

# Honors College Break Away Proposal Information

## What's a Break Away?

A Break Away is a challenge you take on that goes beyond the ordinary requirements of your curriculum. Your Break Away might be a semester or summer studying abroad, intensive research such as an REU, a challenging full-time internship, or a combination of elements. Completing an approved Break Away is a requirement to earn the Honors Medal upon graduation.

## What are the requirements for a Break Away?

The activity you propose for your breakaway needs to meet these requirements:

- **Length.** Typically, that means a study-abroad program longer than three weeks, an immersive internship longer than 90 hours, a high-level research project that requires a similar time commitment, or a project you develop that is comparable in scope. Many Break Aways will far exceed those minimum expectations.
- **Learning.** A Break Away must provide you the opportunity to gain high-level knowledge in an academic discipline or professional field.
- **Diversity.** A Break Away must involve immersion in an environment that's culturally different—whether that difference is social, professional, or academic—from Lander undergraduate life.
- **Challenge.** A Break Away must be likely to expose you to challenging workplace or personal experiences.
- **External validation.** A Break Away must be associated with an institution or company outside of Lander University that can provide you with a credential, course credit, references, or other validation after your Break Away.

**Need inspiration? Browse some past Honors College Break Away adventures on the Lander Travels blog:** <https://www.landerhonors.com/landertravels>

## How do I plan a Break Away and get it approved?

The proposal process is simple:

1. Talk with faculty mentors to brainstorm ideas for a Break Away that suits both your major and the Honors College requirements. For overseas experiences, you should also talk with the director of Study Abroad.
2. Complete the Break Away proposal form found on page 3 of this document.
3. If you want to apply for Global Scholars funding, complete that application as well. See the information and application for that scholarship on the last page of this document.
4. Email your completed Break Away proposal form (and Global Scholars application, if applicable) to the Honors College assistant director, Dr. Sean Barnette (sbarnette@lander.edu). You may be asked to make revisions to the Break Away proposal before it can be approved. If necessary, the assistant director may consult with the director, the Honors Committee, or other faculty in your discipline before approving the proposal.
5. If you are applying for study abroad Global Scholars funds, please include those responses with your Break Away proposal form and copy the Honors College director, Dr. Lillian Craton (lcraton@lander.edu).

# Honors College Break Away Proposal

Copy the questions below into a new document and type your answers. When you're done, email the completed proposal to Dr. Sean Barnette ([sbarnette@lander.edu](mailto:sbarnette@lander.edu)). He may ask you to revise aspects of the proposal if needed. When your proposal is approved, he'll let you know the next steps.

**A. Answer these questions to provide context for your proposal:**

- What are you majoring (and minoring) in?
- What semester do you plan to graduate from Lander (or transfer to Clemson, if you're in a dual-degree program)?
- Where's your hometown?

**B. Describe the Break Away experience(s) you will undertake.** What will you be doing? Where will you be doing it? When is it going to happen? How much time will this experience require? (For example, if you'll be abroad, how long will you be overseas? If you're completing an internship or other project, how many hours per week, for how many weeks, will you be devoting to this project?)

**C. Is this experience something that's already required for your major or minor?** If so, explain how your plan goes beyond what you're already required to do.

**D. How will this experience offer high-level knowledge in an academic discipline or professional field?** Answer in a thoughtful paragraph.

**E. How will this experience immerse you in a culture or environment that's different from what you're familiar with?** Answer in a thoughtful paragraph.

**F. How will this experience challenge you personally?** Answer in a thoughtful paragraph.

**G. What institution, organization, or company outside of Lander University will oversee and evaluate your work?**

## What are the deadlines?

Start planning your Break Away as soon as possible, so that you can have it submitted by the suggested deadlines below. While these deadlines are not absolute, they are important for ensuring your project comes together in time to receive Honors credit and Global Scholars consideration. *These deadlines are especially important if you are asking for Global Scholars funding; applications submitted by these deadlines will have priority for Global Scholars decisions.*

If you're planning a Break Away during...	You should submit your proposal by...
Fall	April 1
Spring	October 1
Summer	February 1

# Lander University Honors College

## Global Scholars Program Information & Application

Each year, Lander's Global Scholars Program will offer competitive scholarship opportunities for Honors College students who plan to spend a semester abroad.

### Applicants must:

- Be an active member of the Lander University Honors College.
- Complete at least one full-time semester at Lander and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25.
- Complete the Honors gateway courses, HONS 210 & 211, before start of travel.

### Eligible programs include:

- Full fall or spring semesters studying abroad at a foreign university—These programs have highest priority for Global Scholars funding.
- Approved summer study programs at a foreign university.
- Approved internship programs abroad.
- Washington Semester internship programs.
- *Unfortunately, most one-and-two-week Lander study tours are **not** eligible for funding. Feel free to speak with Dr. Craton or Dr. Mentley if you have any questions about whether your Break Away can be considered for Global Scholars.*

A typical Global Scholars grant provides \$1000 or more to help fund the semester of travel. Additional need-based support may also be available. **The Global Scholars funding is limited for each budget year: Please apply early.**

*If your Break Away fits the Global Scholars eligible programs above, you are welcome to apply for a Global Scholars grant by responding to the questions below in a substantial paragraph each:*

**(1) What personal, academic, or extracurricular accomplishments should we keep in mind as we consider you for a Global Scholars grant?**

**(2) Do you have financial need that we should take into consideration? Please explain any special circumstances or financial barriers that you wish us to factor into our decision.**

***Please submit your Global Scholars application responses to both:***

***(1) Dr. Lillian Craton, by email at [lcraton@lander.edu](mailto:lcraton@lander.edu), and***

***(2) Dr. Sean Barnette, by email at [sbarnette@lander.edu](mailto:sbarnette@lander.edu)***

**Please apply early! Global Scholars application due dates:**

**April 1 for travel during fall semester, by  
October 1 for travel during spring semester, and by  
February 1 for travel during summer.**