



# Application for Professional Development Grant in Internationalization



*Brought to you by the Internationalization Steering Committee (ISC), part of the Internationalization Initiative at PCC*

**Name:** Cameron Bynum \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** COMM \_\_\_\_\_

**Campus:** Rock Creek \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

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(number that will work during campus closure)

**Check one:**  FT faculty  PT faculty

- Projects can be modification of course materials, new course materials, or another project that adds an internationalization component or international focus to a course. We encourage you to be creative!
- Award amounts are expected to be between \$500 and \$1000, depending on the complexity of the project, the potential benefit for students, and the potential for use by multiple courses or instructors.
- Submissions become property of PCC and may be used as examples for future grant applications, on the PCC website, or otherwise shared inside or outside of PCC.
- Applicants will be expected to present about their project at a future meeting, to be determined in collaboration with the ISC (Internationalization Steering Committee).
- Applications will be reviewed and awards determined by members of the ISC.
- Applicants who are selected for an award will be asked to sign a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). Payments will be made after the project is completed and a final report is submitted.
- All work must be completed by the end of Spring Break 2021 (March 28).

**Please answer the questions on the next page. Add extra space or additional pages as needed.**

## **1. Title of project**

### **Internationalizing COMM 100 with PCC international students**

## **2. Description of project (about 200-500 words).**

I will be teaching a course (COMM 100) I haven't taught in years (and never online) this upcoming Spring, 2021 term. I have to adapt my materials to the online format, however my colleagues made a shared "shell" to build any new instructor's material on top of. I'll be blending my old notes with new (but foreign) material over the Winter term.

The class (in any format) already has content related to intercultural communication, and I have seen what they have in the modules of the shared "shell." It includes similar references to content I've addressed, and clips of relevant TED talks, etc.

The main thing the "shell" is missing is a connection to specific PCC International students. I was wanting to embed links to the "Talk Time Café" flyer with meeting times, spread awareness of the Speed Culturing activity, and show them how to subscribe to the international student newsletter. Ideally I get it set up as something they can drag and drop into their iCalendar or Google Calendar or Microsoft (or Whichever) Calendar.

I'm pleased with the shell, but I could embed these references and connections and then they could be (pending peer approval) added to the shell for all the future new instructor of COMM 100. And new instructors in this post-pandemic era could use a foundation to fall back onto, one of many hard-learned lessons this year.

### **UPDATE:**

I will pair each of my students with an international representative where they will have approximately an hour Zoom session (or equivalent interaction) and will ask them about their nation. I'll have preplanned (but adjustable) questions for them to ask. I will have them ask about certain cultural practices ("Do you take off your shoes when entering a home?" "Is there a specific deferential term used for a person who is older than you?") as well as culture-specific holidays (Diwali if they're Indian [and Hindu], Chuseok if they're Korean, how they celebrate their country's Independence Day, if applicable, etc.) and cuisine (everyone's favorite way to experience a culture). After interviewing the person from (possibly in) another country, I will have them write a reflection paper about the experience (What are three things you already knew about the country? What are three things you learned from the interview about the country? etc.) and then share it with the class.

I will reach out to the leaders of the international student centers and leads for projects like the "Talk Time Café" for volunteers, and I can work with them to have a signup sheet in perpetuity after the initial term.

## **3. Please provide a brief answer to each of the following:**

**a. What is it you hope to gain from completing this project? How will it benefit your students?**

I hope to gain a more in-depth understanding of how my course material can be internationalized. It already has some specific connections to other countries, but I think connecting it both locally and globally will have a stronger impact. By putting a real person in front of them, I hope it will really humanize the material.

**b. Is this project replicable? (preference will be given to projects that can be used in more than one course or by more than one instructor). Please explain.**

Yes. I have taught the course F2F, but never online, so I'm being given a "shell" made by another colleague to build upon. This internationalization can be built into that "shell" permanently, so any other instructor could then have it replicated thereafter.

**UPDATE:**

I intend to pilot this in my online class in Spring 2021, but I could replicate it thereafter, and modify it to fit a face-to-face class when they become viable (bringing a sample of the food or a culturally-relevant object like a lucky red envelope, for example) to class when we de-brief the assignment.

**c. How would you be able to share what you have done with other faculty at PCC?**

(see above) I could add it to the COMM 100 shared shell to be used (or at least viewed) by other instructors of the same course, particularly those who teach it for the first time.

**d. Is there anything in your background or experience that will help you to accomplish this project?**

I have traveled to five continents, and have had many cross-cultural conversations and interactions through a language barrier. I have personally logged into some international student discussions (I'm usually the only one whose first language is English) and have participated in Speed Culturing and have taught intercultural communication in the past. I also have many social contacts who immigrated to Oregon/the U.S., and I could use personal contacts in other countries if I don't have enough International students.

**Please email your completed application to: Ron Bekey, ISC Chair,**

[rbekey@pcc.edu](mailto:rbekey@pcc.edu) by Sunday January 10, 2021 at midnight.