The Office of International Affairs (OIA) is pleased to announce the development of the Global Classrooms Connections (GCC) grant under the University of Maryland’s Global Classrooms Initiative. The GCC grant continues to build on a five year tradition of creating impactful, accessible international experiences that utilize cross-cultural, project-based and technology-mediated work within UMD courses to connect students with our international partners and networks.

Applications to GCC seek to expand exposure for UMD students to international communities, ideas, and practices through short term virtual activities. GCC grant recipients will utilize their own international networks to embed an international virtual activity into at least one class session during their regularly scheduled course. Instructors, along with their international counterparts, can structure the activity to meet the needs of their student learning outcomes. Office of International Affairs staff can aid in connecting UMD instructors to international networks and share best practices or ideas for virtual activities. Applications are reviewed on a monthly basis.

**Example International Virtual Activities:** Panels, Book & Policy Talks, Research Presentations, Case Study Exercises, Debates, Performances, Business Pitches, Interviews

**Expectations**

- Each GCC will occur during at least one full class session during a regularly scheduled course.
- Activities will advance a global perspective on the content and student learning outcomes set forth by the faculty and academic program.

**Applicant eligibility**

Any UMD faculty member, regardless of tenure status, graduate students or staff serving as instructional support from any discipline are eligible to apply.

**Funding**

The Office of International Affairs will award GCC grants in the amount of $250 in a one time installment provided to the recipient’s department within 30 days of award notification.

**Conditions, Terms & Restrictions**

The grant can be used to cover salary, travel, technology, access to educational resources, materials, honoraria and any reasonable and necessary expenses in support of the GCC. Funds will be released directly to awardee’s academic department.

Current Global Classrooms Initiative (GCI) recipients are not eligible for GCC grants. Funds cannot be used retroactively for virtual activities. A faculty can only receive one GCC grant per term.

**Application process**

GCC grants are reviewed monthly on the 20th with award notifications released on the 28th of each month. To start an application complete the steps below:
Complete an application that details your intended activity, international partner and its relevance to your student learning outcomes.

- Provide contact information for your department within the application.

Applicants are encouraged to work closely with the Office of International Affairs and other campus resources. Applicants wishing to discuss their proposed GCC activity in advance of their application can schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person) with Drs. Raluca Nahorniac or Taylor Woodman.

**Reporting**

GCC recipients will submit at least one photo and short write up (\(\leq 250\) words) of the activity within 30 days of completing the virtual event. These items may be used in the Office of International Affairs reporting and marketing materials.

**Timeline**

- Grant applications are reviewed on the 20th of each month
- Announcement of awardees occurs on the 28th of each month
- Funds distributed to departments within 30 days of selection
- Reports due 30 days after scheduled virtual exchange event

**Additional information**

Please address all questions related to the GCC to Drs. Raluca Nahorniac or Taylor Woodman in the Office of International Affairs.

Interested in creating or redesigning your course to include an international virtual exchange for the full semester? Visit the Global Classrooms Initiative website for information and application details.