

INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Faculty

Victoria Malone(2005). Coordinator of Study Abroad and Assistant Professor of Language. B.A. and M.A., Northern Illinois University

Phillip G. Ryan (1997). Associate Professor of Language and Coordinator of ESL Programing. B.A., Union University; M.A., University of Memphis; Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Staff

Susan Bolyard(2007). Program Coordinator, Institute for International and Intercultural Studies; Academic Secretary, McAfee School of Business Administration.

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Pam Whitnell(2013). International Student Program Advisor. B.S., Middle Tennessee State University; M.B.A., Union University.

Mission Statement

The overarching mission of the Institute is to advance intercultural awareness and promote intercultural development through academic programs and international engagement. Excellent academic programs in intercultural studies and interdisciplinary academic initiatives that enhance intercultural development provide the foundation for our work. The Institute provides infrastructure and support for the University's commitment to study abroad, ensuring that every Union student has reasonable access to high-quality international education opportunities. Recognizing the important contributions they make to the university community, the Institute provides and coordinates services for international students, including ESL initiatives and academic support. On campus, the Institute supports programs and services that enhance international and intercultural awareness.

Curriculum

The Institute offers two programs in Intercultural Studies, a comprehensive major that does not require a minor, and the minor for students majoring in another

320. Intercultural Communication (3) S

Examination of theoretical and practical issues related to cross-cultural communications and intercultural dynamics in the context of contemporary social, cultural, linguistic, political and economic environments.

321. Intercultural Perspectives of Humanitarian Response (3) F

Examination of the complex intercultural dynamics faced by organizations and groups, including faith-based non-profit/non-governmental organizations, international governments and military, short-term volunteer groups and others as they engage in humanitarian response efforts.

Consortium for Global Education (CGE)

Member institutions have established more than 300 partnerships with some of the world's most prestigious universities. The wide range of programs includes student and faculty exchanges, summer study programs, the Arabic Studies Program in Amman, Jordan, conferences, seminars, and special projects.

Christian College Teacher Education Coordinating Council

Students in the Teacher Education Program may apply to fulfill their student teaching requirement abroad. Contact the Assistant Dean for Teacher Education and Accreditation for more information.

Institutional Agreements

Union has established partnerships with a limited number of organizations or institutions to provide external study experience. These include:

Ansgar College, Kristiansand, Norway
LCC International College, Klaipeda, Lithuania
Salzburg College, Salzburg, Austria
Baptist Theological Seminary, Singapore

English Learners Program

Working with key entities from across the university including both the Languages and English departments, the IIS provides integrative support for English learners who have been accepted to Union University, including students who meet the University's minimal language proficiency requirements and those who are conditionally admitted to the university without having met the university's minimal language proficiency requirements. This support is designed to optimize students' transition and adjustment to American academic culture and discourse. This program is staffed with an international student advisor, an international student academic advisor, as well as key faculty from the university. Support includes but is not limited to the following:

- Assessment of language abilities
- First-year, credit-bearing course options designed for undergraduate English learners, including ICS 105 and international student sections of ENG 111 and ENG 112
- Co-advising for first-year language learners between the international student academic advisor and students' major advisors
- Coordination of specialized academic and tutorial support when needed
- Specialized student support services for international students and English learners
- Department-specific language support initiatives
- Support for departments and faculty across the university working with international students and English learners
- Development of intensive English language initiatives

