Northwestern | McCORMICK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Office of Undergraduate Engineering

Study Abroad Guide to Theme Classes for McCormick Students

Before going abroad:

When you are choosing classes, please consider the following:

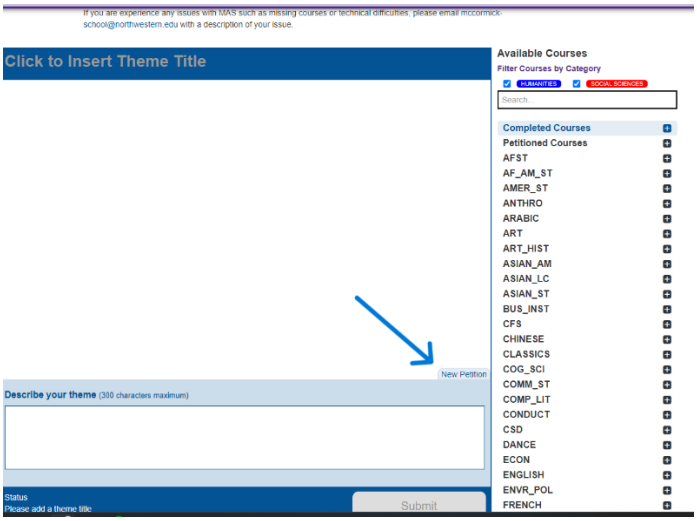
1. Theme classes taken abroad must follow the standards of the theme requirements. Theme requirements can be found here: https://www.mccormick.northwestern.edu/students/undergraduate/social-science-humanities-theme/
2. Classes must fit within the Humanities or Social and Behavioral categories.
3. Classes and topics not allowed towards theme (table 2 on the theme page) remain not allowed towards theme even if taken abroad.
4. Check to make sure that the class is not on the technical credit previously approved list. These classes are not allowed towards theme. Go to McCormick Previously Approved International Course Equivalents (NU Login Credentials Required)
5. Theme and unrestricted don't need petitioned in advance - just hold onto the syllabi.
6. All transfer courses must be passed with a C or higher *letter* grade.
7. No pass/fail courses will be accepted for credit.

Returning from abroad: How do I get my classes to count towards my theme?

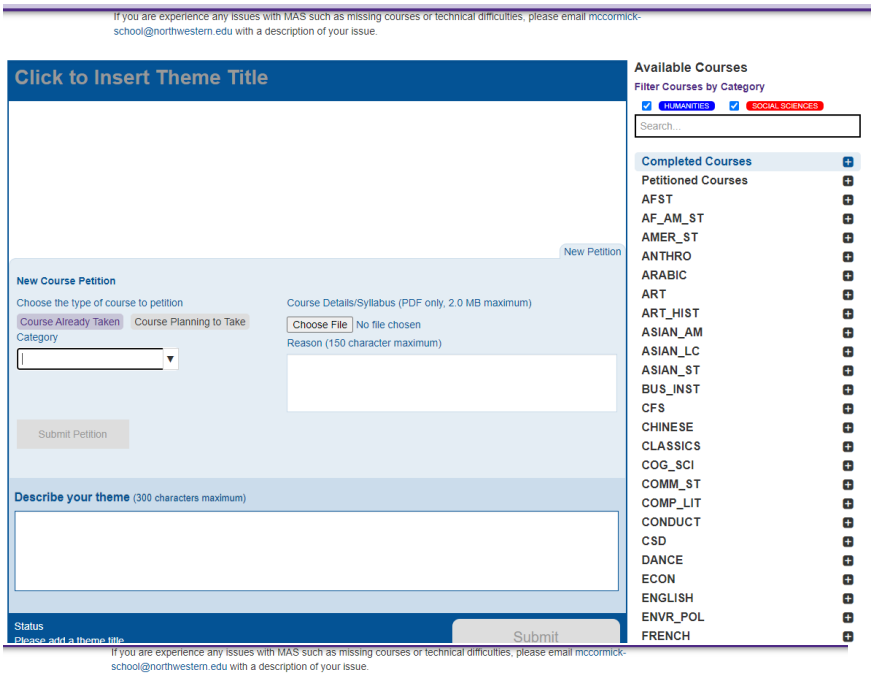
If you took transfer classes:

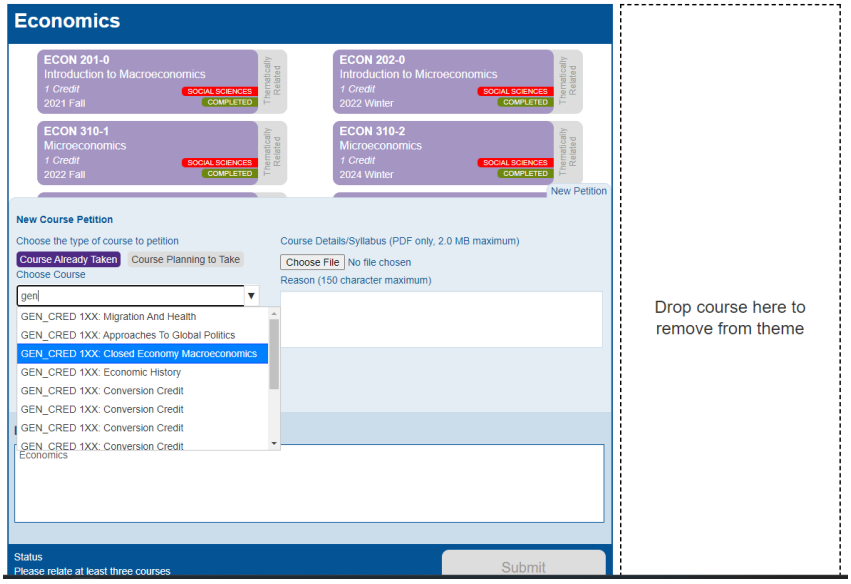
Once your classes have been transferred into CAESAR and MAS. These classes will appear as GEN_CRED 1XX. You will need to petition the classes in MAS towards your theme.

Go to your theme portal. There is a petition button near the bottom of the page.



Fill out petition. Select the correct GEN_CRED 1xx class. The name of the class will be under the title. You need to make sure that the class is the correct class. Make sure your file size is the correct format and size. Fill out the reason. Press submit. If your petition is approved, then the class will automatically be inserted into the theme. Because these classes are not getting rearticulated from GEN_CRED 1xx, they will not count towards the 100 level restrictions. Revise your theme as needed. Then press submit to submit your theme for review.





If you took direct credit:

You will need to make sure the correct version of the class is submitted in your theme. Most of the time, study abroad direct credit classes will have -SA after the course name and number. MAS sees the Evanston campus course and the study abroad course as different classes. The class will not be pulled into your theme if you put the wrong version of the course.

Conversion credit:

GEN_CRED 1XX that is labeled conversion credit is the time difference between a semester school and a quarter school. There is no class associated with this credit. It can only be used towards the unrestricted section within the audit.