



# VALENCIA GLOBAL DISTINCTION

TIER #1

GLOBAL  
AMBASSADOR



**VALENCIA**COLLEGE

Study Abroad and Global Experience

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Valencia Global Distinction (VGD)! You are about to embark on your journey to becoming a Global Ambassador! You have joined this program because you are curious and eager about the dynamics of a growing world community. You also wish to prepare to live and work in an interdependent and multicultural world, while gaining global knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

By the end of this program, you should be able to: 1) demonstrate an awareness of the interconnectedness of local and global issues, 2) identify issues from cross-cultural perspectives, and 3) engage effectively in cross-cultural interactions.

### 1. Enrolling in the VGD Program

To formally enroll in the VGD program, please complete the online enrollment form and upload your unofficial transcript. The SAGE Office will confirm your application and send a welcome email with instructions on how to enroll in the VGD Canvas space. Soon after, you should complete the VGD Orientation module in Milestone 1.

### 2. The VGD Canvas Space

Once you have applied and are formally enrolled in VGD, you will be sent access to the VGD Canvas space from the SAGE Office. The VGD Canvas space has detailed instructions on how to navigate through the program and submit activities. The Canvas space also links out to important documents and resources. We highly encourage you to spend time exploring and acquainting yourself with the space.

### 3. Earning Global Ambassador Status

*Note - The VGD program offers two tiers of completion. You have received the handbook for Tier 1, which is Global Ambassador. If you intended to complete the full program and become a Global Citizen, please notify the SAGE Office.*

To become a Global Ambassador, you are required to complete Milestones 1 & 2 in the VGD program.

- **Milestone 1** - This first milestone incorporates orientation, background on learning outcomes, foundational knowledge on global competencies, and activities required for completion. Although there are no specific deadlines for the completion of each activity in Milestone 1, you have a 30-day period from the day you register in the VGD Canvas space to complete the entire module. A list of activities in Milestone 1 is located below:
  - VGD Orientation
  - Icebreaker Activity
  - Global Perspectives Inventory Survey (GPI)

- Readings and Videos on Global Competencies and Civic Engagement
- **Milestone 2** - The second milestone is where you will plan, record, and eventually complete all required internationalized courses and co-curricular experiences. There is no timeframe for completion on the second milestone as it may take several semesters to complete all of the requirements. Please see below for further details on requirements for Milestone 2:



- **Internationalized Courses** - Global Ambassadors must complete 4 internationalized courses from the VGD Internationalized Course List. Some courses are fully internationalized and can be taken at nearly anytime during the academic year. Some courses are internationalized only by particular sections and professors, so these can only be taken when available. Details can be found on the [VGD Internationalized Course List webpage](#).
- **Internationalized Co-Curricular Experiences** - Global Ambassadors must complete internationalized co-curricular experiences throughout their time in the program. Each co-curricular experience is assigned a point value based off of how engaging the content is and how much time will be committed to the experience. Global Ambassadors must complete a total of 15 points in order to satisfy the requirements for Milestone 2. The point breakdown and calendar of Internationalized Co-Curricular Experiences is located in the Canvas space. For each completed co-curricular experience, a corresponding reflection is required. While there is not due date for each reflection, we recommend that you submit these soon after you complete each co-curricular experience. This will ensure the experience is fresh in your mind and that you are tracking your points.

After completion of both required milestones, you will need to complete the [VGD Intent to Graduate Form](#), which is located both in the Canvas space and on the VGD webpage. The SAGE Office will run a completion audit to make sure all requirements are satisfied.

## 4. Frequently Asked Questions

**Q1: At this time, I think I want to complete Tier 1 of VGD and become a Global Ambassador. What happens if I change my mind and want to complete Tier 2 to become a Global Citizen?**

**A1:** If you decide you would like to go on and complete Milestone 3 to become a Global Citizen, please let the SAGE Office know. SAGE can update your status and issue you a new handbook. That being said, Milestone 3 takes time and has several steps and deadlines. You cannot change to Tier 2 if you are near to graduating.

**Q2: I am not sure that I have time to complete all of these requirements. Should I continue on with the program?**

**A2:** Please consult with the SAGE Office if you have concerns about completion. SAGE can conduct an audit to see if you have already satisfied internationalized courses, which would help speed up satisfying requirements. If the concern is about satisfying co-curricular experiences, please note that SAGE offers many opportunities to earn these points throughout each semester. While all experiences are virtual at the moment, in the future, we hope to bring back in-person programming when safe to do so.

### **Q3: I graduate this semester. Is the VGD program right for me?**

**A3** Please consult with the SAGE Office. Depending on what courses you have taken or plan to take during your last semester, you may be able to complete the program. The SAGE Office can run an audit to determine if you would be able to earn Global Ambassador status.

### **Q4: Why should I complete the VGD program?**

**A4:** Build your resume and stand out to future higher education institutions and employers! By analyzing global events and earning intercultural curricular and co-curricular credits, you will develop skills that are highly attractive to employers and universities. The SAGE Office will provide you with a certificate of completion at the end of your time in the program and would be glad to provide you a letter of recommendation.

### **Q5: Do I have to study abroad to complete VGD?**

**A5:** While we highly encourage participation in study abroad, it is not a requirement to finish the VGD program. If interested in learning more about study abroad, please contact the SAGE Office. There are affordable, short-term options that may fit your wallet and schedule. *\*Please Note - Due to the current global COVID-19 pandemic, study abroad has been cancelled until the 2022 cycle.*

## **5. Meet the Staff**

Still have questions? The SAGE Office staff will be your primary contact and can help you progress through the milestones.

- **Vannia Ruiz** serves as the primary point of contact for Valencia Global Distinction. She has been with the SAGE Office since 2012 and supports many international initiatives, as well as study abroad travel. You can reach Vannia at [vrui8@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:vrui8@valenciacollege.edu).
- Lindi Kourtellis serves as a secondary point of contact for Valencia Global Distinction. She has been with the SAGE Office since 2017 and supports study abroad travel, as well as internationalizing the curriculum. You can reach Lindi at [lkourtellis@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:lkourtellis@valenciacollege.edu).

## **6. Social Media**

Connect with Valencia Global Distinction:



[Instagram: valencia.vgdglobal](https://www.instagram.com/valencia.vgdglobal)



# VGD CHECKLIST TIER #1 GLOBAL AMBASSADOR

## MILESTONE #1

- ORIENTATION
- ICE BREAKER ACTIVITY
- GPI SURVEY - PART 1
- GLOBAL CITIZEN QUIZ

## MILESTONE #2

- 4 INTERNATIONALIZED COURSES
- 15 CO-CURRICULAR POINTS & REFLECTIONS
- VGD COURSE PLAN
- CO-CURRICULAR PLAN
- COMPLETION NOTIFICATION

# VGD CHECKLIST OVERVIEW



## MILESTONE #1

### **ORIENTATION**

- ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY
- ORIENTATION QUIZ
- GPI SURVEY - PART 1
- GLOBAL CITIZEN QUIZ

## MILESTONE #2

- **VGD COURSES AND ACTIVITIES**
- 4 COURSES FROM VGD APPROVED COURSE LIST
- 15 CO-CURRICULAR POINTS AND CORRESPONDING REFLECTIONS
- VGD COURSE PLAN
- CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PLAN
- TRAVEL ABROAD PARTICIPATION PLAN (OPTIONAL) ONLY IF YOU ARE DOING A STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM
- COMPLETION NOTIFICATION

**VALENCIA**COLLEGE

**International Student Services**  
Study Abroad and Global Experiences