

SURF ABROAD

Questions about Foreign Research Site

SURF Abroad Applicant: On a separate (typed) sheet, please answer the following questions about your foreign research site and your language/cultural preparation. Please make your answers as complete as possible. Submit your answers with your application (see SURF Abroad Application Guidelines for more information).

A. Research Site

1. What will be the specific location for your research? (Provide the name of the city/cities and country, as well as the name of the specific site, i.e. library, museum, laboratory, organization, etc.)
2. How is your project related to the country to which you will travel? In particular, why are you going to that country, rather than somewhere else, to pursue your project? What in particular interests you about that country?
3. Please provide the following information about your Foreign Mentor (i.e. the person who will supervise your research while you are abroad):
 - Name
 - Title and Institutional Affiliation
 - Mailing Address and Email Address
 - Phone Number and Fax Number

Please include with your application a letter or email from your Foreign Mentor, confirming his/her willingness to serve as a mentor.

4. Name any other contacts at your research site who will help you conduct your research.
5. Do you need prior approval/permission to gain access to your research site and the resources available there? If so, how and when will you obtain written approval/permission?

B. Language and Cultural Preparation

1. What is the language of the county/countries of your proposed research? (If you will be using English exclusively, indicate here and skip to question #6).
2. What language will be necessary to conduct your research? What level of fluency will you need? (For example, will you conduct interviews in this language? Read texts? Have conversations with other researchers? Will you require a translator?)
3. What informal training do you have in this language? For example, are you a native speaker? Have you lived or traveled in the country before?
4. What formal training do you have in this language? a) Indicate the number of years you studied the language in high school (or earlier); b) List all college-level courses taken in the language and/or literature, including those courses now in progress. Give the number and name of the course, a brief description where necessary, and your final course grade. (*NOTE: UNH courses #631 and #632—or the equivalent—are the minimum required for establishing proficiency.*)
5. If you are not already proficient in the language of the research site country, how do you plan to acquire proficiency before leaving the U.S.? [OR] If there are extenuating reasons why you will not need proficiency in the language in order to conduct your research successfully, please explain here.
6. What knowledge do you already possess of the culture/country in which you will be conducting your research and how have you acquired this knowledge (e.g. courses, reading, prior travel, contact with citizens of the country, etc.)?
7. How do you intend to increase your knowledge of the culture/country prior to going abroad? (For example, do you plan to consult with mentors and/or other students who are citizens from that country? Do you plan to research the country on your own and/or through coursework?)