

The Impact of Covid-19 on the International Experience Canada Program

Supervisor:

Jacob Schultz
International Experience Canada
Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada
Phone: 343-551-6122
Email: Jacob.schultz@cic.gc.ca

September 2020

Directed Research Project – The Impact of Covid-19 on the International Experience Canada Program

Note: Due to Covid-19, all correspondences will be conducted via teleconference for this project.

Description of the Project

Under the [International Experience Canada \(IEC\) Program](#), foreign national youth aged 18-35 can arrive to Canada each year to travel and work under established Youth Mobility Arrangements (YMAS), and similarly Canadians can travel abroad and work for up to 2 years. The Covid-19 pandemic has had – and continues to have – a profound impact on tourism, labour market outcomes, as well as travel habits and expectations across the globe, which has significantly impacted the IEC program.

This literature review will examine the most up-to-date information from various sources (e.g. foreign governments, think-tanks, the World Health Organization, OECD, etc.) to provide a comprehensive analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the International Experience Canada program. Specifically, the paper will examine literature related to the impact of Covid-19 on the overall tourism industry (**Section A**), analyze recovery strategies across main partner countries and in Canada (**Section B**), and provide insight into how the progression of Covid-19 has impacted changes in behavior for prospective IEC inbound participants and Canadian youth going abroad under youth mobility arrangements (**Section C**).

Benefits to the Participant and Requirements of the Project

This project will equip the student with a thorough understanding of the proposed topic, and enhance essential research, analytical, and writing skills. An effective project can only be accomplished with an understanding of the complexity of the subject matter at the outset, as well as the policy relevance of research in this area. The supervisor will therefore spend time with the student reviewing the proposed project in greater detail.

The student will be required to investigate and examine the existing literature, and must also be prepared to discuss key findings or ask the supervisor questions about the material in scheduled meetings – an open discussion will help the student develop their ideas and outline for their paper.

Project Deliverables and Timelines

October 12th: Annotated bibliography of relevant research (properly sourced)

- A minimum of 20 sources is required (1-2 paragraphs summarizing key findings, strength and limitations of research piece)

November 20th: Draft report of major findings for each suggested theme/section identified below:

A. Impact of Covid-19 on the tourism industry

This section will focus on...

- *Travel patterns, restrictions, and international tourist arrivals in Canada and main partner countries.*
- *Travel trends related specifically to youth. Regarding travel, how does Covid-19 impact youth compared to others?*
- *Individual's behaviours and travel expectations over time due to the pandemic (in Canada and abroad) – public opinion research*
- *Labour market impacts – job loss in specific industries, across countries, across minority groups in Canada, by age group, etc.*

B. Recovery strategies across main partner countries and in Canada

This section will focus on...

- *Analyzing various proposed or actioned recovery strategies across Canada and its partner countries*
 - *What are the central themes to these recoveries?*
 - *Do they differ vastly across countries? By province or region?*
 - *Are some strategies shown to be working? Others not?*

C. Impact of Covid-19 on the International Experience Canada Program

This section will focus on...

- *How might the tourism trends and recovery strategies (from Sections A and B respectively) affect the International Experience Program?*

December 18th: Submit final report to supervisor and program director including:

- Major findings
- Annotated bibliography

Meeting Schedule and Course Milestones

- Tele-conference meeting once a week for approximately 1 hour to discuss project and to identify any issues or concerns.

Key Milestones for Fall 2020 Directed Research Program

Milestone	Fall 2020
Submission of project proposals by supervisors	August 27
Submission of applications by students	September 2
Sponsors and students informed about outcome of matching	September 8-9
Student interviews with sponsors	September 10-21
Last day for students to register in ECO4150	September 22
Annotated bibliography due	October 12
University of Ottawa Reading Week	October 25-31
Draft report due	November 20
Classes end	December 9
Final Exam Period	December 10-22
Student submits final draft to supervisors	December 17
Student submits final approved draft and report to Director	December 22

Assessment Criteria

- The grade for this course is determined by a variety of factors, including:

Milestone	Grade Breakdown
<p><u>Active Participation in Meetings and Weekly Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student arrives to all virtual meetings on time. Student is prepared for all meetings with questions and/or comments about the topic and material examined in the literature. Student provides weekly updates on the progress of the paper, indicating consistent progress throughout the semester. 	20%
<p><u>Annotated Bibliography</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The annotated bibliography is submitted by the deadline indicated in the outline. The annotated bibliography includes at least 20 sources, with 1-2 paragraphs summarizing each source. The sources in the annotated bibliography relate to the topic, and the descriptive paragraphs reflect a good understanding of the key findings, strengths, and limitations of each source. Sources are properly cited. 	10%
<p><u>First Draft</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first draft is submitted by the deadline indicated in the outline. The first draft includes a variety of sources, many of which are drawn from the annotated bibliography. The first draft is well organized, and demonstrates a good understanding of the material and the themes identified in the literature. The first draft is well written (sentence structure, grammar, and spelling). The first draft clearly incorporates any comments or suggestions discussed between the supervisor and student in prior meetings. 	20%
<p><u>Final Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final report is submitted by the deadline indicated in the outline. The final report is well written (sentence structure, grammar, and spelling). The final report incorporates all suggested revisions from the supervisor, and includes the annotated bibliography and bibliography (for any additional sources). The final report meets all expectations and requirements as stated in the outline and discussed in the meetings throughout the semester. 	50%
Overall	100%