Wofford College

Interim Descriptions, Travel/Study

For Semester 201501
Sunday, February 1, 2015  8:58 am

JAN

1036  JAN 402 A  Paddling the Okefenokee and the Everglades: Real-Life Lessons in Wetland Conservation
Gerald Thurmond  Doug Rayner
Enrollment: 18 / 18  Billed Fee: $570.00
0900 1200 MTWRF  RMSC 212

The best way to truly know a swamp or marsh is to paddle through it. This class will investigate issues of wetland conservation by kayaking and camping in the great wetlands of south Georgia and Florida: the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and the Everglades National Park. We will also paddle and camp near New Smyrna Beach to see dolphins, view Manatees in Blue Springs State Park, and have an optional snorkeling trip at Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park on Key Largo. We will spend the first week and a half of the interim preparing our minds, through readings and discussions, and our paddle strokes, through practice on a local lake, for this adventure, and fifteen to sixteen days traveling and paddling. The last two days of interim students will make presentations about what they have learned.

Project Cost: $500 (This includes cost of food in campsites, hotels, camping fees, cost of gas, optional snorkeling trip, and books)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $200-400 (meals, transportation costs)

1038  JAN 404 A  Music and Nature in Puerto Rico
Thomas Wright  Katherine Steinmetz
Enrollment: 14 / 20  Billed Fee: $3,490.00
1300 1600 MTWRF  RMSC 225

Do you like Puerto Rican music? Hey, me too! What about nature? Yes? Well then, this is the interim for you! In this course, we will discover the music and nature of Puerto Rico. We will learn how to play, write, and dance to Puerto Rican music; we will explore the diversity and importance of nature on the island; and we will study how music and nature combine to create the foundation of Puerto Rican culture. The first week of the course will be spent learning the basics of Puerto Rican music and studying the varied ecosystems of the island. The second and third weeks will be spent in Puerto Rico, where we will learn music from local musicians and visit natural wonders including El Yunque National Rainforest, La Mina Waterfalls, Bioluminescent Bay, the Camuy Caves, and Fajardo Beach. In the final week, we will reflect on our experiences, write songs, and give presentations about what we learned and saw. For more information, please see http://webswoffordedu/steinmetzkTeaching/Interim/PuertoRico.html.

Project Cost: $3420 (includes airfare, lodging, local transportation, activities on the island, some meals, transportation to/from airport, instruments, speakers, emergency expenses)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $ 270 (meals and books)
In the United States, and here in Spartanburg, we are experiencing unprecedented rates of income inequality, unemployment, violence, low educational attainment, children going hungry or arriving at school ill-prepared to learn, community health crises, and the like. We’ve seen well-meaning people try to swoop in to improve social challenges, without input and buy-in from the community, to disastrous results. It’s far from all bad news, though. The same communities that have all of these recognized community challenges are also home to all sorts of important assets. So, what is a college student, an emerging community leader, a human being with talents and energy to give, living across the street, but behind a gate, to do? This project will ask the question and help the students answer it. The project examines methods for involving community residents in decision-making systems at the local level, empowering community members through community-based business and economic development, health and human services, and housing and neighborhood revitalization projects. Students will learn methods for facilitating community involvement, constructively engaging diverse groups of stakeholders in strategic partnerships, and building communities. Students will examine the role of institutions, agents of those institutions (like students), and ordinary citizens in community development and learn from experienced community organizers and activists. And, students will gain understanding, effective tools and real-world skills in each of six primary areas of community development: (1) understanding community context; (2) collaborative planning; (3) developing leadership and enhancing participation; (4) community action and intervention; (5) evaluation; and (6) promoting and sustaining.

Project Cost: $900 (for Bonner Scholars this fee is funded by the Bonner Scholars program)

Students on this travel/study interim will discover some of the ways in which modern Britain preserves, utilizes and is affected by its own history. On campus, in preparation, we will explore some moments in British history through reading and research. Then we’ll embark on our trip, basing ourselves in the heart of London and exploring the city thoroughly, from its beginnings—pre-Roman remnants and ancient sites like Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London—to its more recent past, including Churchill's War Rooms, the Tate Modern, and the tallest building in Europe (completed last year). We will also travel out from London for several days, stopping at Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral on our way to the old spa town of Bath, where we'll visit the beautiful Bath Abbey and the famous Roman Baths. Then we'll go to Stratford and visit Shakespeare's birthplace and Anne Hathaway's Cottage, and on to Oxford, where we'll stay and visit the Bodleian Library, Christchurch and Magdalen Colleges. We'll be going to other historic sites, museums, galleries, and the theater—too many to mention here—but at a pace which allows for depth as well of breadth of discovery (--there will even be some free time to pursue individual interests, with guidance available).

Project Cost: $4250 (Includes airfare, transportation to/from the airport, lodging in shared rooms in central London for 11 nights and in Bath for 2 and Oxford for 2 nights. All entrance fees and ground travel costs are included. Breakfast and evening meals are included, and most lunches. Some theater tickets are included.)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $285 (some lunches, passport)

Greece abounds in landscapes of distinctive and dramatic character, places where the land meets the sea in spectacular fashion, where rock pinnacles, caves, and high peaks figure a wild landscape, and where stony hillsides are softened by olives groves, pines, and vineyards. Through the practices of culture, these places became associated with the presence of different gods, with mythic tales, with worship, prophecy, sport, and monastic isolation. Participants in this project will study and visit many of the most famous and impressive of Hellenic sites. Several days of on-campus preparation will precede 20 days of travel to the temples and museums of Athens; to Mycenae, Corinth, and Olympia, site of the ancient Panhellenic games; to Byzantine churches at Hosios Loukas and Daphni; to the oracular site of Apollo at Delphi for a day of hiking; and to the monasteries and hermitages on rock pinnacles in Meteora.

Project Cost: $4,900 (includes airfare, ground transportation, hotel accommodations (double occupancy), all breakfasts, 9 dinners, entrance fees, and tips)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $635 (some meals, passport)
Centered in Freiburg, Germany, the Themes of Comparative Law Program offers students an introduction to law studies, with a special focus on the European heritage and contemporary European culture of law and justice. Structured around three week-long classroom modules, students will learn about issues of human rights, arbitration, and international dispute settlement in European countries, and compare European and U.S. legal systems in English. Students will also have the rare advantage of meeting with legal experts in twice-weekly master classes, where they will discuss contemporary topics in European law and justice. Possible weekly field trips include project-related excursions to Strasbourg, France; Karlsruhe, Germany; Lausanne and/or Geneva, Switzerland. The final session of the program, a Moot Court, will conclude the Interim in Freiburg, Germany. This project is graded A-F. For more information, please see http://www.iesabroad.org/study-abroad/programs/european-union-themes-comparative-law-european-perspective-january-term.

Project Cost: $3595 (housing, excursions, health insurance, onsite orientation, 24 hour emergency support)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $2525 (airfare, meals, books, local transportation, passport)

"From Pontius Pilate to Theodosius: The Advent of Christianity" examines the early Christian church from the role Pontius Pilate played in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, to the inception and adoption of Nicene Christianity throughout the Roman Empire in the fourth century. The course is taught in English and incorporates extensive local field study to places in and around Rome. Offered in partnership with IES Abroad, this project offers students the chance to study early Christianity in the setting of Rome. More than 2,500 years of history have formed the city's unique character, and walking in Rome is a constant voyage of discovery. While the past is inescapable in Rome, the contemporary city is a vibrant, bustling metropolis of 3 million people. Home to the Vatican, Rome provides the perfect setting to study the early Christian church. There will be onsite supervision and support throughout the term. Students will be housed in apartments in the city and there will be a program of cultural events and excursions in addition to the course seminar. This project is graded A-F. For more information, please see http://www.iesabroad.org/study-abroad/programs/rome-january-term-pontius-pilate-theodosius-advent-christianity.

Project Cost: $3750 (housing, insurance, local excursions, 24 hour emergency support)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $2185 (airfare, meals, books, local transportation, passport)

Taught in English, this project is ideal for students considering careers in health-related fields. The program offers the opportunity to learn about health care policy and delivery systems in the context of Chile's community-centered public health care system. An important component of the program introduces historical, social, and cultural aspects of health care specific to Chile, including the treatment of illness and patients' rights. No prior Spanish study required. This project is graded A-F. For more information, please see http://www.iesabroad.org/study-abroad/programs/santiago-january-term-health-studies.

Project Cost: $2975 (includes 21 meals/week, homestay lodging, health insurance, 24 hour emergency support, local excursions)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $2675 (airfare, local transportation, books, passport, entry fee)
To really learn about a different culture, you have to experience it firsthand. We will learn from Japanese teachers, and the Japanese people themselves. This trip ran in 2007, and received wonderfully positive reviews. And without exception, students said the high point was “homestay”. We’ll spend 19 days in Japan; about half of that time you will be spending evenings and weekends living with a family in Tokyo. We will also travel on the Bullet Train to Kyoto, Nikko, and Hiroshima.

While in Japan, the course will be managed and taught by the study abroad center of IES Tokyo, with their staff of excellent teachers and guides. Our study of culture will include Japan’s history, food, architecture, religion, language, arts, sports [Sumo wrestling], theater, family life, and more.

Upon our return, we will put together a book of annotated photos, with our blog entries, to be professionally printed for everyone [shutterfly.com]. Each student will research one aspect of Japanese culture, and write a paper upon returning to Wofford. For more information, please see http://webs.wofford.edu/mossre/japan/.

Project Cost: $4150 (includes airfare, transportation to/from airport, lodging, ground transportation in Japan, group activities, materials, 24 hour emergency support, breakfasts and dinners)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $700 (some meals, cell phone, passport, souvenirs)
1027 JAN 424 A  Language & Culture Through Study Abroad (Chile)
Amy Lancaster
Sara Milani
Instructor Permission Required
Graded Interim (A-F)
Enrollment: 5 / 20
Billed Fee: $2,410.00
TBA  MTWRF

This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale or for those who cannot spend a semester abroad because of academic or time constraints. Students will study intensive language at the Universidad de Viña del Mar and be placed in homestay families for the complete immersion experience. Completion of 102 or the equivalent in the language is required. There will be onsite supervision and support throughout the term. Language classes are taught in the morning with service learning opportunities scheduled in the afternoon. Successful completion of Spanish 102 or the equivalent and good academic standing are required; instructor permission only. This project abroad is graded A-F. Valid travel documents are required. For more information, please see http://www.wofford.edu/interim/content.aspx?id=28308.

Project Cost: $2300 (includes room, lodging with host families, instruction, local activities and excursions)
Estimated Additional Expenses: $2475 (airfare, some meals, local transportation, passport, entry fee)

1028 JAN 424 B  Language & Culture Through Study Abroad (China; Beginning Chinese)
Amy Lancaster
Sara Milani
Instructor Permission Required
Graded Interim (A-F)
Enrollment: 0 / 20
Billed Fee: $3,600.00
TBA  MTWRF

This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale or for those who cannot spend a semester abroad because of academic or time constraints. This program, sponsored by CET in Beijing, is designed for students who have studied Chinese for one semester and emphasizes the link between inside classroom study and outside language use. All students live with Chinese roommates and abide by a full-time language pledge. Valid travel documents and successful completion of Chinese 101 are required. This project is graded A-F.

Project Cost: $3490 (includes tuition and all fees, double occupancy dormitory room shared with Chinese roommate, weekday lunches, assistance and supervision, provided by CET's on-site staff, excursions, language texts, airport meet and greet)
Estimated Additional Expenses: $2535 (airfare, meals, local transportation, passport, visa)

1029 JAN 424 C  Language & Culture Through Study Abroad (China; Intermediate Chinese)
Amy Lancaster
Sara Milani
Instructor Permission Required
Graded Interim (A-F)
Enrollment: 0 / 20
Billed Fee: $4,400.00
TBA  MTWRF

This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale or for those who cannot spend a semester abroad because of academic or time constraints. Since 1992, CET has operated the four-week January Term in Beijing for intermediate and advanced students at the campus of the Beijing Chinese Language program. The curriculum, designed for students who have studied at least three semesters of college-level Chinese, emphasizes the link between inside classroom study and outside language use. All students live with Chinese roommates and abide by a full-time language pledge. Valid travel documents and successful completion of Chinese 201 is required. This project is graded A-F.

Project Cost: $4290 (includes tuition and all fees, double occupancy dormitory room shared with Chinese roommate, weekday lunches, assistance and supervision, provided by CET's on-site staff, excursions, language texts, airport meet and greet)
Estimated Additional Expenses: $2535 (airfare, meals, local transportation, passport, visa)
This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to study French intensively and who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale. This program is designed for intensive language study at all levels. All students will take a comprehensive course that covers writing, oral expression and pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary. Classes are in groups no larger than sixteen students. In addition, the setting of this alpine city is what truly makes it unique. For a panoramic view of the city and surrounding mountains, take a ride on the téléphérique, or cable car, that takes you up to the Fort de la Bastille. From there, explore the hiking trails and the Grottes (caves) that were used as defense many centuries ago. With a student population of 50,000, Grenoble is an ideal place to learn French. The slower pace of the city and the friendliness of the inhabitants make it easy to practice the language with locals. The city has several museums, numerous parks and plenty of opportunity for outdoor activity (skiing, hiking, biking). For the avid traveler, Grenoble is an excellent starting point for exploration, being about 3 hours from Paris by train and very close to Switzerland and Italy. Successful completion of French 102 and 3.0 GPA is required; instructor permission only. This project is graded A-F.

Project Cost: $3700 (includes deposit, tuition, meals, local transportation, and laundry with some housing options, local excursions)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $1685 (airfare, meals, local transportation, passport)

This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale or for those who cannot spend a semester abroad because of academic or time constraints. Students will study community-based Spanish with CIEE Guanajuato and be placed in homestay families for the complete immersion experience. Completion of 102 or the equivalent in the language is required. There will be onsite supervision and support throughout the term. Usually language and content classes are taught in the morning and early afternoon leaving plenty of time and opportunity for local "exploring". All students must go through an rigorous application process and must meet eligibility requirements as stated by the program. Valid travel documents required. This project abroad is graded A-F.

Project Cost: $3550 (includes educational costs, housing with a host family, all meals and laundry, excursions)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $1435 (airfare, local transportation, books and supplies)

This project offers an opportunity for students who would like to explore study abroad on a smaller scale or for those who cannot spend a semester abroad because of academic or time constraints. Program locations vary according to the Interim calendar. Classes meet Monday through Friday and the class size is small. The classroom learning experience can be enhanced by individual study in the media center. Additional culture and leisure programs are included in the formal program of study. All students must go through a rigorous application process and must meet eligibility requirements as stated by the program. Acceptance by the program and permission of the coordinator is required for enrollment. Successful completion of German 102 and valid travel documents are required. This project abroad is graded A-F.

Project Cost: The cost listed above is 0 because the students will not be billed by the Business Office. An online payment directly to the Goethe Institut is required. Cost varies by site but ranges from approximately $2100-$2600. See http://www.goethe.de/ins/de/spr/int/i4/enindex.htm for more information (2014 costs published). Students are required to take the Zertifikat Deusch Zeugnis (final proficiency exam) which costs an additional $100.

Estimated Additional Expenses: $1800; varies by program (airfare, meals, local transportation, passport)
Little Cayman is the smallest and least developed of the three Cayman Islands. It lies 87 miles northeast of Grand Cayman, five miles west of Cayman Brac and 170 miles northwest of Jamaica. Little Cayman is one of the world’s premier diving destinations and is recognized for the unspoiled natural beauty of its spectacular marine environment. The brilliantly colored reef is an astonishing haven for a diversity of marine organisms, including sea turtles, luxurious corals and sponges and over 500 species of fish. The Little Cayman Beach Resort is designed to maximize the tropical diving experience. They invite you to immerse yourself in lush tropical foliage, the crystal blue Caribbean water, swaying palms, amazing sunsets, superb diving and uncluttered beaches (www.littlecayman.com). The dive operation is professional with fantastic boat support. There are 57 dive sites many of which are within protected Marine Park Zones, including the world renowned Bloody Bay Wall. The resort offers 500 feet of beautiful milky white sand beach with hammocks, swimming pool, Jacuzzi and hot tub overlooking the beach, tennis, beach volleyball, bicycles, kayaks, relaxing guest rooms, the taste of the tropics in The Bird of Paradise Restaurant (All Meals on Little Cayman are included and the food is outstanding), night activities and much more.

The project consists of three weeks of SCUBA diving and marine biology classes, and an eight day dive trip to Little Cayman Island. In Spartanburg, students will complete a PADI open water SCUBA course (The SCUBA certification will allow you to dive anywhere in the world over the course of your lifetime) and participate in class presentations on coral reef ecology. The SCUBA classes will be taught by Corey and Mike Atkins (PADI certified SCUBA instructors and owners of The SCUBA Shop in Spartanburg). Marine biology class work will prepare students to enjoy the beauty of the coral reef and enable them to critically observe and understand the complex nature of the ecosystem. At sunset we gather to discuss the diving and the reef community. Students will describe what they have experienced on each dive and explain how the organisms interact with each other and with the divers.

Project Cost: $4065 (includes lifetime PADI SCUBA certification, airfare, transportation to/from airport, lodging on Little Cayman, ALL MEALS on Little Cayman, three boat dives per day, equipment rental fees and selected reading materials.)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $460 (equipment, meals, passport)

From the Cape of Good Hope to Kruger National Park to the township of Soweto, we will explore the cultural and biological diversity of South Africa. We will spend two to three weeks in country, including several days on safari in some of the world’s top game preserves. During guided day and nighttime safari drives we will observe lions, elephants, hippos, giraffes and more in their natural habitats. We will also learn about the tumultuous history of South Africa and its amazing political transformation since the end of apartheid. We will focus on South Africa’s economy and its role as one of the BRICS countries. As we explore in and around Cape Town, we will learn about the entrepreneurial culture that has emerged since the end of apartheid. We will visit the stock exchange, a mine and a working port. We will visit with the people in the townships. Our more leisurely pursuits will include tours of the wineries of Stellenbosch, a stroll through the glorious Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, and strolling with the penguins on the pristine beaches of the Cape. An experience of a lifetime! For more information, see http://sites.wofford.edu/gonzalezle/south-africa-january-2015/.

Project cost: $7000 (airfare, lodging, transportation to/from airport, local transportation, tickets for events, and meals)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $510 (some meals, local transportation, passport)

We will explore the life and writings of C. S. Lewis (famous for such works as The Screwtape Letters, Mere Christianity, and the children’s classics The Chronicles of Narnia) and J. R. R. Tolkien (author of The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings trilogy). As part of this exploration we will spend 11 days in England visiting London, Oxford, and Cambridge where Lewis and Tolkien lectured, wrote, and lived.

Project Cost: $4300 (includes airfare, some meals, lodging, local excursions/activities, transportation to/from airport, local transportation)

Estimated Additional Expenses: $550 (some meals, local transportation, passport)
Thai land, formerly known as Siam, is an excellent example of a small nation whose culture has survived intact for seven centuries despite the threats posed by Asian conquerors and potential European colonizers. The classroom portion of this Interim will examine (via 150 pages of reading and detailed class discussions of same) Thailand's careful balancing of its several ethnic groups (Thai, Chinese, and Indian), its religions (Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity), and its foreign relations—all of which have been orchestrated to preserve Thailand as the land of the Thais (despite generous freedom for non-Thais). Our travel itinerary will begin with seven nights in the country's ancient capital, Chiang Mai, in the far north. We will then fly to the mid-South for seven nights on Phuket Island. We will skip Bangkok, where disruptive political demonstrations occasionally arise. Our time in Chiang Mai will feature the mountaintop Doi Suthep Buddhist shrine and the working elephants of the northern Teak forests, including some private time in the newborn nursery. We will also visit a tiger preserve (where baby cubs may be petted), and the Panda family enclosure at the large city zoo. Another highlight will be an entire morning interacting with the young children at a Christian orphanage, plus a campus program directed by a faculty member of Chiang Mai University. She has arranged a lecture, discussion seminars, and a luncheon, during which we will study the small, isolated tribes found in all the mountainous border regions of Southeast Asia.

During the second half of the interim, which consists of seven full days on Phuket Island, we will be guests of the students and faculty of a modern Islamic school (grades 1-12), where we will be given presentations by various grades. In addition, during a daylong tour of the Andaman Sea (on our large, chartered boat), we will stop at James Bond Island (where Man with the Golden Gun was filmed), and use professionally-handled sea kayaks at low tide to explore the caves of eerie volcanic offshore outcroppings (islets) whose fully-enclosed lagoons, reached via the caves, harbor turtles, crabs - and monkeys that live on the steep cliffs surrounding the lagoons. We will also devote a separate morning with a marine biologist to explore firsthand the beach and wetland habitats endangered by encroaching development, and then trek by ATVs in the afternoon to the top of the island's highest mountain, to see, up close, the famous giant white-marble statue of Buddha.

Project Cost: $8000 (includes all airfare, transfers, lodging, private tours, three lunches, all breakfasts, gratuities for tour guides and bus drivers)

Additional Estimated Expenses: $715 (most lunches and all dinners, local transportation, passport, and phone usage)