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Mission:

Students graduating from Auburn University should possess skills necessary to operate in a global environment. In rank order skills should include: 1) understanding the history of different world views, 2) knowledge of current world events through critical analysis of information sources, 3) basic level of operation in a foreign language, 4) awareness of how one's discipline functions in other cultures. Auburn recognizes these skills as fundamental to a university education in the 21st century.

Recommendations:

The position of Senior International Officer, Associate Provost level, with support staff, will be created to manage the Office of International Education (OIE) and coordinate all international skill-building efforts.

AU foreign language offerings will include those used in the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish, and Russian in addition to English) plus Korean and Japanese.

Students will participate in a core curriculum sequence with the opportunity to engage in three additional international skill-building options, illustrated below*. Students completing a specified number of optional activities will be awarded international skills certification. While the international skills emphasis will not impact existing credit hour / time requirements for degree completion, skills certification may. Prior to each semester the AU / OIE will publish a list of the top ten upcoming, on campus, international skill-building resources (exhibits, performances, films, lectures, etc.)

Colleges/schools will develop a system to validate student participation in international skill-building options. Faculty accomplishment in international scholarship and student skill development will be acknowledged in the annual review and promotion / tenure processes. On campus housing/meal plans will be available to international students/faculty and non-internationals developing international skills.

Required of all undergraduate Auburn University students:

Basic foreign language proficiency will be preferred for admission. Students and faculty will be encouraged to acquire a Passport. Required core curriculum courses will emphasize international skills/awareness. Each college/school will make available existing courses, relevant to expansion of international skills (world art, religions, ecology, economics, etc.) that can serve as core curriculum alternatives. The development of a student's ability to extract a single foreign culture's impact (France: art, religion, geography, economics, etc.) from diverse core course offerings is required.

*** Option #1 General student access, extracurricular:**

Students can participate in university sponsored international experiences (visiting lectures-ambassadors / consul generals, performances, exhibitions, international student fairs, etc.) see OIE top ten list. Participation will be monitored through swipe card check in / out. Freshman, on campus Living / Learning Communities, will offer cross cultural residency experiences.

*** Option #2 Limited student access, study abroad:**

Students can participate in university supported (existing tuition waiver), for credit / three week (minimum) study abroad experiences. These experiences can be reinforced during the semester by on campus class meetings before and/or after the study abroad. AU offers the Human Odyssey core curriculum experience and most colleges/schools have discipline specific abroad programs in place. A three week program length may allow students to cover the program cost, with tuition waiver savings, and provide an adequate international immersion experience. Participation in foreign travel programs will require payment of a per semester International Education fee, which will directly support the AU / OIE.

*** Option #3 Limited student access, foreign language elective:**

Students can complete an elective 9 credit hour foreign language sequence.