SJSU Study Abroad
Pre-Departure Orientation

Summer 2014
Fall 2014
Academic Year 2014-2015

Friday, May 9th, 2014
San Jose State University
International Programs and Services
AGENDA

Introduction
Academics
Preparations Overview
While Abroad
Health and Safety
Conduct and Laws
Cross-Cultural Development
Upon Return
Alumni Panel and Discussion
Welcome & Introductions

Karen O’Neill, Director of IPS
ACADEMICS

Hector Liang, IPS Study Abroad
Consult with SJSU Academic Advisor
Fill out & turn in your Academic Approval Form – BEFORE YOU GO ABROAD
Follow host university procedures for registering in courses abroad
Maintain full-time enrollment status while abroad (12 – 16 units) Taking more than 16 units abroad is NOT allowed. Check with our office for credit conversion.
NO Dual enrollment!
ACADEMICS

• Dropping & adding while abroad
• SJSU resident credit for ALL classes taken abroad. Your grades come back too! Every class you take abroad will be on your SJSU transcripts. NO exceptions.

• Apply for Credit/No Credit **BEFORE** you go only if it is for an elective course.

• “092”, “192”, “292”

• SJSU will evaluate your study abroad grades using whatever conversion rate your host university gives us.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Host Institution Course Title and Number (if available) in language of host country and English</th>
<th># of Semester Units</th>
<th>UD/UD or GRAD</th>
<th>Equivalent SJSU Dept. and Course #</th>
<th>Role of Course toward Degree Completion</th>
<th>Degree Requirement that the course will satisfy</th>
<th>Appropriate Advisor or Chair's Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Ethics in a Global Context&quot; (Example: City University College Dublin)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U0110F: Bus. Finance + Fin. Eng.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U01102: Int'l Strategy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U01102: Int'l Strategy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U01102: Int'l Strategy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U01102: Int'l Strategy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD</td>
<td>BUS 192</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major Advisor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have read the instructions on the back of this form and understand the importance of ensuring that this form is complete and accurate.

Student's Signature: Jane Smith

Date: 9/5/12

The appropriate advisor signs off on EVERY class. If the class is counting for your major, your major advisor will sign. If it's for your minor, your minor advisor will sign.
• **Grading**
  – Conversion sheets provided by Host University

• **Study Hours**
  – Libraries not necessarily open 24/7 (be there early!)
  – Study groups outside of class are graded (Australia)

• **Assignments**
  – 2 exams = entire course assessment (Anywhere)

• **Advising**
  – Advisors might not be conveniently accessible
  – May not be “the norm” for local students

• **Disabilities/Special Needs**
  – May not have specific services abroad
  – Let SJSU Study Abroad Office ASAP
Preparations Overview

Ming Chu
Study Abroad Coordinator
ARE YOU READY?

- Passport and Visa (6 months min. before expiration)
- Complete Application Materials
- Get course equivalencies/approvals
- FAFSA/ Income Tax/ Voting
- Bill payments
- Contact your bank
- Research host country
WHAT TO BRING

• DO NOT OVERPACK
• Documents and photocopies of documents
• Medications and prescriptions
• Emergency contact information
• Comfortable clothes and shoes
• NOT valuables and keepsakes
• Change of clothing in carry-on
• Gift for your host family/university
• A good attitude and sense of adventure!
MOney matters

- Currency conversion
- Methods of obtaining local currency
- Different types of payments/cards
- Transaction fees
- Call your bank!
  - Using your card abroad
  - Wire transfers
  - Fees and restrictions
WHILE ABROAD

• Communications
  – Cell Phones and Plans
  – VoIP Options
  – Social Network Sites
  – Local dialing rules (International code, country code)
  – Learn your local emergency number

• Housing
  – Realistic expectations
  – No overnight guests
  – Roommate conflicts
  – Homestays
WHILE ABROAD

• Personal Travel
  – Academics are first priority!
  – Research what you want to see and do before leaving.
  – Ask on-site staff for tips & advice.
  – Take advantage of any sponsored or on-campus trips/activities.
  – Methods of Transportation
  – Always let someone know dates & location of travel.
  – Make the most of your host city/country!
WHILE ABROAD

- Stay **consistent** with contacting your family so that they do not worry about you.

- **Always** notify others of your travel plans!

- Use the buddy system when traveling.

- In an emergency, **properly contact** host university and home university immediately with your status and whereabouts.
Health and Safety

Patricia Latour
Take Responsibility for your Personal Health and Safety

• Learn to read the appropriate signals for your environment
• Follow your “gut” feelings
• Be realistic about having a false sense of security
• Use the same common sense traveling overseas that you would at home
• Avoid looking like a target in another country
• Do **NOT** attend political demonstrations, protests, rallies, or any type of public disturbance
• Never reveal details about where you are staying in-country to people you just met
• Do **NOT** carry or transport things for strangers or even newly acquired friends
Tips to Avoid Being Victimized

- Minimize, if not avoid altogether, walking around alone
- Observe host country nationals’ behavior and try to blend in
- Walk around confidently, but ask for help if you need to, from a “credible-looking” person
- Americans have a reputation for being loud
- Always secure your bag(s) under your arm or across your body
- Best place to get mugged/robbed: crowded places (markets, train/bus stations, festivals, tourist hangouts, etc.)
Conduct & Laws

Shannon Quihuiz
Sometimes, a drug may be illegal, although tolerated by certain group of people (e.g. you may see elderly people smoking opium in Asia or purchasing marijuana at a coffee shop in Denmark). This does not mean it is OK for you to use the drug.

**SJSU does not condone the use of recreational drugs. Do not partake in illegal activity.** If you are caught, you will face the consequences in place by the country you’re in.

**DRUG USE IS A RISK NOT WORTH TAKING**
Cross-Cultural Development
Let’s play a game!

1. Partner up with someone you have not met before.
2. Sit across from them as if you were about to interview them.
3. Pick one person to be the interviewer.
4. And the kicker....
   • Both interviewer and interviewee have to be silent.
   • Without talking write down 5 qualities you believe the person has through observations.
     (ex. – Kevin likes basketball because he is wearing a jersey, Sarah is a serious person because she didn’t smile once)
1. The interviewer should now be the interviewee.

This time, the interviewee can mime and use hand gestures to convey their interests/qualities BUT the interviewer cannot ask clarifying questions.

Again, write down 5 qualities/traits you observe about the interviewee through their non-verbal cues.
Intercultural Communication

• Observe Nonverbal Communication
  – Gestures and meanings
  – Level of eye contact
  – Sense of personal space
  – Amount of touching
  – Pauses and silence in communication
Culture is like an iceberg

Facial expressions
Styles of Dress
Holiday Customs

Gestures
Food
Eating Habits

Religious rituals
Music

Work Ethic

Concepts of Self

Importance of Time

Social Etiquette

Religious beliefs

Concept of Beauty

Notions of Modesty

Personal Space

Child raising beliefs

Nature of Friendships

Concept of Beauty
Cultural Values

Individualism – Collectivism
Hierarchy - Equality
Meritocracy – Ascription
Directness – Indirectness
Limited Time – Unlimited Time
Activity - People
The Culture Shock Wave

Anticipating Departure

Arrival Confusion

Honeymoon

Initial Adjustment

The Plunge

Confronting Deeper Issues

Adapting and Assimilating

Going Home

Judgmental Phase

Initial Excitement

Reverse Culture Shock

Realization Stage

Balanced Re-entry
Before You Go

- Follow Host Country Media
- Study the culture
- Review the news
- Talk to your bank and withdraw money
- Copy your passport for yourself and parents
- See your doctor and dentist
- Refill prescriptions
- Make sure immunizations are current
- Register on STEP (travel.state.gov)!!!
Upon Return

Emily Walker
IPS Study Abroad
Global Student Network (GSN) is a student organization dedicated to:

- Promoting study abroad and international experiences
- Facilitating global friendship and cross-cultural interaction
- Providing a support network for international and study abroad students.
• Welcome Back Events
• International Student Clubs
• Language meetups
• International organizations around San Jose
• Lessons From Abroad Regional Returnee Conference
Lastly...

- You are representing yourself, SJSU, State of California, and the United States of America
- Accept responsibility for your own decision and actions
- Behave in a manner that is respectful of the rights, well-being, customs and culture of others
- Encourage others to behave in a similar manner
- Follow the program policies and code of conduct. Obey the host country laws
- Do not endanger yourself by what you say or do
Time for Questions!
Alumni Panel and Discussion