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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Doug Smith, Chair COE Curriculum Committee

**FROM:** Lars Björk, EDL [Director, International Symposium on Educational Reform]

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lars Björk".

**SUBJECT:** EDL 703-720 and EDL 705-720 Course Approvals for Education Abroad (required by UK/IC).

**DATE:** November 11, 2013

The UK Office of International Center (IC) requires that all education abroad programs (EA) are approved by the IC and that courses taught abroad are approved by both the College Curriculum Committee (i.e. College of Education Curriculum Committee).

I have attached copies of the IC Forms submitted for Approval as a reference and submitted the appropriate Forms for consideration by the College of Education Curriculum Committee review and approval and your signature as the Chair of the Courses and Curriculum Committee. This should be sent directly to:

**Ms. Abby Hollander**

University of Kentucky International Center,  
Assistant Director, Education Abroad  
859-323-2134 <[a.hollander@uky.edu](mailto:a.hollander@uky.edu)>  
[www.uky.edu/International](http://www.uky.edu/International)

Both EDL 703-720 Leading Organizational Change (3) and EDL 705-720 International Perspective on Educational Reform are fully approved doctoral-level courses that have been offered in conjunction with the International Symposium on Educational Reform since 2005. However, a condition set by the International Center for offering these courses is that they be annually approved by the College of Education Curriculum Committee. When approved, the University of Kentucky Provost will provide students with a 5 credit hour tuition offset. Students will be required to Enroll in and pay for ISP 599

Study Abroad (1 credit). The Provost's tuition offset has enabled EDL students to reduce the overall cost of attending the International Symposium on Educational Reform (ISER), present peer reviewed research papers, and participate in seminars with international students and faculty.

The IC has developed a web site that describes the ISER Program (South Africa):

[http://abroad.ad.uky.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.BudgetSheet&Term=Summer%202&Program\\_ID=12550](http://abroad.ad.uky.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.BudgetSheet&Term=Summer%202&Program_ID=12550)

In addition, the ISER web site provides information about its history, purpose, and 2014 Conference at: <http://leadership.uky.edu/centers-services/conferences-events/iser/>

Furthermore, The University of Pretoria, Republic of South Africa will host ISER 2014 and has a web site that enables students to register for the ISER 2014 Conference <http://leadership.uky.edu/centers-services/conferences-events/iser/>

<https://celp.worldsecuresystems.com/BookingRetrieve.aspx?ID=67086> . The ISER website provides information about the ISER Conference schedule, Call for Papers so University of Kentucky as well as international students and faculty may submit papers for peer review and if successful present them at the ISER Conference <http://leadership.uky.edu/centers-services/conferences-events/iser/> .

## **ISER: International Symposium on Educational Reform - South Africa**

(June 2 - 13, 2014)

### **Program Overview**

The International Symposium on Education Reform (ISER) was started in 2004 and convened its first conference in 2005 at the University of Kentucky. Institutional members include the University of Jyväskylä in Finland, the University of Pretoria in South Africa, and Umeå University, Sweden and East China Normal University in China. The purpose of ISER is to provide venues for university graduate students, educators, professors, practitioners, and policymakers to examine the wide array of common issues associated with educational.\*

The ISER conference focuses on global educational reform, policy and leadership and includes international keynote speakers, national and state speakers and peer-reviewed papers presented by faculty and graduate students. Since its inception in 2005, the University of Kentucky Educational Leadership Studies department has included two doctoral courses as part of the ISER Conference, EDL 705: International Perspectives on Educational Reform and EDL 703: Leading Organizational Change. UK students will enroll in EDL 705-720 & 703-720 during Summer Session II, when the conference is held. However, all students will participate in pre- and post-conference sessions on the UK Lexington campus prior to and after attending the ISER conference in June.

Starting in 2005; the International Symposium on Educational Reform (ISER) has been convened at:

University of Kentucky, USA - 2005, 2008, 2012

University of Jyväskylä, Finland - 2006, 2009, 2013

East China Normal University, China - 2007, 2011

University of Pretoria, South Africa - 2010, (2014)

### **Highlights**

Promote international understanding of educational systems, reform policies as well as implementation and change processes. Lectures, seminars and research forums lead by prominent international scholars and educators. Doctoral seminars with students from Finland, South Africa, Sweden and China. Visits to local schools and communities. \*For more information visit the ISER: International Symposium on Educational Reform website <http://leadership.uky.edu/centers-services/conferences-events/iser/>

### **Eligibility**

This program is open to graduate students from the College of Education. Students from universities other than UK are welcome to participate in this program as visiting/transient students. For more information on how to apply to the University of Kentucky as a visiting/transient student visit the UK Graduate School Admissions website.

### **Academic Credit**

UK Sponsored programs are conducted by the University of Kentucky faculty. UK GPA credits and grades will be awarded by the program director for the successful and timely completion of all required program activities and assignments, including any required on-campus meetings.

Graduate students have the option of enrolling in one or both of the following courses: EDL 705:720 International Perspectives on Educational Reform (3 credit hours) and/or EDL 703:720 Leading Organizational Change (3 credit hours). All students will be enrolled in ISP 599: Study Abroad (1 credit hour).

### **Housing & Meals**

Students will be making their own hotel arrangements in South Africa. Please see the ISER website for recommended accommodation locations. Tea breaks and some meals will be provided as part of the conference. Participants are responsible for all other meals on their own.

### **Scholarships & Financial Aid**

Students are strongly encouraged to explore all funding opportunities for programs abroad. There are numerous opportunities available based on the area of study, program type, length, and country of destination.

Many financial aid packages (scholarships, loans and grants) used for on-campus study can be applied to education abroad programs. Students who qualify for financial aid should consult with their UK Financial Aid counselor as soon as possible to apply for funding.

The Education Abroad at UK Scholarship - The campus-wide Selection Committee awards need-based scholarships to UK students in the amounts of \$750, \$1,000 and \$1,500. The deadline application material is March 1 for Summer/Fall programs and October 1 for Spring/Winter programs.

Additional Graduate School Funding and/or College of Education Travel Support might be possible for students presenting a paper at an international conference. For more details please contact Dr. Lars Bjork.

For more information about scholarship and funding opportunities, please visit the Education Abroad at UK Financial Aid & Scholarships resource page.

### **Program Costs**

Costs and cancellation policies vary by program, so it is important to review this information very carefully. For more information on program costs, please see the "Fees and Policies" information page (the link is in the program header at the top of this website).

### **Passport & Visa Requirements**

Participants must have a passport valid for at least 6 months after the expected date of return to the U.S. The UK Wildcat ID Center, in the UK Student Center, accepts U.S. Passport applications. For more information about U.S. Passport applications please visit the U.S. Department of State website.

U.S. passport holders are not required to obtain a visa for participation on this program. Participants who wish to extend their stay in the country beyond the program start and end dates and those who are not U.S. passport holders must investigate the visa regulations at the South African Embassy.

### **Travel Medical Insurance**

All participants of this program will be enrolled in HTH Travel Medical Insurance for the duration of the program. The cost of Travel Medical Insurance is included in the program fee. Please see the Education Abroad at UK Health & Safety webpage for more information.

For additional information about this program, please contact:

EA Peer Ambassadors, Education Abroad Resource Center, 315 Bradley Hall

Dr. Lars Bjork, faculty member in the Educational Leadership Studies department at the University of Kentucky, lbjor1@uky.edu. Dr. Bjork will be directing the program.

Mr. Laurence Tuccori, EA Advisor, laurence.tuccori@uky.edu.

The University of Kentucky International Center website includes the following information for graduate students:

In addition, I have provided ISER 2014 Information Sheet and a prototype Flyer that we may use for the Conference hosted by the University of Pretoria that provides information on ISER 2014.

If you have any questions regarding ISER 2013, the EDL 703-720 and EDL 705-720 courses please don't hesitate to ask me. I appreciate your support in EDL offering these courses during Summer II, 2014.