

STUDENT STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK

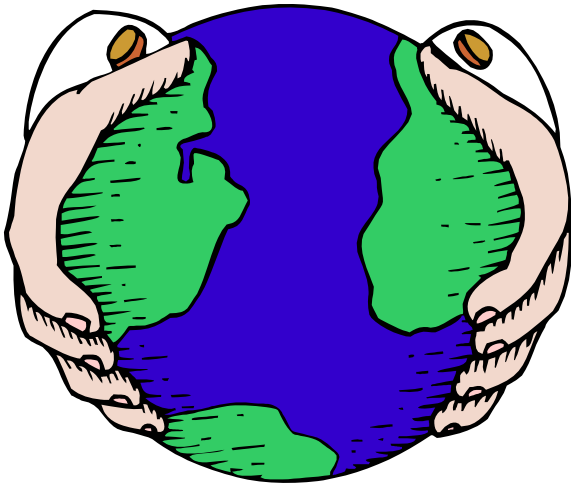


**FOR SDCCD
SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS**

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STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS



Introduction

The San Diego Community College District offers students the opportunity to study in different countries around the world in order to develop global competencies and to increase cultural awareness while making progress towards completion of academic goals.

Short term opportunities to study abroad are offered during the summer by the colleges in the San Diego Community College District. Programs offered include Fashion in France and Italy, and Ancient Sites of Malta and Italy (sponsored by Mesa College), and Spanish language and history in Madrid, Spain, (sponsored by City College), Spanish language in Cuernavaca, Mexico (sponsored by City College), History of the Americas in Brazil (sponsored by Mesa College) and Filipino Studies offered in the Philippines (sponsored by Miramar College). It is the responsibility of the district and its affiliates to provide you with an academically sound, culturally enriching, personally rewarding, and safe study abroad experience.

We live in a time of increasing global interdependence. In order to function successfully in this new world order, we must gain crosscultural understanding and appreciation. Especially in this post-September 11 era, it is more important than ever that we learn about cultures other than our own and learn to get along with them.

When you participate in a study abroad program, you not only learn about your host culture, you learn about your own culture. It's only by leaving your home country that you can view it more objectively and understand what the U.S. stands for and what it means to be an American because you will have something to contrast it with. You will also learn about yourself – how you adapt to new situations, how you get along with people different from yourself, how you manage stress, how resourceful you are, and you will discover new interests and activities.

On a more practical level, you will enhance your resume with a study abroad experience both for the purpose of transferring to a four-year college or university and for the job market.



How long is the program and what is the class schedule?



Short-term study abroad programs range from 2 ½ to 4 weeks in length. Instruction takes place several hours per day and includes visits to sites of historic and cultural interest which complement classroom learning.

For example, participants on past programs visited the Roman site of Pompeii, (Italy) and early megaliths on Malta; fashion houses in Milan, (Italy); the burial place of Spanish royalty at El Escorial in Spain; and the ruins of Teotihuacan outside Mexico City.

What classes are taught abroad?

Faculty who are interested in teaching their area of expertise abroad submit a program proposal for evaluation by a group of their peers. As a result, subjects taught on these programs can vary greatly. Classes are usually taught in English. The exception would be for an intensive language program when the classes would be taught in the host country language. Classes are held in classrooms that are used exclusively for our groups of students, sometimes at institutions that enroll other international or local students. Examples of classroom facilities used in past programs include universities, language schools, and hotel meeting rooms.



Imagine studying fashion design in Italy and France, Spanish language in Spain or Mexico, or history of the ancient world in Italy and Malta, Filipino studies in the Philippines! There is no better way to make your learning experience more meaningful and to make your studies come alive than to participate in these programs! Field trips, excursions, and visits to sites of cultural and historical interest are

also components of the program and will complement/supplement your classroom work.

Classes taught abroad meet general education requirements and are transferable to CSU and/or UC.

To be informed of upcoming short-term programs, consult with your Campus International Education Coordinator, look at the International Education advertisement of the schedule of classes every term, and/or access your college website.



What are the eligibility requirements?

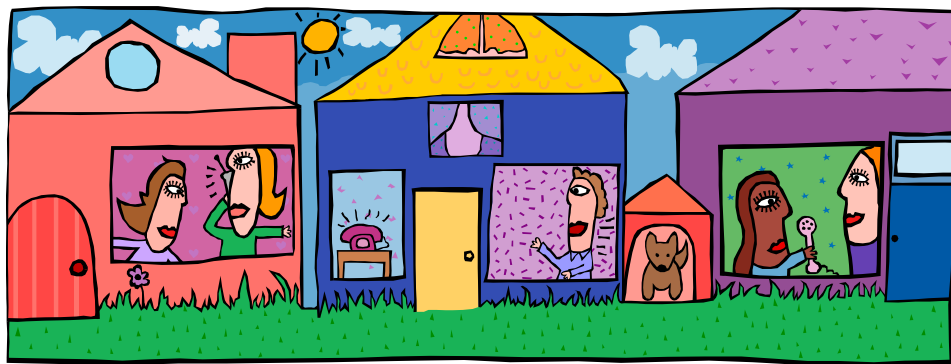
Eligibility requirements to participate in study abroad programs include being 18 years of age or older by the date of departure, completing of 12 college-level units with a GPA of 2.0 or higher, being in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress, and a student conduct review. Program space is limited and spaces will be allotted on a first-come first-serve basis.



Where will I live?

Housing options vary depending on the site abroad. One housing option is family homestays, in private or shared rooms, with two – three meals per day provided by the family. Living with a local family is probably the best way to familiarize yourself with the culture, make longstanding friends, and to improve your foreign language proficiency.

Another housing option is student dormitories. This opportunity may enable you to meet students from the host country or other countries and to experience dorm life – a novelty for most community college students. Hotels have also been used to house program participants.



How much does it cost?

Costs for participating in study abroad programs are higher than studying on your home campus.



The additional expense goes towards such items as purchase of round-trip airline tickets, ground transportation, room and board, field trips and excursions, insurance, and on-site staff assistance.

As a result, program costs have varied from the low \$2,000 range into the \$3,000 range. Registration fees, books and supplies, personal expenses, airport departure taxes, and passport fee (if applicable), are not included in the program price.

How can I pay for studying abroad?

FINANCIAL AID may be used to pay program expenses when received for the entire year and “banked” for use during the summer. No financial aid is available specifically for short-term programs which do not take place during the fall and spring semesters.



Financial Resources *For Study Abroad***

LOANS

Check www.ed.gov for federal loans.

FinAid (finaid.org) – renowned college financial aid site
Go to www.myrichuncle.com.

Student loan buying guide –
(www.greentreegazette.com/StudentLoan/BG) - online resource
for student loans.

Go to www.Salliemae.com and www.plato.org

FUNDRAISING

Check http://www.cylc.org/shared/fundraising_guide.pdf for
information regarding how to fund raise.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS – Go to
www.BlackExcel.org/link4.htm, ,

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA - Go to www.akaef.org

ARTHUR H. GOODMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

Awards scholarships ranging from \$1,500-\$3,000 to minority
students and working women who better their community.

www.cdcloans.com or call: 1-800-611-5170

CALIFORNIA COLLEGES FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

(CCIE): Go to www.ccieworld.org, click

on “enter,” click on POCCSA grant activities. \$250 - \$1,500
scholarships are available. Deadline is November 15 for spring
programs, May 15 for fall programs.

Ask the **Chamber of Commerce** for names of American
companies owned by foreign companies and approach these U.S.
companies for money. Go to the website of these companies and
look for foundation/scholarship information.

FASTWEB.COM - American college scholarship database.
Registration required (no fee)

GILMAN – This is a scholarship program funded by the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to enable students who would not normally be able to study abroad to do so. \$3,000 - \$5,000 scholarships are available. Deadlines are early to mid October for the following spring and early to mid April for the following fall. These scholarships are currently not available for the summer. Go to www.iie.org/gilman. City College students have been awarded this scholarship every semester! You can be awarded one, too!

HISPANIC COLLEGE FUND – Go to hispanicfund.org

HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND – www.hsf.net

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FINANCIAL AID – IEFA is the premier internet resource for financial aid information for students wishing to study in a foreign country. www.iefaf.org

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FINANCE CORPORATION – IEFC has developed a range of student loan programs for the growing population of students who want to study in another country. www.iefc.com

NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR EXCELLENCE – Go to www.excellence.org/programs.html

NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM – NSEP offers scholarships to students wanting to study in developing countries. Go to www.ndu.edu/nsep.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Call 619-702-0790 or go to www.sdchcc.com. This is a portal for sponsored links.

*Be a savvy consumer with your personal information.

SAN DIEGO FOUNDATION – Go to sdfoundation.org/scholarships. There are sometimes scholarships earmarked specifically to help City College students study abroad.

Go to the Office of **Student Affairs** in D-106 to see what scholarships they are currently offering. They publish a pamphlet with a scholarship list in it in the middle of every fall semester. Other scholarship opportunities are publicized as they become available

Go to www.fastweb.com, the internet's largest free scholarship search.

STUDENTAWARDS.COM – students can search from thousands of unique scholarships, bursaries, grants and other forms of financial assistance.

STUDYABROAD.COM – financial aid advertising page.

STUDYABROADFUNDING.ORG: The Institute for International Education (IIE) announces an online directory StudyAbroadFunding.org to help increase diversity in study abroad. In addition to the traditional country and field of study search options, award entries are now searchable by categories such as race and ethnicity, gender, and selections for student leaders and athletes, low-income students, students with disabilities and a variety of other designations.
<http://www.studyabroadfunding.org>

What is expected of me during the program?

Students typically enroll in one class during a short-term study abroad program. Under certain circumstances and with instructor approval, a student may enroll in a second class.

Participants must recognize that participating in a study abroad program is different from attending classes in San Diego. Students who study abroad are ambassadors of the U.S. and as a result, their behavior comes under close scrutiny. Host country nationals will make judgments about Americans based on the way program participants conduct themselves. Additionally, living in another country entails becoming familiar with and getting used to different societal norms, behavior patterns, and laws. As a result, the San Diego Community College District will require that participants sign a document indicating that they agree to adhere to the district Student Conduct Code at all times whether in class, in housing accommodations, on excursions/field trips, or on their own. If it is determined that a participant is not conducting him or herself according to SDCCD standards, in or out of the classroom, he/she may be dismissed from the program.

In addition, the company the district contracts with to put the elements of the program in place (airfare, housing, etc.) also has the right to enforce appropriate standards of conduct and may at any time terminate a student's participation in a study abroad program for failure to maintain these standards or for any actions or conduct which is considered to be incompatible with his/her personal welfare and/or with the interest, harmony, comfort and welfare of other participants. If participation is terminated, a student will be removed from classes, housing accommodations, excursions, etc., will not receive a refund of fees, and will assume any additional costs incurred in returning to the U.S.

Is it safe to study abroad?

Your safety and security are of primary importance to the San Diego Community College District. The District will make every effort to assure that you are safe while abroad. Of course part of the responsibility lies with you; if you are told not to go to certain locations at certain times of day, if you are warned to refrain from visiting specific places, if you are told not to participate in host country political demonstrations, and about the severity of host country laws related to certain behaviors, we must rely on your good sense to follow the warnings and directives given to you.



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 safety or security in jeopardy, we will cancel a program and/or arrange for your transportation back to the U.S.

In addition, study abroad program costs include medical insurance. After you review the provided medical insurance, you can decide if you wish to supplement it with additional coverage and/or with trip cancellation, baggage insurance, etc.

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

How do I enroll in a study abroad program?

- I. The first thing to do is to meet with the International Education Coordinator at the college that is sponsoring the program you would like to participate in.** The San Diego Community College District International Education Coordinators for 2004 - 2005 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: jpatacsi@sdccd.net



The Campus Coordinator will give you a program brochure including enrollment form if you do not already have one and discuss the details of the program with you. He/she will also confirm that your GPA is at least 2.0 and that you will have completed at least 12 units prior to departure.

Topics you might think about and be prepared to discuss with the coordinator are:

- 1) why you want to participate in this program and what you hope to gain from the experience
- 2) your preparation for and willingness to study during an intensive short-term program
- 3) your ability to live within a budget

- 4) how you feel about being away from the U.S., friends and family for the duration of the program
- 5) how you feel about differences in customs, food, etc.
- 6) if you have lived away from home before traveled before
- 7) if your family/significant other is supportive of your decision to study abroad
- 8) if you need any assistance or special services to fully participate in any of the activities, academic or otherwise, of the program
- 9) if you have any health concerns we should be aware of
- 10) if you have a passport



- II. Submit the Student Conduct Release Form** to the Dean of Student Affairs on your home campus. The Campus Coordinator will provide you with this form. The Dean will complete the form and then forward it to the Coordinator. If the Dean has noted something on this form, you will receive additional counseling
- III. Meet with your counselor** to discuss the class(es) you plan to take and how it/they fit into your educational plan.
- IV. Meet with the financial aid technician** if you would like to know if you have any unused financial aid monies that you could apply to the study abroad program.
- V. Submit your enrollment form and deposit** after you have determined that the academic program meets your needs, you will be able to finance the opportunity, and you are committed to participating in the program. The Coordinator will assist you with this stage of the process. The deposit is usually in the \$400 - \$500 range.

VI. Review the SDCCD Student Conduct Code provided by your Campus Coordinator and sign the accompanying agreement.



VII. Stay in touch with the Campus Coordinator to be apprised of upcoming events such as information meetings, pre-departure orientations, additional documents to complete, etc.

Is there anything else?

Congratulate yourself on making a great investment in your academic, professional, and personal future!!!



Vice Chancellor's Office
Instructional Services
619/388-6965
082508