



*The Bernard P. McDonough Center  
for Leadership and Business  
at Marietta College*

## **EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION AND SERVICE-LEARNING OFFICE**

### **International Experience Reflection Paper Prompt**

As part of your international experience, you must write a reflective paper about your experiences. This paper will be a course requirement for LEAD 401/403, the capstone for your minor in Leadership Studies or International Leadership Studies major.

***NOTE: Though this paper is not due until your capstone course (typically the spring of your senior year), you should write this paper as soon as possible upon your return while your experiences are still fresh in your mind.***

#### **Paper requirements:**

- Respond to the prompts in a narrative format; in other words, it should read like a continuous essay, rather than a question/answer format. You may use headings if you wish.
- Minimum of 5-7 pages, typed and double spaced
- Times New Roman or Arial font
- 1" margins

**Respond to the following questions:**

1. Describe your international experience. Consider all of the following that are applicable based on your experience:
  - What were some of the major ideas, concepts, etc. you learned about during your course work?
  - How did your course work differ from your experience in traditional U.S. classrooms?
  - What service experiences did you have, if any?
  - What projects were you involved in, if any?
  
2. Reflect on what you have learned about leadership during your international experience. Provide specific examples when possible.
  
3. Reflect on what you have learned about your other areas of study (other majors, minors, or certificates) during your international experience. Provide specific examples when possible.
  
4. What insights do you have about the culture you have experienced?
  - Do these insights have any implications for the study and practice of leadership?
  - In comparison to the U.S., did you see any key differences in the relationships between genders? Socioeconomic classes? Other groups?
  - What are the expectations for leaders within this culture?
  
5. What did you observe about the level of civic engagement in this particular culture?
  - Is service embedded in the culture? Explain, providing examples if possible.
  - What is the nature and level of political involvement of people in your age group? In the general population?