International Requirement for Nonprofit Leadership and Management Students

**Background:**
Since the fall of 2008, all SOLES students are required to engage in an international experience as part of their degree requirements.

**Goal of Nonprofit International Experience:** The faculty of the NLMP believes that exposure to other cultures greatly enhances one’s ability to be a more effective leader. The goal of the international experience is to enable each student to obtain an intellectually broadening exposure to at least one other culture in order to foster his/her personal and professional growth, improve cultural understanding, and acquire skills for working more effectively with diverse communities.

**Options for fulfilling the requirement**
1. Students may carry out one of their applied projects with an international nonprofit as long as the project includes a multi-cultural experience. By a multi-cultural experience we mean working closely with people from another culture to incorporate their values into the product you are helping to create for that organization. The organization and the project must be approved in advance by your advisor. Each student is required to submit a SOLES International Experience Requirement Application Form and gather signatures from their advisor and the faculty member overseeing the requirement. The form can be found on the website: [http://www.sandiego.edu/soles/documents/SOLES.Intl.Experience.Form033010.pdf](http://www.sandiego.edu/soles/documents/SOLES.Intl.Experience.Form033010.pdf)

2. Students may take an approved international course that we offer at USD either for credit or not for credit. The course must be centered on or contain a component that reflects the stated goals of the nonprofit international experience.

3. Students may take a course at USD that has an international component embedded within it – i.e., specific curricula, reading and assignment – as long as that component reflects the stated goals of the nonprofit international experience.

4. Occasionally with permission from the program director, students may take, for either credit or not for credit, an international course that we approve from another university.

**Implementation**
Once the student has completed this requirement, it is incumbent upon him/her to receive a sign-off from the faculty member offering the qualifying course. If the qualifying course has been taken at an institution other than USD, the student is responsible for ensuring the grade and credit for that course is transferred on to his/her USD transcript.

*Updated May 2013*