IPSL Institute for Global Learning

RESEARCH WITH A GLOBAL IMPACT

IPSL programs blend academic studies abroad with ethical volunteer service to promote principled engagement, social justice and peace.

Next Steps

1. Learn More!
   Visit www.ipsl.org/advocacy-research or speak with an IPSL representative by calling 503-395-IPSL (4775).

2. Apply!
   Visit www.ipsl.org/apply and begin your application to an IPSL semester, summer or individualized program. Find the program that is right for you!

3. Get Accepted!
   Congratulations! You are going on an IPSL Advocacy Research program!

4. Train Yourself!
   Complete the IPSL Pre-Departure Online Orientation and Institutional Review Board (IRB) Ethics Training.

5. Develop a Proposal!
   Collaborate with IPSL Staff, your program Local Advocacy Research Liaison (LARLs), and community partners to develop a new Advocacy Research Proposal or plug into one of the many IPSL Sponsored Research projects that are ongoing.

6. Submit Your Proposal!
   Submit to the IPSL IRB. IPSL staff will help you through the IRB submission process. Your proposal will be reviewed by the board and a Community Ethics Advisor (CEAs) to make sure it is ethical, culturally sensitive, and culturally relevant.

7. Receive Your Approval!
   Once you have received approval from the IPSL IRB for your research you are ready to go!

8. Go Abroad!
   Work with IPSL’s research support team to conduct research.

9. Collect Data!
   Serve at your local community organization and collect data.

10. Come Home and Publish!
    Share your data with your service organization and work with IPSL’s research support team to analyze and publish your research.

Visit www.ipsl.org for program details including dates, deadlines and fees.
Advocacy Research

IPSL offers educational and professional human subject research opportunities to the undergraduate and graduate student researcher. IPSL students design, conduct and publish research in collaboration with the local organizations they serve as part of IPSL undergraduate study-abroad semester or summer programs, IPSL graduate programs, or as short-term individualized research programs.

Non-Profit and Individual Research Review Services

IPSL International IRB (a legally constituted research review board), is dedicated to facilitating student research as well as creating an affordable, accessible human subject review board for individual researchers and low resource non-profits both here and abroad. Please inquire at irb@ipsl.org about these services.

Resource-scarce organizations often have little ability to examine their programs in a quantifiable way. Research through IPSL can help these organizations with data that can be used to impact their work and the people they serve. Unique to the IPSL program, students develop keen insight into the human-subject research review process in an international context with immediate, practical application.

IPSL Community Ethics Advisors (CEAs) + Local Advocacy Research Liaisons (LARLs)

The IPSL CEAs are program partners, nonprofit partners and members of the local community who advise and assist researchers and the IPSL International IRB by providing ethical oversight on all projects. IPSL LARLs, often local community members, provide in-country logistical support to research students including access to local populations and organizations, interpreting services and cultural, legal, and policy information. These professionals can work in partnership with the student’s home campus advisor and they actively collaborate with the IPSL International IRB to ensure the research project is ethical, legal, and feasible.

Student Experience

Laura, a Susquehanna University alum, engaged in a sponsored research project with IPSL in Guayaquil, Ecuador. While abroad, Laura collected data on Chikungunya, a mosquito borne illness affecting a local impoverished community. Laura served at a local clinic and worked alongside the clinic doctor to visit patients in their homes, conduct educational lectures on Chikungunya prevention

Advocacy Research is carried out by people who are deeply concerned about social justice. Their research seeks to measure social problems with a goal of increasing awareness and influencing political, economic, and social decision-making.

Who We Are…and What We Do

IPSL engages students, educators, and grassroots organizations around the world in hands-on service to promote equitable relationships, social justice, sustainable change, and a commitment to our shared humanity.

IPSL Students Are:

- Curious
- Passionate about Social Justice
- Open-Minded and Flexible
- Adventurous and Independent
- Resilient and Self-Motivated

IPSL International IRB Services

The IPSL International IRB is a registered Institutional Review Board composed of local and international professionals, educators, community members, and student members with strong expertise in teaching, research training, ethics and review, intercultural competency, service-learning, journalistic investigation, and advocacy. The IPSL IRB advises students and reviews and approves all IPSL research protocols. The IPSL IRB seeks to work in conjunction with a student researcher’s existing institutional IRB to contribute the necessary intercultural, ethical, and legal oversight particular to an international context.

IPSL Original + Sponsored Research

IPSL provides students with opportunities to engage in Sponsored Research where the research topic is identified by the local organization and conducted by the student researcher. Partners contribute expertise and share decision-making and ownership of the research. Data is collected over time with multiple student researchers, leading to an increase in value. The sponsored research program is especially useful for beginning researchers who may want to engage in international research but who do not have previous experience.

Students with previous research experience or time to dedicate to designing a research project may be interested in original research. Students initially design their research and are then matched with a service organization. Students and organizations collaborate to finalize the research design for the benefit of both. Students can receive three academic credits for the work they do while engaging in advocacy research through the course titled Advocacy Research in the Field.

Student Support + Resources

Students participating in an IPSL Advocacy Research program are supported with the entire research process from conception of a research question to final publishing. The goal is to create an instructive and supportive process that removes barriers and enables students to experience ethical research in a real-world setting. With the assistance of the IPSL Advocacy Research Coordinator, IPSL students receive support for research through:

- Online Pre-departure training in ethical human subject research, international research, research design and execution and NIH certification
- One-on-one proposal guidance and research design assistance
- IPSL International IRB assistance