



Institute for Global Engagement

Office of the Provost

Global Faculty Institute Application

Program overview, requirements, and application questions

The University of Houston Global Faculty Institute is a cohort-based professional development program offered by the Institute for Global Engagement. The Institute prepares faculty to design and lead meaningful global learning opportunities and to advance internationalization within their departments, colleges, and the broader university. Each year, 12 faculty members will participate in a structured 15-week program that includes:

- A required two-day, in-person opening retreat;
- Six biweekly professional development and project-design sessions;
- Two required individual or small-group mentor consultations;
- Guided development of a global initiative proposal;
- A closing project showcase; and
- An optional but strongly recommended one-week international capstone experience.

Spring 2027 Cohort Dates:

- **Application deadline: October 15th, 2026**
- GFI Retreat: January 12, 13, 2027
- Biweekly Meetings starting January 28 for 6 weeks
- Closing Project Showcase: April 22
- International Capstone: May 18-22

Participants will work within one of three program tracks:

- **Track A:** Learning Abroad Participants develop a new faculty-led Learning Abroad or Global Experiential Opportunity program that provides students with structured academic and intercultural learning outside the United States.

- **Track B:** Virtual Exchange/COIL Participants develop a Virtual Exchange or Collaborative Online International Learning course component that connects UH students with peers, faculty, or communities in another country through sustained, technology-enabled collaboration.
- **Track C:** Curriculum Internationalization Participants redesign a course, curriculum, or experiential-learning opportunity to intentionally integrate global perspectives, global learning outcomes, intercultural competencies, or connections between local and global issues. The Institute is designed for faculty who are relatively new to leading sustained global-engagement initiatives and who are prepared to develop an implementable project during the program.

Faculty Benefits:

- **Service Credit:** Recognition of GFI participation by department and UH FED as meaningful university service.
- **Global Faculty Development Fund:** Guaranteed funding (\$1,500 with department match per participant) to implement their Global Initiative.
- **Professional and Scholarly Development:** Training in globally focused teaching and leadership, international research collaboration, scholarly engagement, and global funding opportunities.
- **Department Recognition:** Formal recognition of faculty participation, contributions with notification shared with department chairs and deans.
- **Networking and Community of Practice:** Access to a cross-campus network of globally focused faculty and professionals who share resources, mentor peers, identify opportunities for research and scholarly collaboration, and advance global engagement across UH.
- **Proposal Development:** participants will complete the institute with a fully developed global initiative proposal ready for submission and implementation.

Applicant Information

1. **Full name***
2. **Email***
3. **Faculty title and rank***
4. **Department***
5. **College***

Global Engagement Experience

- 6. Please briefly describe your previous global engagement experience, including any Faculty-Led Learning Abroad or GEO programs, Virtual Exchange/COIL courses, Global Faculty Development Fund awards, or sustained global engagement in your teaching.***

For each applicable experience, include the approximate date and your role, and explain how your proposed project would build on or differ from this work. If none apply, please state that.

We are seeking faculty with approximately 0-3 years of experience working on global initiatives.

Statement of Intent

- 7. Share your Statement of Intent***

Your Statement of Intent should address:

- Why you want to participate in the Global Faculty Institute
- The global learning need or opportunity you have identified among your students, department, college, or discipline
- How your goals connect with the mission and strategic priorities of the Institute for Global Engagement and the University of Houston
- How you would share what you learn with colleagues in your department, college, or across the university

Upload file

Proposed Global Initiative

- 8. Share your proposed global initiative, aligned with either Learning Abroad, Virtual Exchange-COIL, or Curriculum Internationalization. Applicants are not expected to submit a complete proposal at this stage. Participants will be supported in developing their preliminary concepts into feasible and implementable initiatives during the Global Faculty Institute.**

Your response should address:

- The initiative you propose to create or redesign
- The potential course, curriculum, program, or student population the initiative would serve
- The knowledge, skills, or learning outcomes students would gain
- How the initiative would expand access to meaningful global learning
- Any potential international, institutional, or community partners
- How the initiative aligns with department, college, or university priorities
- Potential implementation challenges and the support you would need

- Your anticipated implementation timeline
- How the initiative could be sustained

This proposal is an initial concept that will be built upon during the Global Faculty Institute.

Upload file

Department Chair Letter of Support

9. Department Chair Letter of Support

Upload a signed letter of support from your department chair or academic unit leader. The letter should:

- Confirm support for the applicant's participation in the Global Faculty Institute
- Confirm support for the development and implementation of the proposed global initiative
- Confirm if the department or college can provide \$1500 GFI Cohort Funding support (or in-kind support) as matched support for participation in GFI
- Share how participation and post-program contributions will be recognized within the applicant's annual review, promotion, tenure, post-tenure review, workload, or service expectations
- Confirm support for a future department- or college-level global engagement information session

Upload file

Project Tracks

10. Preferred project track*

- Track A: Learning Abroad
- Track B: Virtual Exchange-COIL
- Track C: Curriculum Internationalization, Global-Local

11. Second choice track*

- Track A: Learning Abroad
- Track B: VE-COIL
- Track C: Curriculum Internationalization, Global-Local

GFI Capstone

12. Do you intend to participate in the GFI Capstone - a site visit led by IGE staff to Mexico City for 5 days/4 nights to engage with global partners and review best practices in global learning. Tentative dates May 18-22, 2027.*

- Yes, if my department can provide matching \$1500 GFI funding
- Yes, regardless if my department can provide matched funding
- Maybe - I would like more information
- No

Institute Participation Commitment

13. Institute Participation Commitment: I understand that, if selected, I am expected to:

- Attend the full two-day opening retreat
- Attend all six biweekly Institute sessions
- Participate in two required mentor consultations
- Complete all proposal milestones and Institute deliverables
- Prepare a complete global initiative proposal
- Present my proposal during the closing showcase
- Maintain regular communication with the Institute for Global Engagement

14. Post-Program Leadership Commitment: I understand that, following completion of the Institute, I am expected to remain engaged for one academic year by:

- Implementing the approved global initiative proposal
- Facilitate the connection of IGE within my area to lead a department or college information session, joining the session to share about my experience
- Mentor the following year's GFI participants through limited mentorship meetings
- Participate in one campus-wide or college-wide global engagement meeting/event, such as Coogs without Borders
- Stay in regular communication with the Institute for Global Engagement through optional cohort reunion meetings and other networking opportunities

Additional Information

15. Is there anything else you'd like us to consider as we review your application?