

International Plan

International Plan Committee

Excerpt: [Quality Enhancement Plan \(QEP\)](#), March 2005, pg. 17

The International Plan is a collaborative effort among a number of Georgia Tech units. The participating academic units are responsible for developing the curriculum for their majors, recruiting students within their majors, and providing academic and professional advisement: basically, the overall implementation and operation of the International Plan within their unit. The Ivan Allen College will provide the principal guidance and the essential instruction in second language preparation and coursework in the international subjects; however, courses from other units within Georgia Tech and elsewhere may also be used as approved. The Office of International Education will provide support in developing international academic sites, general marketing and recruiting participants from high school applicants as well as students electing to study abroad, orienting and preparing students for study abroad, and overall coordination among the academic and other support units. The Division of Professional Practice will facilitate the development and management of the international internships, and the Office of Career Services will provide support for the graduate placement and interactions with employers seeking graduates with substantial international preparation. The Office of Assessment will provide support for designing assessment activities and assistance with collecting and evaluation data.

The International Plan will be governed by a faculty oversight committee. This committee will develop policies and procedures for the operation of the plan, the participant application process and monitoring of the student performance, and the initial review of courses to be included as meeting the objectives of the International Plan requirements. Those matters affecting Institute undergraduate program policies and procedures will be referred to the IUCC for approval.

Committee Structure:

The International Plan Committee (IPC) consists of one faculty member (IP Faculty Representative) from each IP participating major, though some members represent more than one major when the majors are related. The IPC is chaired by one of the IP Faculty Representatives as elected by the IPC. In addition to faculty members, all of whom have voting rights on the committee, there are representatives from each of the program-related administrative offices (OIE, DOPP, and OARS) that participate on the committee in an ex officio capacity.

New IP Faculty Representatives may review past IPC meeting minutes on [T-square](#). You must be given access to view the IPC materials. Please contact internationalplan@oie.gatech.edu with your GT user ID/name to gain access to the site.

Role of the IP Faculty Representative:

IP faculty representatives are encouraged to play an active role on the IP Committee. The committee meets twice per semester in fall and spring to discuss IP policies, program changes, etc. There are three IP subcommittees on which IP Faculty Representatives may also serve. They are: 1) The Student Petitions and Appeals Committee, 2) the Recruitment and Retention Committee, and 3) Intercultural Learning Committee.

Additional responsibilities of the IP Faculty Representative:

Application Review/Approval

IP Faculty Representatives review and approve, or reject, the applications of their majors whose hours earned at the time of application exceed 59 credit hours and whose plan is not coherent* and/or does not meet IP policy. Applications of those students who have earned 59 credit hours or less, whose plans are coherent and meet IP policy, and who meet the minimum requirements for acceptance into the program (student is in a participating major and has a minimum 2.7 gpa) are typically processed and accepted by the IP Assistant Director in OIE. The IP Faculty Representative is included on correspondence with accepted students.

Advising/Approving International Plans

IP Faculty Representatives are responsible for advising their majors on the merits of individual international plans. IP reps also have the discretion of approving or rejecting student plans. Student plans for their time abroad should be coherent.* IP Faculty Representatives officially approve student plans by signing the “[International Experiences Approval](#)” form when ready to do so. Major Academic Advisors are asked to assist IP students in planning and making strategic decisions about how to fulfill IP courses and at what point during earning the undergraduate degree may be the best time to go abroad.

Review Student Petitions and Appeals

IP students appealing an IP policy or petitioning an exception are required to submit their appeals/petitions form to their IP Faculty Representative for approval or rejection prior to forwarding the appeal/petition to the IPC reviewing subcommittee. The IP Petition form can be found on the [Forms](#) section of the IP website.



[IPC T-Square Page](#) (for uploading IPC documents)

*Coherence

Coherence refers to the relationship between the destination/s chosen to complete the minimum 26 weeks international experience, the language chosen to satisfy the language requirement, and the appropriateness to the student's discipline. A plan may be:

- Linguistically coherent—the language used to satisfy the requirement is the same as the national language of the country/ies used to satisfy the two-term minimum 26 week international experience requirement.
- Culturally coherent— the full time abroad is being spent all in one or more countries that share the same culture.
- Intellectually coherent – the international destinations chosen to fulfill the minimum 26 weeks requirement may not share the same language or culture but are appropriate choices for a student in his/her particular field. Intellectual coherence is at the discretion of the IP Faculty Rep in the students major.
 - Student plans that are characterized solely by intellectual coherence, should be studying/working with a specific aspect of their field in both terms abroad, and must have their plan approved by the IP Faculty Representative.
 - Students must present their rationale for intellectual coherence when they complete the International Experience Approval, and get their plan approved by IP Faculty Representative. The student is asked to attach their rationale to their form, and there is a checkbox for IP Faculty to approve the coherence. Some examples of intellectual coherence are:
 - INTA student wishing to study the British influence in the politics of Commonwealth nations, studies abroad on exchange to Australia, including at least one course on Australian history and politics, and completes an internship in India with a political organization. Capstone project/paper also focuses on Commonwealth politics.
 - ISYE student who interns in logistics hub in Dubai, UAE and spends a summer abroad on the Beijing/Singapore Program taking coursework in logistics/manufacturing. Capstone would include a supplemental research paper on how processes for their project compare in the countries they studied/interned in.
 - It is expected that students will satisfy the IP language requirement with a non-English language consistent with one of the international destinations used to satisfy the IP minimum 26 weeks international experience. See the [Program Requirements](#) for more information about the IP language requirement.