSD learning objectives through their international experiences, including in the classroom, on campus, and as part of their study abroad experience. The portfolio will also include an updated resume that incorporates each student’s IE experience and the professional skills gained through their time abroad and in their internationally focused classes. This portfolio will serve as the chief means of assessing whether the student has met the requirements to graduate with the Global Scholars Distinction.

By selecting “Yes” on this form, you are agreeing to fulfill the requirements of the Global Scholars Distinction, with the goal of graduation with such distinction. You understand that you must register for the 1-credit GSD workshop upon your return from study abroad.