
HONR 3799A - Spec Tpc International Exper

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43822,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Hannah Crites-Pickett

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Presley Bowser

Email: plbowser@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Presley Bowser

Professional Qualifications:

Master's, Professional Communication, Youngstown State University, 2021

Bachelor's, ILA Education, Youngstown State University, 2020

Office: Fok Hall

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Instructor Title: Dr. Hannah Crites-Pickett, PT, DPT

Professional Qualifications:

Doctorate, Physical Therapy, Youngstown State University, 2022

Bachelor's, Exercise Science, Youngstown State University, 2020

Bachelor's, Psychology, Youngstown State University, 2020

Office: Fok Hall

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Course Description

3799A. Spec Tpc International Exper. This course is conducted as a Faculty Led Study Abroad. The dates are subject to revision based upon air fares and transportation availability. This course will incur additional transportation and room-and-board costs which will be determined prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Please email the Honors College at honors@ysu.edu for a permit for the class.. Prereq.: Admission to the Honors Program or permission of instructor and director of Honors. 3 s.h.

The design of this course is to provide students with experiential learning opportunities through the exploration of Bahamian culture on San Salvador Island. Through pre-departure academic research and immersive on-island observation, students will examine key cultural traditions, social practices, and community values, comparing scholarly perspectives with lived cultural experiences. The course further integrates environmental inquiry through the study of shells, sand, and coral reef organisms, allowing students to explore the interconnected relationship between the island's natural environment, daily life, and cultural identity. Emphasis is placed on cultural awareness, reflection, and responsible engagement within the local community, fostering a deeper understanding of how culture and environment shape one another in an island context.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
No Readings Required			

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Tentative Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week of	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/25	Introduction to the Bahamas FLSA Team Briefing Funding Your Education	Review all FLSA resources and FYE resources and begin planning for trip funding. Begin working on your Island Site Spotlight Presentation and prepare for your assigned date (Final submission by Friday, December 4 by 11:59 PM)
9/1	Practical Information For International Travel/Study Experience Required University Student Forms	Review packing list for trip based on years prior. Complete the following required forms: Emergency Medical Form, GRC Health Forms, Student Waiver and Assumption of Risk (YSU), Upload Proof of Passport, Complete STEP Program form
9/8	Student Panel Discussion Spotlight Series	Make note of student panel advice for travel and add to packing list as needed.
9/15	History of the Bahamas Spotlight Series	None
9/22	The Bahamas Today (Government, Economy, Religion) Spotlight Series	None
9/29	People and Culture Spotlight Series	None
10/6	Healthcare Spotlight Series	None
10/13	Education Spotlight Series	None
10/20	Physical Environment, Weather, and Climate Spotlight Series	None
10/27	People and Culture Spotlight Series	Exchange contact information with your group and begin working on your Cultural Exploration Project - Part 1: Cultural Investigation (Final submission by Friday, December 4 by 11:59 PM)
11/3	Cultural Exploration Project Group Work (in class) Spotlight Series	Work session
11/10	Cultural Exploration Project Group Work (remote)	Work session
11/17	Cultural Exploration Project Group Work (remote)	Work session
11/24	NO CLASS – Have a nice break!	None
12/1	Pre-departure Meeting	Due 12/4 at 11:59pm: Island Site Spotlight Cultural Exploration Project - Pre-Departure Investigation (Phase 1)
12/8	Depart Pittsburgh On-site field experience on San Salvador Island (12/9 - 12/17) Return to Pittsburgh (12/17)	Due 12/18 at 11:59pm: Cultural Exploration Project - Analysis (Phase 2) Cultural Exploration Project - Final Presentation (Phase 3) Ims_1778528_1 Field Journal Community Engagement in San Salvador Class/Trip Attendance and Participation

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.