



VALENCIA GLOBAL DISTINCTION

TIER #2

GLOBAL CITIZEN



VALENCIACOLLEGE

Study Abroad and Global Experiences

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Valencia Global Distinction (VGD)! You are about to embark on your transformative 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 Citizen Status

Note - The VGD program offers two tiers of completion. You have received the handbook for Tier 2, which is Global Citizen. If you intended to complete only the first two milestones of the program, please notify the SAGE Office.

To become a Global Citizen, you are required to complete Milestones 1 - 3 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.
- **Milestone 3** - The third milestone encompasses the Capstone Project, which requires an original project or presentation in consultation with the SAGE Office and a VGD Advisor. Your capstone project will be the culminating reflection of your time in VGD and will involve critical thinking, deep analysis, and, depending on the type of Capstone you select, the ability to use different media. This is an overview of Milestone 3 only. Continue to read on for more details on the types of capstones and requirements.

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. Capstone Project Choices

In Milestone 3, you can select how you present your capstone. Please see the choices below.

- **Capstone Presentation** - For your 20-minute capstone presentation, you will use the knowledge you gained throughout the program to analyze human actions and global systems in order to develop an informed, appropriate action to solve a complex problem in the human or natural world. Your presentation should be well-researched, have supporting references, exhibit global interconnectedness, and demonstrate your acquired knowledge, skills, and attitudes of a Global Citizen. While you will be able to choose a topic that's of interest to you, keep in mind that the capstone project involves the input of the SAGE Office and a VGD Advisor. Before you present your capstone, you will be required to complete a proposal, an outline,

a rough draft, and have a final consultation with SAGE or your VGD Advisor. More details can be found on in the Canvas space, including example capstone presentations from past graduates.

- **E-Portfolio** - An ePortfolio is an electronic collection of evidence that displays your learning, achievements, and experiences throughout your time in the VGD program. An ePortfolio is not a specific software package; rather, it is the name given to your final product. In the case of VGD, your e-Portfolio will display your intercultural learning and growth throughout the program. If you choose an e-Portfolio for your capstone, we recommend you start your e-Portfolio immediately as this will allow you to document your experiences, learning moments, thoughts, feelings, photos, videos, classwork, and papers as you go. The great thing about an e-Portfolio is that it will electronically display your knowledge, skills, and accomplishments, making it easier to share with potential universities, employers, or other networks. You can link out to your e-Portfolio on your resume, LinkedIn, and/or social media, if you choose. When you select an e-Portfolio as your capstone, please keep in mind you will need to give a 10-minute presentation introducing your work and walking your audience through the various components. More details can be found on the Canvas space, including examples of e-Portfolios.
- **Conference Presentation** - If you create a proposal and present a presentation at a conference, you can use this to satisfy your capstone project. You must present on a global topic, your study abroad experience, and/or your experience in the VGD program. The SAGE Office can help you to identify potential conferences and, if funds are available, may be able to help you with registration. The SAGE Office and your VGD Advisor will check that your conference presentation topic is in line with the capstone requirements. Please note, proof of conference registration and presentation completion is required. We will also require you to send all presentation visuals and handouts.
- **Research Paper** - This option will be new in 2021. Please check back for more details.

5. Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: At this time, I think I want to complete Tier 2 of VGD and become a Global Citizen. What happens if I change my mind and don't want to complete Milestone 3?

A1: If you decide you would like to complete only Milestones 1 and 2 to become a Global Ambassador, please let the SAGE Office know. SAGE can update your status and issue you a new handbook.

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Q2: I am not sure that I have time to complete all 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.

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Q3: Since I graduate this semester, is the VGD program right for me?

A3 Unfortunately, you will not be able to earn Tier 2 Global Citizen status if it's your last semester. You may still be able to complete Tier 1 Global Ambassador, however. Please check with the SAGE Office for a full VGD requirements audit.

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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. In addition, you will receive special recognition by earning acknowledgment of your VGD completion on your official college transcript, and you will earn a very prestigious medallion that can be worn at graduation.

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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 with your wallet and schedule. **Please Note - Due to the current global COVID-19 pandemic, study abroad has been cancelled until the 2022 cycle.*

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Q6: I see I need a VGD Advisor for Milestone 3. How do I find a VGD Advisor?

A6: The SAGE Office has a list of VGD Advisors that we can contact on your behalf. We try to match students by campuses and disciplines; however, as advisors are limited, we may not be able to match these criteria. What is more important is that all VGD Advisors are knowledgeable of the learning outcomes of the program and can help you through the capstone process. The SAGE Office staff can also help you with aspects of your capstone and can be a great resource.

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Q7: I already have an amazing professor I work with all of the time. Can this professor serve as my VGD Advisor and help me with my capstone project?

A7: Yes, absolutely! If there is a professor, advisor, or other staff member you work with at the college frequently, there is a chance he/she can serve as your VGD Advisor. Please contact the SAGE Office so we can work out the details and contact this person directly.

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Q8: I started out wanting to do a presentation for my capstone, but now I think I would like to change to an e-Portfolio. Can I do this?

A8: While it may be possible to switch capstone options, this really depends on where you are in the process and how close you are to graduating from the program. Please check with the SAGE Office to see if you would still have enough time to switch.

6. 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**.
- 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**.

7. Social Media

Connect with Valencia Global Distinction:

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



VGD CHECKLIST TIER #2 GLOBAL CITIZEN

MILESTONE #1

- ORIENTATION & ACTIVITIES

MILESTONE #2

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

MILESTONE #3

- CAPSTONE PROJECT PROPOSAL
- CAPSTONE PROJECT CHECK-IN MEETINGS
- FINAL CAPSTONE PROJECT
- 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

MILESTONE #3

CAPSTONE AND EARNING RECOGNITION

- REVIEW CAPSTONE REQUIREMENTS
- CAPSTONE PROPOSAL FORM
- CAPSTONE SUPPLEMENTARY ASSIGNMENTS (DEPENDING ON CAPSTONE TYPE)
- CAPSTONE FINAL PRESENTATION, PAPER, OR E-PORTFOLIO
- VGD INTENT TO GRADUATE FORM

VALENCIA COLLEGE

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