

Mini-grant Project Description and Budget Form

Student Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Please BRIEFLY answer the following questions regarding the proposed project (can be completed by mentor or student). No more than 1 page.

Brief description of mentor's area of expertise or research area (keywords acceptable)

Second Language Acquisition Theory, Russian Language in Interdisciplinary Context, Pedagogical functions of multimedia technologies, Language and Identity

Research question or general area of interest to be pursued

Study the effectiveness of pre-departure orientation to study abroad particularly regarding intercultural communication for a group trip to Taganrog, Russia.

Description of project goals (product(s) to be produced by student during the project)

Based on knowledge gained from books about intercultural communication, student will apply these concepts to study abroad in general and more specifically to the study of Russian culture and second-language acquisition, with the goals of increasing students' interest in and openness towards Russian culture and providing a foundation for their successful immersion in the Russian language. The pre- and post-testing used this year will be used to determine changes needed in syllabus for next year.

Description of educational benefit to student (e.g. research skills to be learned, student's motivation for participating)

Student will increase knowledge of importance of intercultural communication, engage in peer-mentoring and syllabus development, create contacts with collaborating partners from the Taganrog Institute of Technology, and learn basic skills needed for social science research.

Impact on USC or community (if applicable)

This project will have a direct impact on the students in Russian 298, as the survey and follow-up discussions will be considered part of the course work. The project will also impact the future of the Taganrog program by providing feedback on the value of the pre-departure orientation course that can be used to develop plans for next year's program. The project has the potential to influence other departmental study abroad programs, who may wish to create or enhance pre-departure orientation programs with the same kind of intercultural training.

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List all materials, supplies, travel expenses including registration, lodging, local transportation with estimates)

Item	Cost
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Following books are not available through USC library system, interlibrary loan, or Study Abroad office. Books will remain part of departmental resources.

<i>Acquisition in Interlanguage Pragmatics: Learning how to do things with words in a study abroad context</i> , Barron	\$169.00
<i>Intercultural Communication Training in Cultural Self-Awareness for Study Abroad International Education</i> , Bennett	\$91.00
<i>Maximizing Study Abroad</i> , Paige, Cohen, Kappler, Chi, Lassegard	\$9.99
<i>Oral Communication: Speaking Across Cultures</i> , Samovar	\$55.95
Additional shipping costs	\$25.00

Grand Total	\$350.00
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