

### **December 2020 graduates on a Winter program**

Given the continued restrictions for non-essential travel, all winter 2020 GO programs have been canceled.

Meeting the cross-cultural learning goals remains part of your graduation requirements, which you can fulfill on campus to graduate in December 2020. We recognize that each student has unique needs, but please know that our primary goal is to keep you on track for graduation while maintaining your health and safety. To do so, as explained by Dean of Global Programs earlier in the semester, you will work with our office for a 2-credit course during the second-7 weeks of the semester. Through the course, you will also be partnered with SU international faculty, staff or student to complete the cross-cultural coursework on campus. If you have questions, please sign up for an advising session with Shane Sanders or Molly Roe.

The GO office staff are passionate about cross-cultural immersion and while we know that this is not what you had planned for your GO experience, we are working to make these alternative programs as enriching as they can be.

### **May/December 2021 graduates on a Winter/Spring Break Program**

Given the continued restrictions for non-essential travel, all winter 2020 GO programs have been canceled.

We have been closely watching the expanding global disruption caused by the spread of COVID-19, and it is now clear that we will be unable to travel during winter and spring breaks as previously planned. With this ever-evolving situation and continued travel advisories, we have decided to cancel all upcoming Winter and Spring Break GO Short and GO Your Way programs.

Meeting the cross-cultural learning goals remains part of your graduation requirements, which you can fulfill in a variety of ways to graduate in 2021. We recognize that each student has unique needs, but please know that our primary goal is to keep you on track for graduation while maintaining your health and safety. To do so, you must select one of the following options:

- Virtual GO Short program
- Virtual international internship with cultural programming
- Partnership with SU international faculty, staff or student
- Travel on a summer 2021 GO Short/GO Your Way program
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Each option is described below. We will be hosting information sessions for you to ask additional questions.

<[Options Listed here](#)>

**Please complete this form noting your alternative cross-cultural programming preference(s) by Monday, Oct. 5, to stay on track for your 2021 graduation.**

The GO office staff and your program directors are passionate about cross-cultural immersion and while we know that this is not what you had planned for your GO experience, we are working to make these alternative programs as enriching as they can be.

You can also sign up for an individual advising appointment if you are unable to make the information sessions.

### **Students already deferring to August 2021 Graduation**

We are writing to let you know that due to the continued travel restrictions, we've expanded offerings that will meet the University's cross-cultural learning goals. We wanted to share them with you and ask that you either confirm your choice (to participate in an in-person program next summer and change your graduation date to August 2021) or select one of the new offerings.

If you'd still like to participate in a GO program over summer 2021:

- For a GO Short program next summer, you'll need to apply (applications open Oct. 15 and you will have priority).
- If you are planning on a GO Your Way program, your application will be rolled over to the summer 2021 term (no action needed at this time).
- For the FOCUS Australia program postponed from summer 2020, your application has already been rolled over to the summer 2021 term (no action needed at this time).

We are hopeful that in-person programs will resume by summer 2021, we will have a contingency option for you to meet the GO requirement virtually over the summer if travel is still restricted.

If you have changed your mind about traveling next summer and want to apply for a new offering, you can choose one of the following options:

- Virtual GO Short program
- Virtual international internship with cultural programming
- Partnership with SU international faculty, staff, or student

Each option is described below. We will be hosting information sessions for you to ask additional questions.

<[Options Listed here](#)>

To apply for one of the new offerings, **please complete this form noting your new alternative cross-cultural programming preference(s) by Monday, Oct. 5.**

The GO office staff and instructors are passionate about cross-cultural immersion and we are working to make these programs as enriching as they can be.

### **May 2021 Graduates not currently on a program**

Given the continued restrictions for non-essential travel, all winter 2020 GO programs have been canceled — resulting in a new menu of program offerings available to you.

Meeting the cross-cultural learning goals remains part of your graduation requirements, which you can fulfill in a variety of ways to graduate in 2021. To do so, you must select one of the following options:

- Virtual GO Short program
- Virtual international internship with cultural programming

- Partnership with SU international faculty, staff or student
- Travel on a summer 2021 GO Short/GO Your Way program

Each option is described below. We will be hosting information sessions for you to ask additional questions.

<Options Listed here>

**Please complete this form noting your alternative cross-cultural programming preference(s) by Monday, Oct. 5, to stay on track for your 2021 graduation.**

The GO office staff and instructors are passionate about cross-cultural immersion and we are working to make these alternative programs as enriching as they can be.

### **December 2021 graduates not on GO program**

Given the continued restrictions for non-essential travel, all winter 2020 GO programs have been canceled. We recognize that each student has unique needs, but please know that our primary goal is to keep you on track for graduation while maintaining your health and safety.

Meeting the cross-cultural learning goals remains part of your graduation requirements, which you can fulfill in a variety of ways to graduate in 2021. As a December grad, you would be able to do a traditional summer GO Program — because of the recent cancellations, there will be more GO Short programs offered next summer than usual. Those programs will be announced by Oct. 1 and the [application cycle](#) will be Oct. 15–Nov. 15. Stay tuned for those announcements and also for information about our GO Fair, which will give you the opportunity to learn more about the programs being offered.

We do understand that traveling over the summer may not be a possibility for you for various reasons and we are committed to working with students to meet the requirement for graduation. Therefore, we do have virtual options for you to complete your cross-cultural requirement — please select one of the following options:

- Virtual GO Short program
- Virtual international internship with cultural programming
- Partnership with SU international faculty, staff or student

Each option is described below. We will be hosting information sessions for you to ask additional questions.

<Options Listed here>

**Please complete this form noting alternative cross-cultural programming preference(s) by Monday, Oct. 5, to stay on track for your 2021 graduation.**

The GO office staff and instructors are passionate about cross-cultural immersion and are working to make these programs as enriching as they can be.

### **May 2022 or beyond graduate on a Winter/Spring Break GO program**

Given the continued restrictions for non-essential travel, all winter 2020 GO programs have been canceled. We recognize that each student has unique needs, but please know that our primary goal is to keep you on track for graduation while maintaining your health and safety.

Meeting the cross-cultural learning goals remains part of your graduation requirements, so we are looking forward to working with you as you plan to participate in a GO program next summer or winter 2021-22. Because of the recent cancellations, there will be more GO Short programs offered next summer than usual. Summer 2021 programs will be announced this Thursday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> — if your program is offered next summer, you have the option to keep your spot in the program. **Please reply to this e-mail if you would like to pursue that option.**

There will be a variety of programs offered, so if you are interested in a different program (or your program is not offered), you are welcome to submit a new application. The application cycle will be open Oct. 15–Nov. 15. As a May 2022 grad, you would have priority over applicants who have a later graduation date. Stay tuned for information about our GO Fair, which will give you the opportunity to learn more about the programs being offered.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out by email or [make an appointment with Shane Sanders](#).

Options available to May and December 2021 Anticipated Graduates to complete cross-cultural requirement given the travel restrictions in place during COVID-19

## General Information Session

**A general info session will be held on Tuesday, Sept 29 from 9:30-10:30 AM EST on Zoom.** During this session we will briefly answer questions about all the alternative options. Specific sessions for each option are included in the description of the option.

## May 2021: Defer to Summer GO with August grad date

One option available only to May '21 grads due to the COVID restrictions is to do a GO program (GO Short or GO Your Way) over Summer 2021, completing the reflection course during summer term.

You would be able to participate in commencement in May '21 according to standard policy, but you would actually be an August 2021 graduate. The Prep course would occur during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of spring semester, as normal. You would travel with the group and complete the Reflection course concurrently and online after the program, during the SU summer term.

Quite a few students have already chosen this option because they still want to be able to participate in a previously planned international internship or study program or were particularly looking forward to their international travel experience being supported by SU faculty/staff.

GO Short Summer 2021 programs will be announced this Thursday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, with applications open from October 15-November 15. Program dates and fees will be posted when applications open on October 15. GO Your Way proposals will be open from October 15-February 15. For both GO Short and GO Your Way programs, you would still be eligible for your need-based financial aid (GO Grant).

We are optimistic that in-person programs will resume by summer 2021, although we will have a contingency option for you to meet the GO requirement virtually over the summer if travel is still restricted.

**An info session on this option will be held on Tuesday, Sept 29 at 12:30-1:30pm EST on Zoom**

## GO Short Virtual Program

Some of our most popular GO Short programs have been switched to a virtual format. They are open for some students to join, if you are interested. If you are already committed to a program that has switched to a virtual format, you are guaranteed to your spot in the program if you'd like - you can keep your spot by selecting your program in the form.

Some GO Short virtual programs will take place following the original program timeline, but the off-site portion during winter session would be held virtually. You would participate in the prep course during the second half of Fall semester, do the virtual cross-cultural immersion over winter session, and complete the reflection during the first half of the Spring semester – all led

by the program directors. Others changed their timeline so that they take place entirely over the Spring semester - meaning that the prep course would take place during the first half of the Spring semester and the reflection during the second half, with the virtual intercultural interactions spread throughout the semester. With both options, the virtual experience will include a blend of synchronous and asynchronous cultural activities, exchanges, and projects similar to what would have been done in-person. This would be rolled into your semester's tuition and does not have additional fees.

*We plan to have programs in the following regions:*

- Asia: Spring Semester
- Europe: Winter Break
- Europe: Spring Semester
- Africa: Spring Semester

**There will be two info sessions on this option held:**

- **Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 3:30-4:30 pm EST on Zoom**
- **Thursday, Oct. 1 at 2:00-3:00 pm EST on Zoom**

## SU International Faculty Connections Option

One option available to you is an intercultural development course that will take place over the spring semester. You will be paired with an international faculty, staff, or student on campus (you'll have a list to choose from) so you can learn about their culture while working on your intercultural development. This option includes one-on-one intercultural coaching with a trained Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) facilitator. This will help you build skills at working effectively across cultures and give you a great resume line that will impress potential employers. Students will be able to have deeper connections with the SU international community. Students in the course will be focusing on different cultures based on their interests and the international partner they choose to work with, so the course is a little more student driven and independent. This program would be rolled into your semester's tuition and does not have additional fees.

**An info session on this option will be held on Friday, Oct. 2 at 1:00-2:00pm EST on Zoom**

## Virtual Internships

Virtual international internships include an internship placement in a related field based on your resume. Most placements require 120 hours for the internship, including meeting your international partners 1-2 times/week and will provide practical work experience for you as you enter the post-graduate and/or professional world. You will also have required cultural programming from your internship provider to allow for a greater understanding of your host culture. The timeline for these placements vary – for many, the internship and the GO courses will be over the entire spring semester. For others you would participate in the prep course during the second half of Fall semester, do the virtual cross-cultural immersion and internship over winter session, and complete the reflection during Spring semester. If the timeline for the placement is important for your schedule, please note that in the form submission. The internship placements are based on the match with your discipline/area of interest. This program would be rolled into your semester's tuition and does not have additional fees. Available disciplines include:

- Arts & Graphic Design
- Business/Business Administration
- Finance & Economics
- Marketing & Advertising & Public Relations
- Communication/Journalism
- Community Development
- Health and Wellbeing/Social Work
- Education
- Environmental Conservation
- Political Science

**There will be two info sessions on this option held:**

- **Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 4:30-5:30pm EST on Zoom**
- **Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 10:00-11:00am EST on Zoom**