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Northern Ireland Beyond Good and Evil Leadership Grant

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Beyond Good and Evil:
Northern Ireland Leadership Position

By Alexandra Meek

A Proposal Submitted to the Loyola Marymount University Honors Program

I would like to hold a leadership position in the Honors: Beyond Good and Evil summer course in Northern Ireland. My background as a Writing Associate for the Honors Program and as Teaching Assistant for Vandana Thadani would be incredibly useful for this program. I have experience following instruction and carrying out the tasks assigned to me in a timely manner, giving input on course curriculum, and leading effective group discussions.

I am used to holding office hours, grading assignments, and making myself available to students so I may serve as an effective liaison between the professor and students. Participating as a student leader in this course would allow me to have an incredibly comprehensive understanding of both the course material and the needs of those involved with the program. From a logistical standpoint, I wake up early, I am constantly reachable through my phone and email and I am the type of person who feels they are late unless they are at least five minutes early. I will make sure everyone is awake and where they need to be. Our time in Northern Ireland is unfortunately limited, which means that it is crucial to stay on schedule; moreover, we must make the most of the time we do have, in terms of both academics and cultural emersion.

Additionally, many of the freshman, or by the time of the trip rising sophomores, will have already experienced me in a leadership position through my time assisting Dr. Thadani with the Intro to Honors Course. I have been able to

watch Dr. Thadani lead multiple class discussions, and have lead group discussions myself. I understand how to facilitate an effective group reflection, and even more so within this specific group of students. Between this, my experience in speech and debate, and as a liberal arts student in my own courses I am prepared to lead, moderate, and participate in conversations that will provide a deeper understanding of the course. Being abroad is an amazing opportunity to grow as an individual, and gain a new perspective on the way one fits into a society and views the world. I want to help each student, myself included, to walk away from this course with a deep understanding of both the program's content, and of themselves. In order to do this, I am requesting a \$2,000 leadership grant from the Honor's Program to put towards airfare and lodging. Being a leader for this program means a lot to me, and I am fully prepared to put my all into it.