2016 Study Abroad Instructions

We are glad you are interested in expanding your learning by participating in a unique opportunity in another part of the world! Time and again, research has shown how beneficial and rewarding it is to engage, to question, and to understand a culture different from your own. Employers value those who have gained international experience. They understand how much it adds to the intricacies of partnerships, business interactions, team building, and the acceptance of those different from one’s self. As you consider your academic plans for spring and summer, take note of how you can participate in one of ten study abroad opportunities offered in Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Austria, South Africa, Germany, Russia and Switzerland.

Can I participate in any experience I want?

No. Some study abroad opportunities are program specific, (Brazil –SW, Switzerland, Germany, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Ecuador) others are open to all who desire humanities or social science credit (Brazil-USBC, Greece, Russia, Austria) See the following site for more detail [www.nmc.edu/international-services](http://www.nmc.edu/international-services)

I see that most study abroad takes place in May following the end of the semester. If I’m registered for a spring course, when do I receive my grade?

Almost all study abroad course sections have a graded requirement due following your return to the US. Therefore, at the end of the spring semester, you will receive an INCOMPLETE for the course. This is easily changed by your instructor once you submit your required project.

I’ve heard that each year, some students spend a month in Brazil teaching English. Is this something I can do?

For the fourth year in a row, NMC will send eight students to Brazil as part of US-Brazil Connect [www.us-brazil.org](http://www.us-brazil.org) This a powerful opportunity to gain knowledge of a different culture while also giving back to a Brazilian community. We encourage students to visit the USBC web site and learn how to become a “Fellow”. If interested, please contact the Office of International Services and Service Learning, or one of our former participants. USBC is a life changing experience involving an initial interview and the submissions of references as well as the ability to commit to the time before and after your work in Brazil. Watch the Student News for more information on application dates and information sessions being offered this fall.
How do I apply to study abroad?

Go to www.nmc.edu/international-services and fill out the Study Abroad Application. You will need to have two references and a lead faculty member’s signature. Please submit the application **without** the lead faculty member’s signature. International Services and Service Learning will contact the lead faculty member after Nov. 20 following a review of each student’s academic and disciplinary standing (remember, students must have at least a 2.5 overall GPA to participate in study abroad through NMC).

How do I know what’s offered?

When viewing the Searchable Schedule you will come across a course listed similar to this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Max</th>
<th>SWK</th>
<th>Introduction to Social Welfare</th>
<th>3000</th>
<th>3.0</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>11:20 am-12:50 pm</th>
<th>Blackford, L.</th>
<th>01/08-04/30</th>
<th>SH 104 Main Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>3425</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(P)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Section #3425 will include a 10 day exploration of social systems in Curitiba, Brazil from May 7-May 17, 2016. Student financial aid may be used to help cover trip expenses and up to $1000 in optional Global Opportunities Scholarships are available per student registered. At least 10 students must register for the trip to take place. A $250 deposit is due by NOVEMBER 20. Course dates, itinerary, and fees are subject to change. For more information please call 231-995-1294.*

This is the section that is associated with the study abroad portion. Please be aware that if you register for this section and for some reason decide you cannot participate in the trip before the spring payment date of 12/10, you still remain registered for the in-class portion of the course. Enrollment numbers are crossed referenced with the main course.

You will also note the **fee** for the above course is listed as $3000 (tuition is the same as if you were enrolled on campus). This extra cost is what you will need to cover to participate in the study abroad.

What if I’ve already taken a particular course required?

If you have recently completed a course associated with the study abroad, some instructors will work with you to set up an independent study opportunities in the particular discipline offering the trip. Please check with them.

How do I cover the cost?

There are a number of ways to afford the experience.

1. Check your financial aid. Study abroad fees associated with academic courses are very often covered by Federal financial aid. Federal aid will not cover non-credit courses.
2. Apply for the NMC Global Opportunities Scholarship [www.nmc.edu/international-services](http://www.nmc.edu/international-services)
   Up to $1000, or half the cost of the experience can be covered by the scholarship. Last year, many students were able to receive financial assistance through this scholarship set up by President Nelson and Nancy Johnson.

3. Ask for help from relatives and friends

4. Fund raise with members of your class also interested in participating in the study abroad

What are the deadlines for payment?

Most experiences have an initial **$250 deposit** deadline of **NOVEMBER 20**. South Africa is **NOVEMBER 10**, and Austria and Costa Rica are in **JANUARY** (they are summer courses). Deposit payment by these dates is important as it helps us get an idea of how many students are interested. Most experiences require a total of at least 10 students to participate.

**Payment for spring semester is December 10, 2015.** Many students find it is more affordable to set up a payment plan with NMC Financial Services. It allows the amount to be spread over 3-4 payments. Payment after that date, if not enrolled in a payment plan, is expected in full.

Where do I make my payments?

Deposits and payments can be made on NMC Self-Service as a regular payment on your student account. Please register for the course associated with the trip as soon as possible to have it included in your semester charges. You can also make payments in person at Student Financial Services.

Can I participate in study abroad if I am Dual Enrolled, Early College, UC Student, or a Veteran?

*Any student taking part in an NMC Study Abroad must be 18 by the day of departure from the US.*

1. **Dual Enrolled** students may not participate in an NMC Study Abroad Experience
2. **Early College**: Decision is based on age, amount of credits successfully completed, and other factors
3. **UC Student**: If you are concurrently enrolled at NMC, you may participate
4. **Veterans** enrolled at NMC may participate; however, VA benefits only cover tuition, **not** course fees.

What if I have additional questions?

Please contact the following for questions related to:

**Study Abroad** – NMC *International Services and Service Learning* (Stephanie Prall or Jim Bensley) 995-2524

**Payment** – *Student Financial Services* 995-1035

**Financial Aid** - *Student Financial Services* 995-1035