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Introduction

An important goal of the San Diego Community College District is to internationalize the curriculum. To achieve this goal, the District and colleges sponsor opportunities, such as study abroad programs, to enable faculty and students to obtain first hand experience living and teaching or studying abroad. Through these experiences, faculty are able to take advantage of resources abroad which are relevant to their discipline, to develop their curriculum, and subsequently to infuse their experiences into the classroom when they return to their home campus. Students are able to develop the global competencies they need to live and work successfully in an ever-expanding global society while making progress towards completion of academic goals in another country.

Opportunities to teach abroad during the summer have recently been sponsored by the colleges in the district to both contract and adjunct faculty. You may contact your International Education Coordinator to inquire about the opportunity to teach abroad under the auspices of your college (see page 9). Now that the District has adopted the sixteen week academic calendar, stay in touch with your International Education Coordinator regarding the future possibility of teaching abroad during the January intersession.
What locations have been selected for short-term study abroad programs and how are they chosen?

Most recently, summer study abroad programs have taken place in Spain, France, Italy, Mexico and Malta.

Program sites abroad are selected taking into consideration safety and security issues, the location’s appeal to students, sites that are served by logistical support providers, and current trends in study abroad.
What is the structure of a short-term study abroad program?

Short-term study abroad programs typically take place over a two and a half to four week period.

The unit value of the courses being taught abroad will play a significant role in determining the amount of time spent abroad as a whole and the number of class or other contact hours per day. For example, a three-unit class, which requires a minimum of 48 contact hours, can be accommodated in a four-week program meeting three hours daily Monday-Thursday.

Another determining factor is cost. It may be more cost effective to go abroad for 3 – 3 ½ weeks and begin classes in San Diego prior to departure, depending on the curriculum and the program site abroad.
**What classes are taught abroad?**

Theoretically, any class(es) can be taught abroad. What is important is the appropriateness of the subject matter to the site abroad and how the proposed class(es) will be adapted to the environment. Examples of classes that have been taught abroad during past short-term programs are fashion in Italy and France; humanities, history, and Spanish in Spain; history in Italy and Malta; and Spanish in Mexico. Excursions and field trips complement the classroom instruction. Classes take place in facilities in the host country that are used exclusively for our group of students. Examples of classroom facilities used in past programs include universities, language schools, and hotel meeting rooms.

Imagine being able to make your curriculum come alive and be more exciting and meaningful to students by visiting the fashion houses of Italy and France; historical sites such as El Escorial, Toledo, Segovia and museums such as the Prado in Madrid; and archeological sites of Italy and Malta, and using the living language lab of Mexico as your classroom while studying Spanish!!
Would I have other responsibilities besides teaching when participating in this program?

The answer is an emphatic YES!

Generally speaking, faculty are expected to spend much more time with students than they do while at the home college. Faculty assume the role of mentor, advisor, parent, and friend and usually develop closer relationships with students while abroad than at home. It is important for faculty to assist students in becoming part of and understanding the culture they are living in. Additionally, because inappropriate student behavior outside the classroom can result in a student’s termination from the program and/or deportation, faculty are expected, depending on the situation, to play a role, together with the on-site representative of the logistical support provider, host college, and possibly the student’s home college, in resolving the problem.

Examples of responsibilities, both curricular and non-curricular, prior to departure include:

1) Recruit student participants at your college, at other colleges within the district, around the county, and possibly in the community! The importance of this task for a successful program cannot be overemphasized!

2) Participate in the pre-departure orientation(s).

3) Submit appropriate information such as a photograph and biography for inclusion in the promotional brochure.

4) Participate in discussions about program components and training sessions regarding responsibilities abroad.

5) Finalize curriculum and class schedules in
consultation with the appropriate individuals at your
college such as your school dean and campus
International Education Coordinator.
7) Arrange for classes to appear in the class schedule.
8) Obtain permission from the Chancellor to travel
abroad without expenses, and, in consultation with
the IE Coordinator, the Board to teach abroad.

Examples of responsibilities, both curricular and non-
curricular, during the program include:

1) Travel with the group at least one way, typically to the
site abroad. If not returning with the group,
accompany students to airport and see that they board
the plane. (With permission, the on-site coordinator
can accompany the group to the airport).
2) Participate in all activities included in the program
cost, i.e., excursions, field trips, orientations, etc.
3) Be aware as much as possible of the well-being of the
student participants at all times and consult as
necessary with the logistical support provider on site,
your International Education Coordinator, dean or
other appropriate person on your home campus, to
facilitate the resolution of any problems that may
arise.
4) Show students how the curriculum relates to the
history and culture of the country in which they are
studying.

Examples of responsibilities after the program include:
1) Disseminate and collect written student evaluations of
the program.
2) Submit a detailed written report to the appropriate
Dean(s) and your campus International Education
Coordinator regarding the program
You may request a copy of the faculty responsibilities from your campus coordinator at any time, or you will receive a complete list of faculty responsibilities if you are selected to teach abroad for your college.

**What would I be provided with as a faculty member on such a program?**

Your home college would pay you at adjunct rates and your normal benefits would be in effect. However you will want to inquire how your health insurance, for example, would be utilized abroad.

You will be provided with housing at no cost for one person. Housing options, depending on the location, have included apartment-style accommodations, family home stays, hotels, and long-term stay residence facilities. If you live with a family, at least two meals daily will be included.

Round-trip airfare and ground transportation will also be included as will participation in program-related excursions and field trips including museum and monument entrance fees.

If you plan to have family members accompany you on the program, you will need to consult with your college representative to discuss how they will be accommodated and what additional costs will be incurred.
Is it safe to study and teach abroad?

Your and the students’ safety and security is of primary importance to the San Diego Community College District. The District will make every effort to assure that you are safe while abroad. Part of the responsibility lies with you.

The District and the logistical support provider count on you to set a good example for students and to follow the warnings and directives given regarding safety and security issues.

At the same time, the District monitors U.S. State Department travel warnings, has prepared its own emergency response plan, and only contracts with logistical support providers who have a well developed emergency response plan. If a situation arises in the host country that would put your and the students’ safety or security in jeopardy, we will cancel a program and/or arrange for your transportation back to the U.S.

If you have more questions about safety and security regarding study abroad, please go to: www.studentsabroad.com/health.html

You and your students will also be registered on the U.S. State Department’s travel website so you can be contacted by government authorities in case of an emergency.
What is the process to be selected to teach abroad on a short-term program?

You may begin by contacting your campus International Education/Study Abroad Coordinator to inquire about the application process. Coordinators for 2008-2009 are:

Marion Froehlich, San Diego City College, Room A-1-Q
Tel: 619/388-3652, E-mail: mfroehli@sdccd.edu
Hossna Sadat, San Diego Mesa College, Room A-111
Tel: 619/388-2213, E-mail: hsadat@sdccd.edu
Judy Patacsil, San Diego Miramar College, Counseling Center
Tel: 619/388-7564, E-mail: jpatacs@sdccd.edu

OR

Wait for the application cycle to begin at your college. Each college has its own procedures for announcing the opportunity, soliciting study abroad proposals, and selecting a program to implement. You can expect to be notified of the opportunity to teach abroad on a short-term program via the normal communication channels at your college.

District and college administrators for International Education:
Vice Chancellor, Otto Lee, Instructional Services, Planning and Technology: District Office, 619/388-6965
Peter White: Vice President of Student Services, City College, 619/388-3464
Bill Craft: Acting Vice President of Instruction, Mesa College, 619/388-2755
Bill Vincent, Vice President of Instruction, Miramar College, 619/388-7350
If you are selected to teach abroad, you will work very closely with your International Education Coordinator and school dean to put the components of the program in place.

Thank you for your interest in globalizing your campus community!

Vice Chancellor’s Office
Instructional Services
619/388-6965
08/27/08