Texas A&M University

Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional

1. This request is submitted by the Department of ____________________________

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: ____________________________

3. Catalog course description (not to exceed 50 words): ____________________________

4. Prerequisite(s): ____________________________

5. Is this a variable credit course? □ Yes □ No If yes, from ________ to ________

6. Is this a repeatable course? □ Yes □ No If yes, this course may be taken ________ times.
Will this course be repeated within the same semester? □ Yes □ No

7. Has this course been taught as 489/689? □ Yes □ No If yes, how many times? ________
Indicate the number of students enrolled for each academic period it was taught. Will be offered as 689 in Spring 2010

8. This course will be:
   a. required for students enrolled in the following degree programs(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)
      No
   b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)
      M.S. and Ph.D. in Agronomy and Soil Science

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix Course # Title (excluding punctuation) Approval recommended by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title (excluding punctuation)</th>
<th>Approval recommended by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCSC</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>NATRES &amp; AG SUSTAIN IN UK</td>
<td>Wayne Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lect.</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>SCH CIP and Fund Code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0    10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin. Unit</td>
<td>Acad. Year</td>
<td>FICE Code</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20   10 - 11</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chair, College Review Committee

Dean of College

Submitted to Coordinating Board by:

Associate Director, Curricular Services

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201 or sandra.williams@tamu.edu.

Curricular Services – 12/08
Texas A&M University

Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional
• Submit original form and attach a course syllabus.

1. This request is submitted by the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: SCSC 623 Environmental Sustainability in Europe

3. Catalog course description (not to exceed 50 words): Experience cultural differences; compare sustainability of Scottish and U.S. agriculture; soil and water resource conservation and management; agronomic, horticultural, and animal agriculture; environment and engineering associated with hydropower; cultural areas of interest near Aberdeen and Edinburgh

4. Prerequisite(s): Approval of Instructor

5. Is this a variable credit course? □ Yes □ No

6. Is this a repeatable course? □ Yes □ No

7. Has this course been taught as a 489/689? □ Yes □ No

8. This course will be:

   a. required for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)

      No

   b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)

      M.S. and Ph.D. in Agronomy and Soil Science

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix Course # Title (excluding punctuation)

    SC SC SC 6 2 3 ENV IR O SUSTAIN IN EUROPE

    L ect Lab S C H CIP and Fund Code Admin. Unit Acad. Year H EC Code

    0 3 0 0 0 3 0 1 1 1 0 2 0 0 5 2 6 2 0 0 9 1 0 0 0 3 6 3 2

    Approval recommended by: Wayne Smith

    Department Head - Type Name & Sign Date

    Department Head - Type Name & Sign (if cross-listed course) Date

    Submitted to Coordinating Board by:

    Associate Director, Curricular Services

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201 or sandra-williams@tamu.edu
Curricular Services – 12/08
SYLLABUS
SCSC 623 Environmental Sustainability in UK

INSTRUCTORS
Dr Jacqueline Aitkenhead-Peterson
Assistant Professor of Urban Water and Nutrient Management
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 845-3682
E-mail: jpeterson@ag.tamu.edu
Office: 620 Heep Center

Dr Cristine Morgan
Assistant Professor of Soil Science
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 845-3603
Email: cmorgan@ag.tamu.edu
Office: 545 Heep Center

CREDITS: 03 Not repeatable

PREREQUISITE: Instructor Approval

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Five hours of orientation meetings in the Spring Semester, and travel to Scotland in the month of May. Students will compare Scottish and US agriculture, culture and sustainability through information provided by instructor, gathering resource information and writing a report and journal based on prior learning and being immersed in the country for 11 days. Students will: learn about and see heterogeneous range of soils, sustainability and use of water resources and forest conservation and management in Scotland; learn about the different cultures of peoples across Scotland; tour and learn about Scottish soils, rivers and watersheds. Farm, crop and animal farm management and horticulture will be included. Engineering features including the Grand Union Canal and Falkland Wheel, Ben Cruach Hydropower and methods used to sustain salmon fisheries will be examined. Students will see and learn about several points of interest including, but not limited to Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
The student will be able to:
1. Compare components of Scottish and US agriculture, such as commodities, equipment and farming management and soil management.
2. Compare Scottish and US culture, such as history, ethnic diversity, towns and cities, architecture, rich vs poor housing, and government structure.
3. Properly cite references for reports.
4. Apply travel experiences to the US, such as road abundance and condition, transportation methods, ease of traveling from one county to the next and airport security and management.
5. Gain a global and international perspectives.
GRADING SYSTEM: For 3 hours of credit one oral (20%), one written report (25%), class participation (15%), a daily trip log book/journal (20%) and a PowerPoint presentation after the trip (25%) are required. The oral report will be based upon a pre-trip topic selected from a list provided by the professors at the second pre-trip class. This report will be given during the trip at the appropriate location for that topic. The final written report will be a 10 page report comparing Scottish and United States agriculture, culture or sustainability, based upon the trip. The log-book/journal should include the student's recommendations for improving the study abroad, and how the student learned more about himself/herself during the study abroad. A copy of the final report and the daily log book will be due three weeks after returning to the United States. Each graduate student will present a 15 minute seminar on one aspect of Scottish vs United States forestry, farming, culture, history etc. One point will be deducted from the final average for every day that the final report and log book are late. The report must be typed using 12 point font and double spaced. Grades will be given to individual assignments as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral report</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final written report</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log book/Journal</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerPoint seminar (graduate students only)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation and conduct while abroad</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRADING SCALE:
A: 90 – 100  
B: 80 – 89  
C: 70 – 79  
D: 60 – 69  
F: <60

MAKE-UP POLICY: Completion of assignments and participation in all activities of the class are the responsibility of the student. Participation in pre-trip classes, in country travel, and post trip report are necessary for students to achieve the objectives of this course. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to present a valid reason, such as a signed medical excuse from a doctor, to be given consideration in the assessment of timeliness and submission of assignments. Assignments not returned will be given a grade of zero.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement
The following ADA Policy Statement (part of the Policy on Individual Disabling Conditions) was submitted to the University Curriculum Committee by the Department of Student Life. The policy statement was forwarded to the Faculty Senate for information. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statue that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Cain Hall, Room B118, call 845-1637 or visit: http://disability.tamu.edu.
Aggie Honor Code
“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System.

Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M University community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit: [http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/](http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/).

Excused Absences

7.1 The student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor to substantiate the reason for absence. Among the reasons absences are considered excused by the university are the following:

7.1.6 Injury or illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.

7.1.6.1 Injury or illness of three or more days. For injury or illness that requires a student to be absent from classes for three or more university business days (to include classes on Saturday), the student should obtain a medical confirmation note from his or her medical provider. The Student Health Center or an off-campus medical professional can provide a medical confirmation note only if medical professionals are involved in the medical care of the student. The medical confirmation note must contain the date and time of the illness and medical professional's confirmation of needed absence.

7.1.6.2 Injury or illness less than three days. Faculty members may require confirmation of student injury or illness that is serious enough for a student to be absent from class for a period less than three university business days (to include classes on Saturday). At the discretion of the faculty member and/or academic department standard, as outlined in the course syllabus, illness confirmation may be obtained by one or both of the following methods:

a. Texas A&M University Explanatory Statement for Absence from Class form available at [http://attendance.tamu.edu](http://attendance.tamu.edu)
b. Confirmation of visit to a health care professional affirming date and time of visit.

7.1.6.3 An absence for a non acute medical service does not constitute an excused absence.

To view all Student Rules, please go to: [http://student-rules.tamu.edu/](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/)

To view Rule 7 of the Student Rules please go to: [http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm)

On all course work, assignments, and examinations at Texas A&M University, the following Honor Pledge shall be preprinted and signed by the student:

“On my honor, as an Aggie, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.”
TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Pre-Departure Meetings
Five one hour meetings will take place one month before departure.
Meeting 1: History and Culture of Scotland
Meeting 2: Scottish vs. English Law and Legislation. Scotland as a member of the European Union
Meeting 3: Environment and Sustainability in Scotland
Meeting 5: What to pack. Emergency contact information exchange.

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Day of Trip (Contact Hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Getting to Scotland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Pre-trip orientations</td>
<td>(5 in Spring Semester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Plane trip</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. ABERDEENSHIRE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Tour Marischal College, Kings College Chapel, Maritime Museum</td>
<td>2 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Dee Valley: Hill Farming, Silviculture and Wilderness Areas</td>
<td>3 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. EDINBURGH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Travel to Edinburgh via Pitlochry Dam and Grand Union Canal</td>
<td>4 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Edinburgh City: Greyfriars, Royal Botanical Gardens, Castle</td>
<td>5 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. SCOTTISH BORDERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Dun Law Wind Farm, Mill Towns</td>
<td>6 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Farm tours</td>
<td>7 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. WEST COAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Ben Cruach Power Station, Whiskey Distillery</td>
<td>8-9 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Leault Sheep Farm</td>
<td>10 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI ABERDEEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Departure for USA</td>
<td>11 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total trip</td>
<td>11 (66)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Texas A&M University – College Station

PROPOSAL TO TEACH COURSES OUTSIDE THE U.S. DURING SUMMER 2010

Galveston faculty should use the Texas A&M-Galveston form

**Instructions**

1. College Station Faculty: Submit to the Study Abroad Program Policy Committee (SAPPC) member of your college by 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2009.
2. Proposals must be submitted using this current form.
3. Incomplete proposals or proposals received after the deadline stated may not be considered for matching faculty salary funding through Study Abroad Enhancement Funding (SAEF) should such monies be available.

In order to comply with state regulations required by The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) *(Texas Administrative Code - Out of State & Foreign Courses)* and Texas A&M University regulations, all information in this proposal must be provided each time a course is proposed to be taught outside the United States. All proposals are reviewed by the Study Abroad Program Policy Committee (SAPPC).

**Before submitting this application to the Study Abroad Programs Office, please check that the following have been done:**

- [x] Complete a separate proposal for EACH location
- [x] Complete all sections of the application form
- [x] Include a syllabus for EACH proposed Texas A&M course (including 485s/685s). This syllabus should not be the same as one used on campus and must show links to the foreign country that support the rationale for studying in that country, explaining any pre- or post-program elements.
- [x] Obtain all required signatures: yours, all collaborating TAMU faculty, and your collaborating faculty’s department head. The dean’s signature will be obtained by your college SAPPC representative.
- [x] Include a CV *(no longer than two pages)* for EACH faculty member
- [ ] Include a support letter from the contact person at the Texas A&M location abroad if the program will use one of these locations.
- [x] An original and 5 copies of the signed proposal, CV, and course syllabi must be received by your college SAPPC representative: **by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2009.**

---

1. **Name of Program:** Environmental Sustainability in Europe

2. **Approximate departure and return dates:** (MM/DD/YY) 05/16/2010 to 05/27/2010

**Note:**
According to state regulation, “All courses offered in a shortened format will consist of the same number of contact hours, normally 45-48, as courses offered in a regular or summer session. Students will not carry more courses at a time in a shortened format than will give them total credit of one semester-credit-hour per week of instruction. (Section 5.7, Subchapter A). Pre- or post-travel class sessions will be scheduled to attain the required minimum length standard.” If
your program will include pre- or post-travel class sessions to meet this time limitation, please explain when and where these would take place and include them in the syllabus.

3. Proposed location(s) of program:

Country(ies) SCOTLAND City(ies) ABERDEEN, EDINBURGH, KELSO

4. Do you plan to use a Texas A&M University location abroad for all or part of this program abroad?

X No
Yes
If yes,  
1) please be sure to attach a letter of support from the contact listed below as per University guidelines available at http://studyabroad.tamu.edu/faculty.asp.
2) Which location abroad do you propose to use?
   ___ Santa Chiara Study Center in Castiglione Fiorentino, Italy (Contact: Paolo Barucchieri, Director, pbarucchieri@ipomail.tamu.edu, http://studyabroad.tamu.edu/santa_chiaera/)
   ___ Texas A&M University Center in Mexico (Contact: Jennifer Brown, Director, jgbrown@ipomail.tamu.edu, http://olap.tamu.edu/)
   ___ Soltis Education and Research Center in Costa Rica (Contact: Eugenio Gonzalez, egonzalez@ipomail.tamu.edu)
   ___ Texas A&M Qatar (Contact: Prasad Enjeti, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, prasad.enjeti@qatar.tamu.edu, http://www.qatar.tamu.edu/)

5. Lead Faculty Member: This will be the primary contact for this program, responsible for all paperwork and any working funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: J Aitkenhead-Peterson</th>
<th>College Station Department: Soil and Crop Sciences</th>
<th>Phone: 979-845-3682</th>
<th>Mail Stop: 2474</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fax Number:</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:jpeterson@ag.tamu.edu">jpeterson@ag.tamu.edu</a></td>
<td>College Station Office Location: 620 Heep Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Other Texas A&M Faculty Members teaching in this program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: C Morgan</th>
<th>College Station Department: Soil and Crop Sciences</th>
<th>Phone: 979 845 3603</th>
<th>Mail Stop: 2474</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fax Number:</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:cmorgan@ag.tamu.edu">cmorgan@ag.tamu.edu</a></td>
<td>College Station Office Location: 545 Heep Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Names and departments of non-TAMU College Station, if any:

Note: If a non-TAMU faculty member will teach more than 50% of the course, he/she must be listed as collaborating faculty member rather than as a guest lecturer.

Non-TAMU Collaborating faculty:

Guest lecturers: Dr. Matthew Aitkenhead, Dept Geography, University of Aberdeen
7. Is there a language requirement for your study abroad program?
   Yes    If Yes, what language? ____________________________ (Beginner) (Intermediate/Advanced)
   X No    If None, describe how your students will handle basic language needs on your trip.
   The English language is spoken (albeit with a strong accent)

8. Yes  X No    Is there a research component associated with your study abroad program?
   If Yes, please describe.

9. Yes  X No    Has this study abroad program been conducted in the past?
   If Yes, please list the year and semester(s) it was taught abroad and the number of students each session that participated

   __________________ __________________ ______________ __________________

   If No, please provide the number of students anticipated to participate during this semester

9. Proposed course(s) to be taught by Texas A&M-College Station faculty member:
   Note: For students to be eligible for most types of financial aid, enough courses will have to be offered on a study abroad program to constitute a full course of study.

   (Include department, course number, course title, credit hours, number of contact hours and the name of the faculty member teaching each one. Note: Each credit hour requires a minimum of 15 contact hours. “Contact hours” are the number of academic teaching contact hours for a specific course. Any 489 offered needs to be approved annually to count for core curriculum credit. In addition, a 489 can only be taught twice before seeking a permanent course number.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept:</th>
<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
<th>Contact Hrs:</th>
<th>Faculty Teaching:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCSC</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability in Europe</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Jacqui Aitkenhead-Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCSC</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability in Europe</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Jacqui Aitkenhead-Peterson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Yes  X No    Are any of these courses cross-listed with any other course?
   If Yes, what course?
   (Include department, course number, course title, credit hours and the name of the faculty member teaching.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
<th>Contact Hrs:</th>
<th>Faculty Teaching:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
B. Yes X No Does your program involve a Reciprocal Educational Exchange Program (REEP) component (e.g., students will enroll in one or more classes at an accredited foreign university for which Texas A&M has a REEP agreement through an MOA)?
If Yes, 1. What Texas A&M REEP holding class will they register for?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept:</th>
<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
<th>Contact Hrs:</th>
<th>Faculty Teaching:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. What is the proposed Texas A&M course equivalency that will replace the Texas A&M REEP holding course upon completion of the program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept:</th>
<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
<th>Contact Hrs:</th>
<th>Faculty Teaching:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3. No syllabus is required for the course taught at the foreign university or the Texas A&M REEP holding course.

C. Yes X No Does your program involve students directly enrolling in an accredited foreign university in one or more classes for credits that will transfer back to Texas A&M to substitute for a Texas A&M course on their degree program?
If Yes, 1. What is the foreign university course designation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept:</th>
<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. What is the proposed Texas A&M course for which this will substitute in a Texas A&M degree plan, if known

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept:</th>
<th>Course No:</th>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

10. Yes X No Is there an internship course as part of this program?
If Yes, please describe the arrangements and the produce that will be the basis of the grade assigned for the internship:

11. Yes X No Are there any known risks associated with the academic program you are planning abroad (e.g. visiting construction sites, travelling on unpaved roads in jungles, scuba diving for scientific purposes, etc.)?  
If Yes, what type of anticipated risks will take place during the academic program and how do you plan to minimize the risk (e.g. specialized training, professional instructors,
special equipment, etc.)?

For those programs that include scuba diving as part of the academic program, an approved dive plan must be on file with the University’s Diving Safety Officer. Contact the Office of Safety and Security at 845-6437 for additional information.

12. Rationale for teaching the course(s) at this location as opposed to College Station:
(This should be a one-paragraph explanation. Please focus on the benefits to Texas A&M students and to Texas AND specific course content that is better taught in the destination abroad as opposed to in Texas. Mentioning field trips that enhance the academic experience and course content is strongly encouraged. Please be specific as this information will be sent to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval to be taught outside the U.S.)
Natural Resource Management is important in Scotland. The study will examine the culture of the laird and his people, farm management as dictated by land quality, management of water resources, urban, suburban and wilderness area management and sustainability through production and tourism. Throughout the course history of the country will be taught.

13. Academic Objectives of the course(s):
(This should be a one-paragraph explanation of the course content for each course taught.) See sample.
The course will begin with 5 hours of orientation meetings in the Spring semester and end with travel to Scotland between May 16th and May 27th 2010. Students will compare Scottish and US sustainability through agriculture, forestry, wool and whiskey production, tourism and alternative energy production. Students will gather resource information and write a report dependant on the hours of credit. They will be immersed in the Scottish culture for 10 days. Students will: learn about conservation and land use and management in Scotland; tour a major part of Scotland which will include the historic Kings College Chapel founded in 1495 and Marischal College founded in 1593 merged in 1860 to create the University of Aberdeen; a trip to the Dee valley will introduce them to land management (silviculture and upland sheep farming) and wilderness areas; en route to the city of Edinburgh they will learn about salmon conservation at the Pitlochry Dam and observe a marvel of engineering on a trip on the Grand Union Canal via the Falkland Wheel and observe Dun Law wind farm; in Edinburgh they will visit the Royal Botanical Gardens the second oldest institution of its kind in Great Britain and one of the most respected in the world and Edinburgh Castle; from Edinburgh the study will take students to the Scottish Borders where they will visit mill towns and have a tour of a lowland farm. Traveling the circle back to Aberdeen they will see the hydropower station inside Ben Cruachan and the Leault Farm which is a working farm of sheep and sheepdog breeding and have the chance to visit a distillery producing single malts.

14. Yes X No Have you applied for an International Curriculum Development Grant? (http://international.tamu.edu/ipo/forms.html)
If yes, how does the grant relate to the proposed study abroad program? See sample.
STUDY ABROAD PROPOSAL NARRATIVE
The following sections of the Study Abroad Proposal directly reflect evaluation criteria established by the SAPPCC committee (See the Study Abroad Course Evaluation form at the end of this application packet). It is expected that responses on each of the sections of the Study Abroad Proposal Narrative will average 100 to 150 words. See sample.

1. International Impact on Students and Faculty
   Among the many issues that could be considered in this evaluation criteria are such things as language immersion, cross-cultural immersion, internationalization, visits to institutions and organizations, the duration of the program, and use of resources on- or off-campus to prepare (i.e. international faculty, scholars, and students) guest speakers on-campus or in-country.

   Although the language spoken is English, students will be aware of the strong accent and how that accent varies from the “teuchter” on the west coast to the “doon haimer” in the borders and the “aberdonian” on the east coast. Students will be immersed in Scottish culture and the differences in areas including urban and rural will be apparent. Students will have the opportunity to visit with local residents at each stop. Guest lectures by faculty at the University of Aberdeen will enlighten students on Scottish history and land use change. Tours of a distillery for production of single malt whiskey, two hydroelectric facilities (one inside a mountain and one that maintains salmon spawning through fish ladders), visits to two farms (one crop based and one sheep farm), a visit to a Scottish Forestry site (Norway Spruce) with a lecture from one of the rangers and tours of the Royal Botanical Gardens and Edinburgh Castle will be included in this study. Dr Matthew Aitkenhead, faculty at the University of Aberdeen has a PhD in plant and soil science from the University of Aberdeen and will accompany the group on this trip.

2. Programmatic focus of proposal
   This criterion determines the focus of the proposal, such as whether the program proposed could be sustained over several years. This also could include attention to such issues as the coordination and curricular relevance of course offerings, the originality of the program design, and relevance to the proposed location.

   The program proposed could be sustainable over several years.

3. Evidence of Program Development
   Some of the issues considered could be revision/updating of course offerings based on evaluation feedback and student learning outcomes, and the establishment of new programs, international developments, assessment mechanisms, and links to research opportunities.

   If the study abroad proposed is approved and goes ahead as planned much consideration will be given to evaluation feedback, and my perception of whether the activities completed were valuable as tools for student learning. Thus I expect that the Study Abroad: Scotland course and its concomitant assessments will be modified and updated over the years based on prior experiences and student evaluations. There is likely to be a link to research opportunities for students involved in the course. Dr Aitkenhead and I
have worked together on a NSF project which produced six papers so far. Depending on
the success of this program I hope to eventually offer a study abroad course to the Czech
Republic (where I have research contacts with the Czech Geological Survey and Charles
University) and each course will run alternative years.

4. Program Viability
Issues in these evaluation criteria are such as prior enrollment levels for such
courses taught on campus (if a new program) or taught abroad (if an established
program abroad). Also important to consider are student recruitment strategies,
faculty qualifications to create and sustain the program, and program costs for
students, and how these courses link to the overall academic program or
strategies of the college or department.

Study Abroad courses run from the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences typically have
excellent enrollment numbers. The maximum for this first time trip would be about 9 students
based on ability to accommodate and transport on many single track roads. The course
cannot be taught on campus. Students need to be immersed in the culture and see firsthand
to understand the history, environmental issues and sustainable solutions to problems.
Students will be recruited through the Study Abroad web site, through information distributed
in classes through various COALS departments and through brochures posted in class
buildings throughout campus. My experience includes a study abroad field trip examining
ecosystems of Puerto Rico (6 US students), research abroad trips which included
undergraduate and graduate students to the Czech Republic and Hungary (3 US students + 3
Czech or Hungarian students) so I am not a stranger in terms of the prior work needed to
make a trip successful. The program cost will be borne by the student which is estimated at
$6,000 per student inclusive of air fare, land transport, accommodation and food. The
program links to the academic programs of my department in terms of soil and land use
quality for agriculture, water resources and rural, suburban and urban ecosystems and
sustainability and use of water as a resource. Furthermore, alternative energy sources such
as hydropower and wind power will be investigated.

5. Quality of Study Abroad Site
These issues could include safety at the program location, rationale for linking
course content to the site abroad, and availability of local personnel and other
resources to support the instruction given at the proposed location abroad.

Scotland is a relatively safe country to travel in. The typical issues surrounding all urban
areas also apply to Aberdeen and Edinburgh such as tourist crime involving theft. In rural
areas there is much less crime. There are no bears and only one venomous snake so
there is very little danger in the field. Tap water is safe to drink and cooked food has
similar standards in restaurants as in the USA. Any activities in the evenings will include
the whole group and there is no expectation that students will be able to go out alone at
night. The University of Aberdeen is our university link for this trip. Planning and
identification of local personnel and resources to support instruction at the proposed
locations abroad is still underway.
Programs proposed for the Santa Chiara Study Center will additionally be reviewed for the following characteristics. Individuals hoping to teach at Santa Chiara should consider these criteria when preparing responses for the six previously-mentioned items in the narrative segment:

1. **Logistical Site Issues** - This criteria refers to the availability of the site at a proposed time, as well as space, equipment, computer, and other resources to accommodate the proposed courses.

2. **Balance in Slate of Courses** - Among other evaluation criteria, this could include compatibility with other proposed courses for the site at the same time period, the marketability to students (e.g. appeal to a targeted group or broad range, address degree or core requirements, etc), and the interdisciplinary nature of courses. In some cases faculty working together on course offerings have proposed a slate to be taught in conjunction with colleagues to provide such balance or interdisciplinary offerings.

3. **Academic Site Issues** - This criteria refers to the course linkage to the country/city, feasibility of field industry/academic trips/plant visits, and contacts in country. This would also include consideration of any opportunities for students to engage in local community activities and/or pursue.

4. **Faculty Considerations** - This criteria refers to faculty experience in teaching abroad or team teaching with other faculty. It could also consider whether faculty have experience at this proposed site with a prior, successful program. It could also consider a faculty member's ability to draw groups of students abroad who have not or would not otherwise have an outlet.

"State law requires that you be informed of the following: (1) you are entitled to request to be informed about the information about yourself collected by use of this form (with a few exceptions as provided by law); (2) you are entitled to receive and review that information; and (3) you are entitled to have the information corrected at no charge to you."

**In addition to responding to the preceding questions:** Attach a syllabus for each proposed course that indicates links to the foreign country proposed.

The syllabus (syllabi), and the completed proposal form, signed by you and your department head, must be received by your college SAPPC representative by 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2009. **An original and five copies are required.**

Proposals will be reviewed by the Study Abroad Program Policy Committee (SAPPC) composed of Texas A&M faculty. Those recommended by SAPPC will be forwarded to the Provost's office for submission to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. According to state law, the THECB approval is required before a course can be taught outside the U.S. **AND** receive funding from the state.
All signatures below are required. (Duplicate this signature line as needed, so all TAMU collaborating faculty can sign.)

Faculty Signature: As a faculty member leading this study abroad program, I agree to:
1. Attend a university briefing session hosted by the Dean of Faculties,
2. Provide pre-departure programming that is coordinated with the Study Abroad Programs Office.
3. Comply with Study Abroad Programs’ working fund and all other regulatory guidelines as explained in the pre-departure sessions. These guidelines are available at http://studyabroad.tamu.edu/apps/maroon.doc.
4. Be assigned a percentage of workload for teaching the courses through departmental course requests and reports.

I understand that if I do not attend to these responsibilities, I will not be able to lead the Study Abroad Program.

Faculty Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Faculty Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Academic Department Approval: (Duplicate this box if collaborating faculty are from different departments.):
My signature below indicates that:
1. The proposed course(s) to be taught outside the U.S. meet all departmental standards.
2. The department is responsible for the faculty member’s salary for this study abroad program. I understand that Study Abroad Enhancement Funds are available for many programs that are taught during the summer session but can provide only a portion of the salary for some faculty members.
3. Pre-departure programming for participants will be coordinated with the Study Abroad Programs Office.
4. I will assign a workload percentage to the faculty member(s) in my department who teach this/these courses on faculty workload reports.

Department Head Name: ________________________________ Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Department: ________________________________

(Please print name)

College Approval (Duplicate this box if collaborating faculty are from different colleges.):

SAPPC representative*: ________________________________ Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

* If you do not have a SAPPC representative, consult with the appropriate SAPPC representative from the college in which the discipline resides to complete the required forms.

Is this proposal requesting matching funding for a faculty salary through SAEF? ___ Yes ___ No

If No, how will the faculty salary be funded? ____________________________________________

My signature below indicates college authorization of the proposed course(s) to be taught outside the U.S., which I attest meets all college standards.

College Dean Name: ________________________________ Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

College: ________________________________