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*Denotes USAC Specialty programs | See explanation of program models in “Important Information”

This publication is printed over a year in advance; therefore all program details are subject to change.

## Courses at a Glance

January 2016

The grid below is a quick reference introduction to the disciplines that may be available at each USAC program. Please see each program section for detailed course listings. Course descriptions can be found on the USAC website, as well as a more complete searchable course database at usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs.

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Call toll-free: 1-866-404-USAC | Apply online at http://usac.unr.edu
Why Study Abroad with USAC?

“The study abroad is like spring training for this century. It helps you develop the fundamentals, the teamwork, and the determination to succeed.”

—former US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

The University Studies Abroad Consortium® (USAC) is a non-profit consortium of US universities, joined together to provide affordable, high-quality academic programs. For over 30 years, USAC has provided university students with valuable study abroad programs and contributed to the internationalization of universities in the US and abroad; we currently have programs in 25 countries. Students from any university are welcome to participate; students from more than 800 universities around the world have studied on USAC programs during its thirty-year-plus history.

USAC’s mission is to provide students with the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to succeed in the global society of the twenty-first century. We strive to provide an authentic context in which students may grow into engaged citizens of the world, not only in the classroom but also through field trips, integrated living and academic experiences, sports, internships, and volunteer and service learning opportunities.

We pride ourselves on providing well-rounded, academically sound, and credible programs in non-traditional locations or in unique parts of more traditional places. By choosing a USAC program, you have flexibility in the length and time of your study (short-term summer or January programs that range from three to ten weeks, semester, trimester, or year options) and a wide range of courses to choose from, plus small class sizes, a multitude of disciplines taught in English, and language study at any level of proficiency (from beginning to advanced) with no language prerequisite. Many of our locations have the option of intensive language study, where you can earn up to two years-worth of language credit in one semester.

Our programs feature outstanding on-site staff and support from USAC and host university staff and services. USAC programs are stable and well-established, benefitting from the longevity, experience, passion, and wisdom of many of our staff, many of whom have been with USAC for over a decade. USAC alumni consistently give our programs over a 94% recommendation rate.

In addition to excellent academic offerings, USAC programs offer a wide array of informal and formal opportunities to enrich your time abroad and immerse yourself in your host culture, integrating with the local and global community. Internships, field studies, and service learning courses offer for-credit opportunities to combine tangible experience with university credit. Volunteer opportunities, field trips and tours, activities with locals and as part of the host campus, cultural and sporting opportunities, and much more provide social and cultural context—both meaningful and enjoyable—to your studies abroad.

As a non-profit, university-based organization, we understand the financial pressures students face to finance their education. We are committed to maintaining modest fees for our programs and in addition work to provide scholarships—USAC awards over $500,000 in scholarships and discounts each year—and access to other means of financing in order to provide an affordable study abroad opportunity with USAC.

Living and learning in another culture not only provides the competitive edge that today’s employers are looking for, but also offers a life-changing experience. The benefits of study abroad are multifaceted and extend far beyond the classroom—there is no substitute for the experience.

Your opportunity to enhance your future prospects and have this life-changing experience is here now!
USAC RESOURCES AND SERVICES
As a USAC student, you have a team of education abroad professionals to help you through every step of making your studies abroad the most meaningful experience possible. Staff in the US and overseas collaborate with you, your advisors, and home university to provide personal support, resources, and information as you prepare for, participate in, and return from your program. This catalog serves as an introduction; you’ll have many more tools via the USAC website, your USAC Student Gateway account, your USAC Student Handbook, and your pre-departure and on-site orientation materials.

A successful experience before, during, and after your time abroad will involve all these people and resources; however, this opportunity will ultimately be what you make of it.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you! Safe travels.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?
Start by dreaming big: what are your future goals? What do you hope to get out of your education—and out of this experience specifically? Give some thought to where you’d like to live and study, what courses you need or want, what kind of other experiences you want to make part of this program (internships? living with a family? language study? specific courses?). Ultimately: who is the person you want to grow and make yourself into?

As you begin:
• identify your goals
• explore your options
• watch for deadlines
• get your passport
• start your budget
• meet with your advisors on your campus
• talk with and ask questions of your peer and program advisors at USAC
• apply! (the earlier the better to ensure a space)

We are here to help with those early questions and decisions, and we’ll continue to help as you prepare to depart, while you are abroad, and upon your return.

USAC CENTRAL OFFICE
Headquartered at the University of Nevada, the USAC Central Office is your US-based support team, where you will find all the help you need before, during, and after your experience abroad. Peer and program advisors, enrollment services, finance/accounting, university relations, information technology, and program administration work alongside all our staff and partners overseas to guide you on matters large and small as you prepare to depart and to assist, encourage, and support you while you live and study abroad.

USAC RESIDENT DIRECTORS AND OVERSEAS STAFF
USAC Resident Directors, USAC staff and faculty, Program Coordinators, and the staff of our host universities provide help, support, and oversee the program while you study abroad. USAC Resident Directors are continually working to improve our programs to create opportunities for you to engage in a meaningful manner with your host culture and with the content of your coursework. Our programs feature outstanding on-site staff and support from USAC and host university staff and services. USAC programs are stable and well-established, benefitting from the longevity, experience, passion, and wisdom of our staff.
Who is USAC?

UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM
Students from any university—worldwide—are welcome to apply and participate on a USAC program. USAC is a consortium of 33 US universities who provide oversight, support, and strategic planning to USAC and its programs. Through the joining of resources, USAC is able to provide excellent programs with more options less expensively than any one university would be capable of accomplishing.

USAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The policy and management of the consortium is overseen by the USAC Board of Directors, comprised of representatives from seven of the original universities who formed USAC plus rotating positions from the USAC Affiliate Universities.

USAC AFFILIATE UNIVERSITIES
- Boise State University (Board of Directors)
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- California State University, Chico
- California State University, Dominguez Hills
- California State University, Fresno
- California State University, Stanislaus
- Clemson University
- Fort Lewis College (Board of Directors)
- Humboldt State University
- Hunter College
- Loyola University Chicago (Board of Directors)
- Michigan Technological University
- Northern Arizona University
- Ohio Northern University
- University of Arkansas
- University of California, Davis
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Houston
- University of Idaho (Board of Directors)
- University of Iowa (Board of Directors)
- University of Maine
- University of Maryland
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- University of Mount Union
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Board of Directors)
- University of Nevada, Reno (Board of Directors)
- University of South Carolina (Board of Directors)
- University of the Pacific
- University of Toledo (Board of Directors)
- University of Tulsa
- Westmont College
- Wright State University (Board of Directors)
- Xavier University

“Travel is more than the seeing of sights. It is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.”

—Miriam Beard
Australia
Melbourne
Australian Studies
January Session 2016 (Australia’s Summer)

Host University:
Deakin University Burwood Campus

USAC Partnership Program:
Overseas credit

Length of program:
One 3-week session

Credits: 1 Deakin unit (3-4 US credits)

Maximum program enrollment: 10

Language of instruction: English

Minimum GPA: 2.6

Minimum class standing: Sophomore

Application deadline:
October 1

Program Highlights:
• Explore key issues facing Australians today in an interdisciplinary course focused on diversity, gender relations, politics, history, sport, and Australian culture
• Escape the Northern Hemisphere’s winter to enjoy Australia’s summer sun and balmy weather
• Satisfy your intellectual and cultural curiosity about one of the world’s most diverse, friendly, and harmonious cultures
• Join Australian students and get involved in a great range of optional activities including learning to surf, exploring the Great Ocean Road, and enjoying the world’s most livable city, Melbourne
• Use this program as an in-depth introduction to a longer stay in Australia: stay for Trimester 1 (starting in March 2016) after the session!

Find more information:
usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/australia/melbourne
CALENDAR | MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Occasionally dates need to be changed; please visit the USAC website for updates. Application deadline: October 1. Please apply early to ensure a space. Programs may fill to capacity prior to the application deadline; however, late applications may be accepted if space is available.

2016: January Summer Session
Dec 31-Jan 1 Departure from the US
January 2-3 Arrival in Melbourne | Check into accommodation
January 4 Welcome orientation and program introduction | Library visit | Courses begin
January 9 Optional Activities: Learn to Surf
January 22 Courses end | Program end date
Open return Students establish their own date of return

WHY STUDY IN AUSTRALIA’S SUMMER (YOUR WINTER) IN MELBOURNE?

January is the heart of the summer (think: warm) for Australia and the heart of the winter (think: mostly cold) for the US—where do you want to be? Join us at Deakin University’s beautiful Burwood campus in Melbourne, Australia. The January summer program includes visits to possible locations like the Melbourne Immigration Museum, Melbourne Cricket Ground (Melbourne’s home of sport), Narana Aboriginal Center, the Australian Center for the Moving Image, plus surf lessons and hiking on the world famous Great Ocean Road.

The January program offers a 3-week session in which to study modern Australian culture and society. In addition to the academic course, participation in and experience of cultural events, group activities, and other aspects of campus life form an integral part of the program. It ideally can be combined with the USAC Trimester 1 (March-June 2016), or you can choose to just attend the January session.

MELBOURNE AND AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA
Capital: Canberra
Language: English
Currency: Australian dollar (AUD)

MELBOURNE
Population: 4 million
Distance from Sydney: 550 miles
Distance from Brisbane: 1,111 miles

Melbourne is the capital of the state of Victoria. Victoria is Australia’s smallest mainland state but has the second largest population, with approximately 5.2 million people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. It is a place of great contrasts—ocean beaches and mountain ranges, deserts and forests, volcanic plains, and vast sheep and wheat farms. Victoria has national parks and forests teeming with wildlife, wineries, lakes, and mountains offering climbing, hiking, and skiing, and the magnificent Great Ocean Road coastline, Australia’s premier surfing destination. The state has long been regarded as the cultural center of Australia, with a historic architectural elegance that characterizes the capital, Melbourne, and the regional cities. Victorians combine a strong cultural tradition with a contemporary and relaxed lifestyle, a distinct sense of community, and a passionate interest in sports. Victoria is also the major center of education and research in Australia.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND ON-SITE SUPPORT

This program is administered in the US by USAC and in Australia by Deakin University’s International Office. The Manager in the Deakin International Office is Victoria Heron. She and her staff will provide you with support and resources while abroad, including providing the mandatory on-site orientation.

RESOURCES

- Australia: Lonely Planet Travel Guide
- www.visitvictoria.com
- www.about-australia.com
- www.theage.com.au
- www.australia.com

Melbourne—“the world’s most livable city”—is sophisticated and yet laid-back with a dynamic, multicultural population set in a diverse landscape. Located on Port Phillip and along the Yarra River, the city is host to vibrant arts, cuisine, design, music, and sport. It is often ranked highly in terms of quality of life and is often referred to as Australia’s cultural capital. Victorian architecture and historical neighborhoods are juxtaposed with cutting-edge contemporary developments. The Burwood campus of Deakin University is a thriving metropolitan campus, with open space, innovative architecture, spacious new facilities, abundant wireless access, and regular shuttle service to the city center.

Australia is the driest continent and most of the population lives along the temperate southeastern coastline. Although most of Australia is semi-arid, it has a diverse range of habitats—from alpine heaths to tropical rain forests—and is recognized as one of the world’s most bio-diverse countries. Since Australia is located in the Southern Hemisphere, seasons are the reverse of those in the Northern Hemisphere.

Explore the rest of Australia, too!
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Deakin University is a diverse institution encompassing a network of four campuses that provide a variety of settings for productive study and an overall valuable international experience. Each Deakin campus has a distinct atmosphere and a strong sense of community. Despite the fact that Deakin is one of Australia’s largest universities, with over 30,000 students, the campuses are not huge or overwhelming. This January program will be located on the Burwood campus in Melbourne.

Deakin’s reputation for excellent teaching and innovative course delivery has been recognized through many awards over the past decade. It has consistently achieved the highest ratings in surveys of graduate satisfaction and has twice won the coveted Good Universities Guide University of the Year award. It is also one of Australia’s most progressive universities. All USAC students are assisted by International Student Advisors (ISAs) who they will meet during orientation and registration. Services for students include: free airport pickup; accommodation services; academic counseling and study skills assistance; social activities and student clubs and associations; financial, legal, and career advice; health care; and personal counseling.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodation will be provided by Deakin University. Students will be housed in on-campus residences at Burwood which provide single room accommodation in a mixed gender and multi-cultural environment. All units have communal lounge, kitchen, bathroom, and laundry facilities. Meals are not included.

FIELD TRIPS AND IMMERSION ACTIVITIES

WELCOME DINNER
Start the program off with a welcome dinner which is a fantastic way to meet your fellow program participants.

BUDDY PROGRAM
Our Buddy program offers the opportunity to mix with Australian students to learn more about what life is like in Australia. Relax on the beach and hang out with your new friends.

SUMMER SCHOOL OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES*
*Please note, the learn to surf lesson is included in the program costs but all other optional activities are not included.

Fun activities include:
- Learn to surf (included in the program costs)
- Great Ocean Road tour
- Melbourne Laneways tour
- Melbourne Sight-seeing Tour
- Shrine of Remembrance
- Federation Square
- Victorian Parliament Building
- Carlton Gardens
- Royal Botanical Gardens
- Docklands
- Cricket at the MCG
- Australian Open Tennis
- Bellarine Peninsula Wine Tour
- You Yangs Ranges Hike
- Anglesea Golf Club
- Kangaroo spotting
- Australia Day Party
- BBQ at Eastern Beach
- Trivia night farewell
- Barefoot lawn bowls
- Karaoke night

ACADEMICS

Studying abroad can be a more meaningful and invigorating learning experience than at home—both inside and outside of the classroom—because you will be in a different place. You may be more curious and alert than you usually are; use this heightened energy to enhance your studies as well as your cultural and geographical explorations.

You may also encounter different teaching styles and course processes. Classes may be more lecture-based and less interactive than in the US and may require considerable independent research, reading, and study. Grades may be based on only one or two major assignments or exams. Be prepared to adapt and to learn.

COURSE INFORMATION

Students in the Melbourne January program take a one unit course, which is equivalent to 3-4 US credits.

- Australia Today (1 Deakin unit)

The Australia Today course provides students with an opportunity to explore key issues facing Australian’s today. Study topics include: Australian history, landscape and settlement, Australia in Film, The ANZAC Legend: War and National Identity, Aboriginal Settlement and Unsettlement, Australia and Asia, Multicultural Australia, Australia: A Distinctive Democracy, The Lucky Country?, Sporting Nation: Sporting Culture, Gender Relations, and Global Australia.
PROGRAM FEES AND DEADLINES
See the Money Matters section of the USAC website for more financial information, including help with financing and scholarship resources.

2016: January Session—not available at time of printing (see the USAC website for the most up-to-date information)

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:
• tuition and fees
• USAC prearranged housing placement service
• housing fees
• personalized pre-departure advising
• immigration visa guidance
• parental support and advisement
• scholarship advising and assistance
• transcript assistance
• USAC health insurance
• on-site support from Deakin University
• airport transfers from Tullamarine Airport Melbourne to Burwood
• arrival welcome dinner
• surf lessons
• travel associated with program cultural tours

ESTIMATED EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN FEES:
Expenses incurred on-site are listed in local currency as exchange rates fluctuate daily. Many expenses will vary, depending on your lifestyle and budget.

Housing and Meals
• meals—400-458 AUD

Transportation
• airfare—$1,800-2,400

Other Expenses
• personal expenses—300-350 AUD
• tourist visa—20 AUD

PAYMENT DEADLINES
The deposit and position hold payment apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges.

• $300 due with application ($200 deposit, plus $100 non-refundable application fee)
  Cancellation deadline to receive deposit refund: October 1
• $800 position hold payment due October 1
• Balance due November 1

Use the January session as an introduction to Australian society and culture, then stay for Trimester 1 (which starts in March).
USAC Specialty Program: US credit

Length of program:
One 3-week session

Credits:
Minimum: 3
Maximum: 4

Maximum program enrollment: 60

Language of instruction: English | Spanish

Minimum GPA: 2.5

Application deadline:
November 1

Program Highlights:
• Live in a small seaside fishing town on the Pacific Ocean with ferry access to the Nicoya Peninsula
• Take courses from four levels of Spanish and/or in Ecological Studies in small groups with field experiences
• Savor your proximity to breathtaking national parks and nature reserves
• Discover interesting and beautiful areas of Costa Rica on field trips—including Arenal Volcano and Tortuga Island
• Use this program as a chance to take an extra course after the fall semester or as an introduction to a spring semester spent in Costa Rica

Find more information:
usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/costa-rica/puntarenas
CALENDAR | PUNTAÑENAS, COSTA RICA

Occasionally dates need to be changed; please visit the USAC website for updates. Application deadline: November 1. Please apply early to ensure a space. Programs may fill to capacity prior to the application deadline; however, late applications may be accepted if space is available.

January Session 2016 (3-week session)
December 26 Departure from the US on optional group flight | Arrival in Puntarenas | Move into housing
December 27 Tour of Puntarenas | Mandatory orientation
December 28 Courses begin
January 2-3 Overnight field trip—Arenal Volcano
January 14 Final examinations | Program end date
January 15 Move out of housing
Open return Students establish their own date of return

WHY STUDY IN PUNTAÑENAS?
The January Puntarenas program is ideal for students interested in studying the Spanish language and diverse cultures of Latin America in a small coastal town. Through formal coursework and personal interaction with the host culture, you will greatly expand your language skills and knowledge of Costa Rican society. Puntarenas offers a small town environment where you’ll be able to practice your Spanish regularly and immerse yourself in local culture. Costa Rica as a whole is well known for its extraordinary natural beauty, preserved in its many national parks and reserves, which you will have the opportunity to discover firsthand.

The January Puntarenas program offers a 3-week session with courses in Tropical Marine Biology, Spanish Language, and Latin American Studies. You may participate in the session alone or combine it with the semester program. However, the academic courses are only part of the value of the program. Participation in homestays, field trips to Pacific Coast islands, rain forest, and volcanoes, as well as participation in and experience of cultural events and festivals also form an integral part of the program.

RESIDENT DIRECTOR AND ON-SITE SUPPORT
The Puntarenas program has a Resident Director who is responsible for the overall operations of the program abroad: securing appropriate student housing, hiring outstanding faculty, organizing exciting field trips and optional tours, and overseeing your general well-being. Dr. Carlos Salas, a Costa Rica native, is the Resident Director for the Puntarenas program and an eighteen-year veteran of USAC. Carlos earned his PhD from the University of Kansas and is fluent in Spanish and English. He will meet the group flight at the airport, take you to your housing, and provide the mandatory on-site orientation. He and the USAC Puntarenas staff—including Program Assistant Sebastian Bombi—also provide support and resources while you are on the program. Sebastian is working in his Master’s degree in Computer Sciences and was an exchange student in Viterbo, Italy.

PUNTARENAS AND COSTA RICA

COSTA RICA
Capital: San José
Language: Spanish
Currency: Costa Rican colón (CRC)
PUNTARENAS
Population: 100,000
Distance from San José: 51 miles
Distance from Monteverde: 53 miles

Puntarenas offers the peace and rural beauty of a small beach town while at the same time affording easy access to the activities of the capital. During the nineteenth century it was Costa Rica’s major seaport, but Puerto Limón and Caldera (11 miles to the southeast) have assumed that role. Now primarily a tourist destination and transportation hub, it is a bustling town, particularly during the dry season months (November–April). During the wet months (May–October) it is hot with refreshing afternoon showers. The geography of the city is unique since it is located at the end of a sandy peninsula almost five miles long, but only 120 to 700 yards wide. Consequently, one is always close to the ocean, and there are many beaches from which to choose.

Puntarenas offers easy access to the Nicoya Peninsula on two ferries. Nicoya is best known for its pristine beaches and resorts, as well as for its native folklore. From Puntarenas, you can travel up and down the coast to world-class surfing beaches, nature reserves, and plantations. This central Pacific region offers something for every outdoor enthusiast. Students find buying a used bike upon arrival is the easiest form of transportation for getting around Puntarenas.

Costa Rica is well known for its peaceful lifestyle, egalitarian society, stable government, excellent medical care, and extraordinary natural beauty. Known as the “Switzerland of Latin America,” Costa Rica abolished its military in 1948. Consequently, it has been able to redirect its resources toward the development of its educational system and infrastructure. As a result, today Costa Rica is proud of its healthcare system, political stability, and literacy rate of more than 93% among its four million inhabitants.

The geography of Costa Rica displays a stunning panorama of nature, which includes the Caribbean and Pacific Ocean coasts, mountains that soar to 12,000 feet, lush rain forests, and smoking volcanoes. Costa Rica has been a forerunner in the development of national parks and in the preservation of wildlife. More than half the country is forested. In its reserves you can see more species of birds than are found in the US and Canada combined, many colorful kinds of butterflies, abundant native wildlife, and saltwater fish and mollusks. Costa Rica contains 0.03% of the world’s landmass, but 5% of the world’s biodiversity! These factors, combined with ever expanding nature preserves, have made Costa Rica a favorite destination for ecologically oriented tourism from around the world.

Resident Director Dr. Carlos Salas with Program Assistant Sebastian Bombi
RESOURCES
- Costa Rica Handbook (Christopher Baker)
- Lonely Planet's Guide to Costa Rica (Rob Rachowiecki)
- South America (Stephen Birnbaum)
- The Ticos: Culture and Social Change in Costa Rica (Mavis Biesanz)
- www.tourism-costarica.com
- www.costaricamap.com

USAC CENTER
The USAC Puntarenas Center is located in a building overlooking the ocean and situated only a few blocks from downtown Puntarenas, where students can find markets, cafés, banks, and a variety of stores. The Center includes offices, classrooms, multimedia facilities, a computer lab, and a courtyard with wireless Internet access. The Center also hosts conversation partner meetings and other group activities.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS
Homestay—You will move in with your host family upon arrival. The families are located within easy walking distance of the USAC Center and will provide you with daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Living with a family provides an unmatched opportunity for learning Costa Rican customs and speaking Spanish and is highly recommended.

“The greatest benefit of studying here? My host family. Besides treating me like real family, I was able to take what I learned in class and practice with my family.”

FIELD TRIPS AND IMMERSION ACTIVITIES
Extracurricular opportunities while you are on the Puntarenas program include indoor and outdoor soccer, beach volleyball, and workshops (eg, making jewelry). USAC student interaction in Puntarenas is primarily with intercambios, local Costa Rican (“Tico”) conversation partners. This is a great opportunity to practice your Spanish. Many student activities such as dinners, dancing, and volunteer projects also include Ticos for additional language and cultural exposure.

FIELD TRIPS
You are also encouraged to participate in the included program field trips, listed below. These excursions generally take place on weekends. The dates and exact locations are determined at the discretion of the Resident Director; examples include the following.

Arenal Volcano
Visit Arenal Volcano and stay overnight in La Fortuna. One of the world’s most active volcanoes, Arenal rises 1,657 meters above sea level and overlooks Lake Arenal—both are part of Arenal Volcano National Park. Arenal’s eruptions are frequent but moderate and can be viewed without danger from behind the safety perimeter. At night the lava and incandescent rocks make for a spectacular sight. The top of the volcano is usually surrounded by clouds and it is touted as good luck to get a glimpse of the whole volcano without clouds. This field trip includes a soak in the hot springs and a visit to the Arenal hanging bridges to look at the dense forest canopy set against the background of the beautiful volcano. This easy access to the rain forest gives you the opportunity to observe many forms of wildlife.

Curú Wildlife Refuge and Tortuga Island
Curú Wildlife Refuge is Costa Rica’s first private National Wildlife Refuge and is an excellent example of a sustainable development program. The refuge earns a profit and provides local employment, while also protecting threatened and endangered mangroves, forests, and coral reefs. The sanctuary contains five ecological habitats and rich, diverse wildlife. Tortuga Island is known for its white sandy beach and turquoise waters, a perfect stop for swimming and snorkeling.

“This is the best: to get a local experience and see the culture!” —Katie LaRue
ACADEMICS

Studying abroad can be a more meaningful and invigorating learning experience than at home—both inside and outside of the classroom—because you will be in a different place. You may be more curious and alert than you usually are; use this heightened energy to enhance your studies as well as your cultural and geographical explorations.

You may also encounter different teaching styles and course processes. Classes may be more lecture-based and less interactive than in the US and may require considerable independent research, reading, and study. Grades may be based on only one or two major assignments or exams. Be prepared to adapt and to learn.

COURSES

You will enroll in at least three and up to four credits. At least one 3-credit course is required in all sessions. This list of courses is intended for informational purposes and does not guarantee availability or descriptions. Courses are subject to minor changes resulting from on-going curricular review, faculty assignments, and program revisions. Course availability is conditional on student interest and enrollment. Please visit the USAC website for complete course descriptions.

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE STUDIES

The language courses are intensive. Language courses have a maximum enrollment of 15 students each.

- **Elementary Spanish I** (FLL/SPAN, 100-level, 4 credits)
- **Elementary Spanish II** (FLL/SPAN, 100-level, 4 credits) Prerequisite: one semester of college Spanish.
- **Intermediate Spanish I** (FLL/SPAN, 200-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: two semesters of college Spanish.
- **Intermediate Spanish II** (FLL/SPAN, 200-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: three semesters of college Spanish.
- **Spanish Composition I** (FLL/SPAN, 300-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: four semesters of college Spanish.
- **Spanish Composition II** (FLL/SPAN, 300-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: five semesters of college Spanish.
- **Advanced Spanish I** (FLL/SPAN, 400-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: six semesters of college Spanish.
- **Advanced Spanish II** (FLL/SPAN, 400-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: seven semesters of college Spanish.
- **Advanced Spanish Writing and Stylistics** (FLL, 400-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: six semesters of college Spanish.
- **Spanish Conversation and Oral Skills** (FLL, 300-level, 1 credit) Prerequisite: two semesters of college Spanish.

ECOLOGICAL AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Taught in English or Spanish

The following courses focus on the culture, environment, and ecology of Costa Rica. Courses are taught in English unless noted in Spanish; courses taught in Spanish are for students with four or more semesters of college Spanish unless otherwise indicated.

- **Ecotourism and Volunteer Travel** (MGT/HTM, 300-level, 1 credit)
- **Dances of Latin America** (DAN, 100-level, 1 credit, taught in Spanish but appropriate for all)
- **Introduction to Tropical Marine Biology** (BIOL, 200-level, 3 credits)
- **Introduction to Tropical Marine Biology Field Study** (BIOL, 200-level, 1 credits) This course has an additional fee.
- **Latin American Cuisine** (NUTR, 400-level, 1 credit, taught in English and Spanish but appropriate for all) This course has an additional fee for materials.
- **Latin America and Its Cultures** (ANTH/FLL, 200-level, 1 credit)

US PROFESSORS

Local faculty teach most USAC courses; however, the following US professor is also teaching as a Visiting Professor.

Prof. Courtney White | Boise State University | **Course Offered: Ecotourism and Volunteer Travel**

Prof. Courtney White (MBA, Stanford) combines the business experience of having managed operations across five countries with an expertise in cultural differences, interpersonal effectiveness, and change management. She is adept at tailoring coursework to leverage local opportunities and student interests.
PROGRAM FEES AND DEADLINES
See the Money Matters section of the USAC website for more financial information, including help with financing and scholarship resources.

January Session—$2,680

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:
• tuition and fees
• USAC prearranged housing placement service
• homestay housing fees
• immigration visa guidance
• personalized pre-departure advising
• parental support and advisement
• scholarship advising and assistance
• transcript assistance
• student health insurance
• airport pick-up for those on group flight
• USAC mandatory orientation in Puntarenas
• host university student ID card
• 24-hour local staff support
• program-organized field trips
• local travel resources, tips, and suggestions

ESTIMATED EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN FEES:
Expenses incurred on-site are listed in local currency as exchange rates fluctuate daily. Many expenses will vary, depending on your lifestyle and budget.

Housing and Meals
• homestay surcharge (mandatory with homestay for meals)—$220

Optional Courses and Tours
• Introduction to Tropical Marine Biology Field Study course fee (for field trips)—$200
• Latin American Cuisine course fee (for materials and ingredients)—$125

Transportation
• airfare—$650-900 (US group flight available)
• local transportation—30,000 CRC
• transportation to/from program site—51,000 CRC
• Costa Rica airport departure tax—$29

Other Expenses
• personal expenses—100,000-200,000 CRC
• textbooks and class supplies—40,000-75,000 CRC

PAYMENT DEADLINES
The deposit and position hold payment apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges.

• $300 due with application ($200 deposit, plus $100 non-refundable application fee)
• Cancellation deadline to receive deposit refund: November 1
• $800 position hold payment due November 1
• Balance due December 1
Cuba
La Habana

Cuban History, Society, Politics, and Culture | Latin American Studies
January Session 2016

USAC Specialty Program: US credit
Length of program:
One 3-week session

Credits:
Minimum: 3
Maximum: 4

Maximum program enrollment: 25

Language of instruction: English | Spanish
Minimum GPA: 2.5

Application deadline:
November 1

Program Highlights:
• Live and study in old La Habana
• Take courses in Latin American Studies in small groups with field experiences
• Savor your proximity to breathtaking white sand beaches
• Discover interesting and beautiful areas of Cuba on field trips—including a Tobacco Museum and Varadero Beach
• Visit landmarks in La Habana, including Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Museo de la Revolución, Plaza de la Revolución, and Malecón
• Meet the people who make up the sincerely friendly, expressive, multicultural Cuban society
• This program is only available to degree-seeking students.

Find more information:
usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/cuba/la-habana
The January La Habana program has a Resident Director who is responsible for the overall operations of the program: securing appropriate student housing, hiring outstanding faculty, organizing exciting field trips and optional tours, and overseeing your general well-being. Sebastian Bombi, a native of Uruguay who has lived in Costa Rica for nearly twenty years, is the Resident Director for the La Habana program and has worked for USAC for several years in Costa Rica. He will provide you with the mandatory orientation in Puntarenas organize tours, direct you to your housing, arrange field trips and social events, and provide additional support while you are on the program. He and the academic coordinator, José Matos, provide support and resources while you are on the program.

Dr. José A. Matos, a Cuban native, is academic coordinator and a professor for the La Habana program. His PhD is in philosophy and he is currently a full-time professor and researcher at Universidad de La Habana, where he conducts important research in ethology. He has been invited as a visiting lecturer to several universities in Latin America. He is a member of the Scientific Board of Directors of Casa de África.

The capital of Cuba, La Habana is a bustling city full of culture, arts, and entertainment that is also, as a result of Cuba's Castro-era relative isolation, surprisingly uncommercial: free of the billboards and the over-advertised feel of much of the rest of the globe. Old Havana is an UNESCO World Heritage site and is one of the best-preserved colonial Spanish complexes in the Americas, untouched, (and one could even say faded) with a sense of romance, but also with a very real sense of the poverty and the limited means Cuba has had during its more isolated last few decades. Further contributing to the “time-capsule” feel of the city, 1950s-era American and late twentieth-century Soviet-made vehicles mix with more modest transportation on the streets. There is a poignant, fleeting feel to this time in La Habana’s history, making it all the more relevant to live in and study this culture and society in transition firsthand.

The sincerely friendly, expressive, multicultural Cuban society supports a rich and varied Caribbean culture that is a fusion of African, Spanish, and American influences. Cuban music, dance, literature, cuisine, and art all reflect this historical and cultural mixture resulting in a sensory overload of exotic rhythms, vibrant colors, and tropical flavors. Cuba’s natural beauty is as unique as its culture, with verdant agricultural valleys and plains and thousands of miles of shoreline and pristine beaches.

The largest Caribbean island, Cuba was a key geographical and social area in the colonial Americas—offering large agriculturally rich areas, many bays, and a desirable location in the Caribbean for trade. Its history from Spanish colonial times to its time as an American territory, to independence and revolution, to the present-day authoritarian government illustrates the impact of both slavery and imperialism. Physically close but
politically isolated from the United States, Cuba was also pivotal in the twentieth-century events impacting the US, from the Spanish-American War to the Cuban Missile Crisis. As a result, Cuba has maintained a cultural and mythic presence in the history of the US and surrounding region. One of the last bastions of communism, Cuba’s rich history, intriguing modern events and society, and unfolding future make it a fascinating place to live and study.

RESOURCES
- www.lonelyplanet.com/cuba/La Habana
- www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/History/Cuba-history.htm

CASA DE ÁFRICA, UNIVERSIDAD DE SAN GERÓNIMO
The Casa de África is a research institution that belongs to Universidad de San Gerónimo, a satellite campus of Universidad de La Habana (University of Havana). Casa de África was founded in 1986 in a colonial palace in Old Havana to showcase and preserve African and Afro-Cuban history and culture. The museum’s collections include objects used in Afro-Cuban religions, the collection of researcher Fernando Ortiz—the father of cultural anthropology in Cuba—as well as the African collection of Fidel Castro. The institution does research on the countries represented in its collections, especially those that had a direct influence on Cuba’s culture, preserving ethnographic pieces for use in research and preservation. Its advisory council is made up of specialists in the different social sciences who provide valuable professional support for the institution’s work. The Africa House Museum is an important study center and a place where researchers, ethnologists, linguists, and students of African and Afro-Cuban history can present their findings in lectures, workshops, and conferences.

San Gerónimo de La Habana is a faculty to preserve the historic and cultural heritage of the country. In 1728, the Colegio Universitario de San Gerónimo de La Habana (San Gerónimo University College) was founded as the institution that preceded the University of La Habana. In 2005, Cuban historian Eusebio Leal proposed a project to restore the College, which was accepted by the Ministry of Higher Education. Universidad de San Gerónimo reopened to teach specialties related to the conservation of historic and cultural heritage.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS
In Costa Rica for orientation, you will stay with host families. In Cuba, you’ll stay in hotel accommodations advantageously located in the historical and cultural heart of La Habana.

FIELD TRIPS AND IMMERSION ACTIVITIES
The programmed field trips and activities are an integral part of the intellectual and cultural experience and are included in the program fees. These excursions include walking tours, museum visits, and guest lectures coupled with cultural activities and meals to provide you the opportunity to interact with Cubans and learn firsthand their perspective of our common histories. Individual courses have field trips, performances, or outings built in to complement what you explore in class. These, too, are included.

Possible visits include the Fine Arts Museum, Malecón, the José Martí Institute, and the Guanabacoa Museum, activities and interactions with locals, and, of course, experiencing the cuisine, music, and dancing for which Cuba is famous.

FIELD TRIPS
The included field trips will typically occur on weekends; however the timing and destination are at the discretion of the Resident Director pending availability and weather. Likely destinations include the following examples.

Varadero Beach
Varadero Beach is a popular resort town in the province of Matanzas, making it an ideal location to consider the tourist economies of Cuba in the past, present, and future (and enjoy the beach!). It is one of the largest resort areas in the Caribbean, with over 20 km of white sandy beaches.
ACADEMICS
Studying abroad can be a more meaningful and invigorating learning experience than at home—both inside and outside of the classroom—because you will be in a different place. You may be more curious and alert than you usually are; use this heightened energy to enhance your studies as well as your cultural and geographical explorations.

You may also encounter different teaching styles and course processes. Classes may be more lecture-based and less interactive than in the US and may require considerable independent research, reading, and study. Grades may be based on only one or two major assignments or exams. Be prepared to adapt and to learn.

COURSES
You will enroll in at least three and up to four credits. At least one 3-credit course is required in all sessions. This list of courses is intended for informational purposes and does not guarantee availability or descriptions. Courses are subject to minor changes resulting from on-going curricular review, faculty assignments, and program revisions. Course availability is conditional on student interest and enrollment. Please visit the USAC website for complete course descriptions.

The following courses focus on the culture and history of Cuba. Courses are taught in English unless otherwise noted in Spanish; courses taught in Spanish are for students with four or more semesters of college Spanish unless otherwise indicated.

**CUBAN HISTORY, SOCIETY, POLITICS, AND CULTURE | LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**
Taught in English or Spanish
The following courses focus on the culture and history of Cuba. Courses are taught in English unless otherwise noted in Spanish; courses taught in Spanish are for students with four or more semesters of college Spanish unless otherwise indicated.

- **Anthropological Studies in Latin America** (ANTH/HIST/PSC, 400/600-level, 3 credits, taught in Spanish)
- **Cuban and Latin American History** (FLL/HIST, 300-level, 1 credit, taught in Spanish)
- **Cuban Cuisine** (NUTR, 400-level, 1 credit, taught in English and Spanish but appropriate for everyone). This course has an additional fee for materials.
- **Dances of La Habana and the Caribbean** (DAN, 200-level, 1 credit, taught in Spanish but appropriate for everyone)
- **Government and Politics in Latin America** (PSC, 400/600-level, 3 credits)
- **International Political Economy: Latin and Central America’s Global Connections** (PSC/ECON, 400/600-level, 3 credits, taught in Spanish)
- **Introduction to Spanish Language I** (FLL 100-level, 1 credit) This course is designed to help students assimilate into the community.
- **Introduction to Spanish Language II** (FLL 100-level, 1 credit) This course is designed to help students assimilate into the community.
- **Latin American Social Revolutions** (HIST/PSC, 400/600-level, 3 credits)
- **Spanish Conversation and Oral Skills** (FLL, 300-level, 2 credits) Prerequisite: two semesters of college Spanish.
- **Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Latin American Cinema** (ART/FILM/FLL, 400-level, 3 credits, taught in Spanish)

"We really get to talk to Cubans, not just learn about them from a distance. You talk to locals and realize how unique their culture is and how every country’s culture is different." —Kassandra Hale | Loyola University Chicago
PROGRAM FEES AND DEADLINES
See the Money Matters section of the USAC website for more financial information, including help with financing and scholarship resources.

January Session—$2,980

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:
• tuition and fees
• USAC prearranged housing placement service
• housing fees
• roundtrip airfare from Costa Rica to Cuba
• personalized pre-departure advising
• immigration visa guidance
• parental support and advisement
• scholarship advising and assistance
• transcript assistance
• student health insurance
• airport pick-up for those on the group flight
• USAC mandatory orientation
• 24-hour local staff support
• program-organized field trips
• local travel resources, tips, and suggestions
• textbooks and class supplies

ESTIMATED EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN FEES:
Expenses incurred on-site are listed in local currency as exchange rates fluctuate daily. Many expenses will vary, depending on your lifestyle and budget.

Housing and Meals
• housing—$850
• meals (lunch and dinner)—$430

Optional Courses and Tours
• Cuban Cuisine course fee (for materials and ingredients)—$125

Transportation
• airfare, roundtrip from US to Costa Rica—$650-$900 (US group flight available)
• local transportation—10-20 CUC
• Costa Rican airport departure taxes—$58
• Cuban airport departure taxes—$32

Other Expenses
• personal expenses—$250

A note about currency in Cuba
Currency is not simple in Cuba. Cuban pesos are only used by Cubans. Cuban pesos convertibles (CUC) are only used by tourists and visitors. US dollars and euros are exchanged at a “Casa de Cambio” to CUCs. Recently, tourists have received a better rate with Euros.

PAYMENT DEADLINES
The deposit and position hold payment apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges.
• $300 due with application ($200 deposit, plus $100 non-refundable application fee)
• Cancellation deadline to receive deposit refund: November 1
• $800 position hold payment due November 1
• Balance due December 1
India

Bangalore (Bengaluru)
Sociology, Culture Studies, and Global Issues in India
January Session 2016

Host University:
Christ University

USAC Specialty Program: US credit

Length of program:
One 3-week session

Credits:
Minimum: 3
Maximum: 4

Maximum program enrollment: 40

Language of instruction: English | Sanskrit | Hindi

Minimum GPA: 2.5

Minimum class standing:
Sophomore

Application deadline:
November 1

Program Highlights:
• Study at one of the finest educational institutions in India, located in a trendy part within the heart of the city
• Use this program as a chance to take an extra course after the fall semester or as an introduction to a spring semester spent in India
• Explore a diverse landscape, exotic and varied food, unparalleled architectural monuments, World Heritage Sites, and colorful festivals
• Live in the “Garden City,” also the hub of India’s technology and business outsourcing revolution
• Take advantage of numerous volunteer opportunities with the Center for Social Action, a student-run service organization

Find more information:
usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/india/bangalore
CALENDAR | BANGALORE (BENGALURU), INDIA

Occasionally dates need to be changed; please visit the USAC website for updates. Application deadline: November 1. Please apply early to ensure a space. Programs may fill to capacity prior to the application deadline; however, late applications may be accepted if space is available.

January Session 2016 (3-week session)
December 26  Departure from the US on optional group flight
December 28  Arrival in Bangalore (early morning) | Move into housing | Mandatory orientation (begins at 9 am)
December 29  Mandatory orientation continues
December 30  Courses begin
January 2    Classes in the morning | City tour
TBD         Henna party
January 9   Classes held in morning and afternoon
January 10  Field trip—Mysore
January 15  Courses end
January 16  Final examinations | Program end date
January 17  Move out of housing
Open return  Students establish their own date of return

WHY STUDY IN BANGALORE (BENGALURU)?

The January Bangalore (Bengaluru) program provides the extraordinary opportunity to study Indian culture, sociology, and global issues, while also volunteering in the local community with fellow students who are interested in contributing and making a difference in their society. You will be studying in one of the most prestigious and beautiful campuses in India and will gain personal exposure to the social issues of Indian life. Bangalore (Bengaluru) is an ideal place to examine global issues due to its location in India’s Silicon Valley, as cultures meet in the transformation of traditional Indian society into a fast-paced hybrid of East-West life.

The January Bangalore program offers one 3-week session. You may participate in the session alone or combine it with the semester program. The academic courses are only a part of the intended value of a session abroad; participation in formal and informal activities, such as field trips to local towns and historical temples, form an integral part of the program.

RESIDENT DIRECTOR AND ON-SITE SUPPORT

The Bangalore (Bengaluru) program has a Resident Director who oversees the USAC office abroad and is responsible for the overall operations of the program: securing appropriate student housing, hiring outstanding faculty, organizing exciting field trips, and overseeing your general well-being. Jacob John is the Resident Director for the Bangalore program and is a seven-year veteran of USAC. Jacob graduated from Christ University with a degree in Catering and Hospitality Management. He has been a resident of Bangalore for more than 40 years and speaks Hindi, Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and English. Seema Shaji also assists USAC students at Christ University while in Bangalore. The on-site staff will provide the mandatory orientation, help you with your cultural, social and educational adjustment, assist with your class registration and housing, and organize local field trips.

BANGALORE (BENGALURU) AND INDIA

INDIA
Capital: New Delhi
Languages: Hindi and English
Currency: Indian rupee (INR)

BANGALORE (BENGALURU)
Population: 5.4 million
Distance from Mumbai: 520 miles
Distance from Kolkata: 969 miles

Bangalore (Bengaluru) is the fifth largest city in India. It was founded in the sixteenth century by a Hoysala king and was ruled by the maharajas of Mysore throughout much of its history. Today it is the capital of the state of Karnataka and one of India’s most modern cities with malls, bargain shopping centers, cafés, nightclubs, and multi-cuisine restaurants. Its abundance of parks, lakes and gardens, many built by the British Raj, has earned it the nickname “Garden City.” It also is endowed with a pleasant sub-tropical climate (55°-80°F).

Bangalore’s location is an ideal place from which to explore southern India. Within a few hours you can be wandering through the Maharaja’s Palace in Mysore, sunbathing on the beaches of Goa, visiting World Heritage Sites such as Hampi, and taking in one of the world’s tallest waterfalls, Jog Falls. Cities such as Mumbai, home of Bollywood—the world’s largest film industry—are just a day’s train ride away. Bangalore’s Electronic City Industrial Park has also become the world’s second largest producer of software. Bangalore is at the heart of the information technology and business outsourcing boom in South Asia.
and many multinational high-tech companies have offices here: Oracle is located right next door to Christ University. Karnataka is the entrance to the deep south of India. Karnataka has extraordinary historical and cultural sites such as the ruins of the once powerful Vijaynagar Empire, the medieval monuments at Bidar, and the splendid dome of the Golgumbaz in Bijapur. Karnataka is famous for its sandalwood, incense, spice, flower markets, and towering gopura temples adorned with Hindu gods and goddesses. Its landscapes range from palm-fringed coastal regions and forested mountains to dry plateaus.

India is the seventh largest country in the world and, with 1.2 billion people, is the second most populated. It is a country of contrasts—its slums in Kolkata rival those found in the poorest nations, but it is also home to some of the world's greatest palaces, temples, and monuments—including that immortal memorial to love, the Taj Mahal. It is the birthplace of Hinduism and yoga, and has the world's largest secular democracy.

RESOURCES

- Speaking of India (Craig Storti)
- Holy Cow: An Indian Adventure (Sarah MacDonald)
- Waiting for Mahatma (R.K. Narayan)
- The Great Indian Novel (Sashi Tharoor)
- www.incredibleindia.org
- www.karnatakatourism.org

CHRIST UNIVERSITY

Christ University, founded in 1969 as Christ College, was the first college in Karnataka to be accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and is rated A+, the highest rating a college can achieve. It now has autonomous status and is recognized as an Indian university, and is one of the very few private universities in India. The tree-lined campus is host to 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students from every state in India. It has a bank, ATM, public phone access (to call locally and internationally), computer labs, and free access to wireless internet in many parts of campus. There are also several sports facilities including courts for basketball and tennis as well as fields for soccer and cricket. The library, counseling center, cafeteria, and several smaller eating venues are all easily accessible on campus.

Students can eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the cafeteria for less than $4 per day or they can choose to explore the inexpensive local cuisine. Traditional Bangalore cuisine consists of dishes seasoned with coconut, chilies, and garam masalas. The coffee, steamed rice cakes (idli), and rice and lentil crepes (dosas) are some of the best in India.

USAC students are issued a Christ University student ID which allows them full access to all campus facilities and events, as well as access to student discounts in and around Bangalore. A multiplex cinema, many cafes and restaurants, a supermarket, discount shopping center, and mall are all a five- to ten-minute walk from campus.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Apartments—Students are placed in co-ed, shared apartments. Each apartment typically consists of two bathrooms, two double rooms, a kitchen, washing machine (no dryer), common area, and small patio. Single rooms are available for an additional cost. The apartments are located in Koramangala; an IT, shopping, and residential hub within a 30- to 45-minute commute to campus by walking or auto-rickshaw.

Residence Hall—The on-campus residence hall is a great opportunity for female students to integrate with locals. The residence hall includes a study room, small gym, washing machines (no dryer), and a TV/entertainment room. All rooms are single occupancy with private bathrooms, refrigerator, and microwave.

“This has been one of the most eye-opening experiences of my life.”

—Emily Hindman | University of Tennessee, Knoxville
FIELD TRIPS AND IMMERSION ACTIVITIES

Immersion opportunities in Bangalore include the opportunity to volunteer in a local village to help educate disadvantaged children through CSA or help in a nearby hospital with HIV/AIDS victims through CSA. You may visit local businesses, agencies and cultural events with your fellow classmates or professors or assist Christ University students with cultural events and activities held on campus.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

You will have a unique opportunity to experience Indian culture and society through the Centre for Social Action (CSA), a student-run organization that provides volunteer opportunities in a variety of settings. Opportunities include rural exposure programs and overnight camps in local villages to educate disadvantaged children, a medical program for pregnant women, advocacy and awareness programs, and a child rearing self-help group for women. CSA also helps local villages address a variety of agricultural needs. In local villages, CSA street plays have been an effective tool for introducing topics such as child labor, global warming, and female infanticide. More information will be provided during your on-site orientation. Visit the Bangalore section of the USAC website for a CSA video highlighting students’ work.

FIELD TRIPS

You are also encouraged to participate in the program field trips. Final destinations and dates are at the discretion of the Resident Director and may include visits to museums, software and business outsourcing companies, the sixteenth-century Bull Temple, and the Lalbagh Botanical Garden, as well as those listed below. Each course typically incorporates a course-specific field trip as well.

Mysore

Visit the city of Mysore, which is commonly described as the City of Palaces and once the capital of the Kingdom of Mysore until 1947. Along the way, you’ll visit ancient historical sites such as the Sringapatna Fort, which is considered to be the second strongest fort in India. There’s also a stop at the Sri Ranganthaswamy Temple, one of the most important Vaishnavite shrines in southern India. After lunch, you can visit St. Philomena’s Church, known for its neo-Gothic style as well as a trip to other shrines and vista viewpoints of the city. You’ll have the chance to visit Mysore Palace and explore its exquisite carving and precious works of art.

ACADEMICS

Studying abroad can be a more meaningful and invigorating learning experience than at home—both inside and outside of the classroom—because you will be in a different place. You may be more curious and alert than you usually are; use this heightened energy to enhance your studies as well as your cultural and geographical explorations.

You may also encounter different teaching styles and course processes. Classes may be more lecture-based and less interactive than in the US and may require considerable independent research, reading, and study. Grades may be based on only one or two major assignments or exams. Be prepared to adapt and to learn.

COURSES

Taught in English

You will enroll in at least three and up to four credits. At least one 3-credit course is required in all sessions. This list of courses is intended for informational purposes and does not guarantee availability or descriptions. Courses are subject to minor changes resulting from on-going curricular review, faculty assignments, and program revisions. Course availability is conditional on student interest and enrollment. Please visit the USAC website for complete course descriptions.

- Contemporary Political and Economic Issues in South Asia (ECON/PSC, 400-level, 3 credits)
- Health Care Services (SOC/CHS, 400-level, 3 credits)
- Indian Cuisine (no-credit workshop) This course has an additional fee for materials.
- International Human Rights Initiatives within the Twentieth Century (PSC, 300-level, 3 credits)
- Women’s Issues in Indian Society (SOC/WS, 400-level, 3 credits)
- Urban and Rural Development (SOC, 400-level, 3 credits)
- Yoga (PEX, 100-level, 1 credit)

US PROFESSORS

Local faculty teach most USAC courses; however, the following US professor is also teaching as a Visiting Professor.

Dr. Beatrice Bailey | Clemson University | Course Offered: International Human Rights Initiatives within the Twentieth Century

Dr. Bea Bailey is a professor of social studies education at Clemson University where she has team taught creative inquiry courses within the history department related to the evolution of hospitality traditions. She has also spearheaded creative inquiries related to international human rights activists within the twentieth century.
PROGRAM FEES AND DEADLINES

See the Money Matters section of the USAC website for more financial information, including help with financing and scholarship resources.

January Session—$2,180

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:
- tuition and fees
- USAC prearranged housing placement service
- housing fees
- personalized pre-departure advising
- immigration visa guidance
- parental support and advisement
- scholarship advising and assistance
- transcript assistance
- student health insurance
- airport pick-up for those on the group flight (or arriving just before the group flight)
- USAC mandatory orientation in Bangalore (Bengaluru) with city tour and welcome ceremony
- host university student ID card
- 24-hour local staff support
- program-organized field trips
- local travel resources, tips, and suggestions
- volunteer opportunities

ESTIMATED EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN FEES:
Expenses incurred on-site are listed in local currency as exchange rates fluctuate daily. Many expenses will vary, depending on your lifestyle and budget.

Housing and Meals
- refundable housing deposit—$250
- utilities (apartment)—$35
- single room surcharge (apartment)—$75
- meals—8,000-10,000 INR

Optional Courses and Tours
- Indian Cuisine no-credit workshop fee (for materials and ingredients)—$40

Transportation
- airfare—$1,400-2,000 (US group flight available)
- local transportation—4,500-6,000 INR
- transportation to/from program site:
  - airport pickup in Bangalore (if not on group flight)—$50
  - transportation on your own—1,000-2,000 INR

Other Expenses
- personal expenses—5,000-7,000 INR
- textbooks and class supplies—1,500-2,000 INR
- student visa—$115
- optional malaria prescription—$150-400

PAYMENT DEADLINES
The deposit and position hold payment apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges.
- $300 due with application ($200 deposit, plus $100 non-refundable application fee)
- Cancellation deadline to receive deposit refund: November 1
- $800 position hold payment due November 1
- Balance due December 1

“This program has been very beneficial in terms of academic, cultural, and personal growth.” —Evan Griesse | University of Arkansas

Call toll-free: 1-866-404-USAC | Apply online at http://usac.unr.edu
Spain
Alicante

Spanish Language and European Studies
January Session 2016

Host University:
University of Alicante

USAC Specialty Program: US credit

Length of program:
One 3-week session

Credits:
Minimum: 3
Maximum: 4

Maximum program enrollment: 50

Language of instruction: English | Spanish

Minimum GPA: 2.5

Application deadline:
November 1

Program Highlights:
• Live in a cosmopolitan city on the Mediterranean coast and take advantage of an intensive language program.

• Study on a beautiful, green campus with gorgeous landscaping, modern architecture, and many opportunities for integration into the campus community.

• Enjoy local celebrations, open air markets, and the lively atmosphere of the Mediterranean lifestyle; immerse yourself in Spanish culture with excursions and cultural events where you can experience the rich history and diverse cultural life of Alicante.

• Use this program to take an extra course after fall semester or as an introduction to a spring semester spent in Spain.

• Member: APUNE—Asociación de Programas Universitarios Norteamericanos en España

Find more information:
usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/spain/alicante
CALENDAR | ALICANTE, SPAIN

Occasionally dates need to be changed; please visit the USAC website for updates. Application deadline: November 1. Please apply early to ensure a space. Programs may fill to capacity prior to the application deadline; however, late applications may be accepted if space is available.

January Session 2016 (3-week session)

December 26  Departure from the US
December 27  Arrival in Alicante | Move into housing
December 28  Mandatory orientation | Courses begin
January 1  New Year’s Day Holiday
January 2  Field trip—Guadalest and Altea
January 6  Festival of “Los Reyes Magos” (the three Magi) Holiday
January 9  Field trip—Valencia
January 15  Final examinations | Program end date
January 16  Move out of housing (noon checkout)
Open return  Students establish open date of return

WHY STUDY IN ALICANTE?

The January Alicante program is ideal for students who wish to study Spanish and European Studies in a beautiful city on the Mediterranean coast. Alicante is a modern, welcoming city bathed by the Mediterranean Sea which offers all the advantages of being located in such a privileged setting. The magnificent sandy beaches and blue waters of the coast, its sunny weather, the rich history, and lovely monuments make Alicante a top destination in Spain. People in Alicante live most of their life outdoors as part of the Mediterranean lifestyle; busy cafés, vibrant nightlife, street markets and local festivities are abundant. The campus is also one of the most beautiful in Spain, with lovely gardens, fountains, palm trees, and modern architecture. All of these factors create a great learning and social atmosphere for USAC students.

The January Alicante program offers one 3-week session with courses available in Spanish Language and European Studies. You may participate in the session alone or combine it with the semester program before or after it. In addition to the academic strengths of the program, students have the opportunity to participate in many extracurricular activities such as field trips, cultural events, and village festivals.

“ Alicante is a city with nice people and fun times, but most importantly it’s where you can really learn Spanish.”

ALICANTE AND SPAIN

SPAIN
Capital: Madrid
Language: Spanish, Basque, Catalan, and Galician
Currency: euro (EUR)

ALICANTE
Population: 350,000
Distance from Madrid: 221 miles
Distance from Barcelona: 300 miles

Nestled on the southeastern coast of Spain, Alicante overlooks the beautiful Mediterranean Sea. With its sunny climate, beautiful beaches, tall mountains that break the horizon, and rich nightlife, it has become one of the most popular destinations in Spain. The area enjoys hot summers and the sunniest winters in all of Europe. However, during the January session you should not expect warm weather; although mild, Alicante does have a winter season and therefore you should bring warm clothes and be prepared for some chilly temperatures.

Entertainment and nightlife is rich and extensive in Alicante. Students are sure to find many cozy cafés and entertaining night spots throughout the city and the Old Quarter of town, El Barrio, is overflowing with popular cafés set among traditional architecture. Alicante’s port, El Puerto, is the most modern area of leisure and entertainment, with restaurants, and night spots overlooking the Mediterranean. The city hosts festivals nearly every month.

Spain was the strongest kingdom in Europe in the sixteenth and first half of the seventeenth centuries. In the middle decades of the twentieth century it came under a dictatorship, but democracy was restored in 1978. In 1986 it joined the European Union.

Resident Director Luis Fernández and Program Coordinators Verónica Frías and Sylvain Denis

RESIDENT DIRECTOR AND ON-SITE SUPPORT

The Alicante program has a Resident Director who is responsible for the USAC office abroad and overall operations of the program: securing appropriate student housing, hiring outstanding faculty, organizing exciting field trips and optional tours, and overseeing your general well-being. Luis Fernández, a Galicia, Spain native, is the Resident Director for the Alicante program and is a twelve-year veteran of USAC. Luis earned his Master’s degree from the University of Stirling, Scotland, and is fluent in Spanish, Galician and English. Verónica Frías, born in Alicante, and Sylvain Denis, from France and with many years living in Alicante, complete the excellent on-site staff who will help you out during your stay in Alicante. The USAC staff will meet the group flight at the airport and provide the mandatory on-site orientation, as well as additional resources and support while you are on the program.
and has experienced an economic and cultural renaissance. Widely known for excellent food, art, Flamenco music and dance, bullfights, fantastic beaches, and lots of sunshine, Spain has been one of the cultural centers of Europe for thousands of years. It was home to famous artists such as El Greco, Diego Velasquez, Francisco Goya, Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, and Salvador Dalí.

FESTIVALS OF ALICANTE: THE NEW YEAR AND THE FESTIVAL OF THE THREE MAGI (EPHIPANY FESTIVAL)

During the January session, the city of Alicante hosts big festivities of the New Year and the Festival of the Three Magi (Epiphany), which is celebrated on the 5th and 6th of January and is the date when Spanish children receive their Christmas presents. During those days the city is very lively, with thousands of people taking to the streets to see the parades.

UNIVERSITY OF ALICANTE

USAC classes are located at the University of Alicante, which has a population of 30,000 students and contributes greatly to the diversity of the area. This innovative university is set upon a magnificent campus with modern architecture and beautiful landscaping. The campus covers an extensive area, 70% of which is gardens, arboretums, and fountains. You are encouraged to participate in local sports programs and as a USAC student, you will have full access to all sports facilities on campus, including an indoor swimming pool, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer field, track, handball, climbing wall, weight room, and much more.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Homestay—Boarding with a family provides an unmatched opportunity to speak Spanish and learn Spanish customs and is highly recommended. Full board (breakfast, lunch, dinner) for the homestay is included in the program fees.

Apartments—You also have the option to live in shared apartments with other USAC, international, or local students. This option is advisable if you have an independent lifestyle or if you prefer to cook your own meals.

FIELD TRIPS AND IMMERSION ACTIVITIES

You are encouraged to participate in local sports programs and as a USAC student, you will have full access to all sports facilities on campus, including an indoor swimming pool, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer field, track, handball, climbing wall, weight room, and much more. Informal group excursions around the city are also organized, including a visit to the Castle of Alicante.

Guadalest and Altea

Visit the sixteenth-century Moorish fortified town of Guadalest, perched on the side of a cliff. Also visit the town of Altea, known for its beautiful old quarter built upon a hill. The city is a maze of narrow streets and of whitewashed, Moorish inspired architecture, overlooking a palm-lined seafront.

Valencia

Join a day trip to the coastal city of Valencia, the third largest city in Spain. Set on the coast with picturesque museums and parks, it is a city rich in history and culture. It features the architecturally stunning City of Arts and Sciences museum complex and in 2007 hosted the America’s Cup.

RESOURCES

- A Traveler’s History of Spain (Juan Lalaguna)
- Culture Shock! Spain (Marie Louise Graff)
- The New Spaniards (John Hooper)
- www.costablanca.org
- www.alicanteturismo.com
- www.alicante.es

“I feel like I have truly experienced every aspect of the culture.”
—Brittni Markwardt | Texas A&M University
ACADEMICS
Studying abroad can be a more meaningful and invigorating learning experience than at home—both inside and outside of the classroom—because you will be in a different place. You may be more curious and alert than you usually are; use this heightened energy to enhance your studies as well as your cultural and geographical explorations.

You may also encounter different teaching styles and course processes. Classes may be more lecture-based and less interactive than in the US and may require considerable independent research, reading, and study. Grades may be based on only one or two major assignments or exams. Be prepared to adapt and to learn.

COURSES
You will enroll in at least three and up to four credits. At least one 3-credit course is required in all sessions. This list of courses is intended for informational purposes and does not guarantee availability or descriptions. Courses are subject to minor changes resulting from on-going curricular review, faculty assignments, and program revisions. Course availability is conditional on student interest and enrollment. Please visit the USAC website for complete course descriptions.

SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDIES
January language courses are intensive, with three to four credits of Spanish. Language courses have a maximum enrollment of 15 students each.

- **Elementary Spanish II** (FLL/SPAN, 100-level, 4 credits) Prerequisite: one semester of college Spanish.
- **Intermediate Spanish I** (FLL/SPAN, 200-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: two semesters of college Spanish.
- **Intermediate Spanish II** (FLL/SPAN, 200-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: three semesters of college Spanish.
- **Spanish Composition I** (FLL/SPAN, 300-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: four semesters of college Spanish.
- **Spanish Composition II** (FLL/SPAN, 300-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: five semesters of college Spanish.
- **Advanced Spanish I** (FLL/SPAN, 400-level, 3 credits) Prerequisite: six semesters of college Spanish.
- **Survey of Spanish Literature II** (FLL/SPAN, 300-level, 3 credits, taught in Spanish) Prerequisite: four semesters of college Spanish.

EUROPEAN STUDIES
Taught in English
These elective courses are designed to familiarize you with the region and provide a multi-disciplinary approach to your studies.

- **Business and Society** (PSC/BUS, 300-level, 3 credits)

US PROFESSORS
Local faculty teach most USAC courses; however, the following US professor is also teaching as a Visiting Professor.

**Dr. Timothy Clark | Northern Arizona University | Course Offered: Business and Society**
Dr. Timothy Clark (PhD, George Washington University) worked in the energy and high-tech sectors for nearly 15 years before completing his doctorate. That perspective is integrated in every class discussion which he is known for making lively and engaging. Now as a professor of strategic management, his courses explore content like ethics and social responsibility, decision making, and international business.
PROGRAM FEES AND DEADLINES
See the Money Matters section of the USAC website for more financial information, including help with financing and scholarship resources.

January Session—$2,680

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:
- tuition and fees
- USAC prearranged housing placement service
- homestay or residence hall housing fees
- full board for homestay
- breakfast and lunch for residence hall
- personalized pre-departure advising
- immigration visa guidance
- parental support and advisement
- scholarship advising and assistance
- transcript assistance
- student health insurance
- free medical services on campus
- airport pick-up for those on the group flight
- USAC mandatory orientation in Alicante
- host university student ID card
- 24-hour local staff emergency support
- program-organized field trips
- local travel resources, tips, and suggestions

ESTIMATED EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN FEES:
Expenses incurred on-site are listed in local currency as exchange rates fluctuate daily. Many expenses will vary, depending on your lifestyle and budget.

Housing and Meals
- refundable housing deposit—$250
- meals (apartment)—200-250 EUR

Transportation
- airfare—$900-1,900 (US group flight available)
- local transportation (public transportation pass)—40 EUR
- transportation to/from program site—0-65 EUR

Other Expenses
- personal expenses—200-300 EUR
- textbooks and class supplies—50 EUR

PAYMENT DEADLINES
The deposit and position hold payment apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges.

- $300 due with application ($200 deposit, plus $100 non-refundable application fee)
- Cancellation deadline to receive deposit refund: November 1
- $800 position hold payment due November 1
- Balance due December 1

"I loved studying in Alicante. I really enjoyed the staff. They were so helpful and made USAC feel like a family."
Important Information
for all programs

- USAC Resources
- Applying to USAC
- USAC Student Gateway Account
- USAC Program Models
- Course Information
- Student Behavioral and Academic Conduct
- Healthcare
- Travel Information

Learn More at usac.unr.edu
“I greatly appreciate USAC’s care and assistance. It is making me feel more and more comfortable and excited about this upcoming experience.”
—Robert Nichols | Xavier University

USAC RESOURCES
As a USAC student, you will have support and information resources accessible to you—every step of the way—from the USAC Team, including peer and Program Advisors, enrollment services, finance/accounting staff, and on-site personnel. In addition, you have tools and information as you prepare for, participate in, and return from your program via the USAC website, on your USAC Student Gateway account, in your USAC Student Handbook, and in the materials you receive during your on-site orientation. A successful experience before, during, and after your time abroad will involve all these people and resources; however, this opportunity will ultimately be what you make of it.

In this section, you will find a preliminary overview of important information. Refer to the USAC website, your Student Gateway account, and your USAC Program Advisor for more details.

APPLYING TO USAC

DEADLINES
The USAC application is available online or in the back of this catalog. Each program has different application and payment deadlines; please see each program section for specific dates. USAC accepts applications after the deadline if space is still available and if logistics for housing, immigration visas, and travel arrangements can still be reasonably managed. However, USAC encourages you to submit your application early due to the large demand for many of the programs. Applying early ensures your placement in the program of your choice but also helps your pre-departure preparation, for example, booking flights or earlier housing reservations.

There is a $300 deposit/application fee, $200 of which is refundable if you cancel your participation before the cancellation deadline. There is also a deadline for the position hold payment (amount varies, refer to each program). Both the deposit/application fee and the position hold payment will apply to your program fee; they are not additional charges. Your home university may pay these on your behalf; check with your home university study abroad/international programs office. If you are applying after the application deadline, the deposit/application fee and position hold payment are both due with your application; deposits for applications received after the application deadline are non-refundable.

We encourage all students to apply as soon as the decision to study abroad has been made. If it is close to or past the stated application deadline, contact the USAC Enrollment Department to see if applications are still being accepted. If you are planning far in advance, go ahead and apply! It will give you time to learn more about where you will be living and studying, save some money, and perhaps convince a friend to go with you.

ELIGIBILITY
For most USAC programs, any student who is at least 18 years old, with an overall college or university GPA of 2.5 or better in a 4.0 system, and in good academic and judicial campus standing at his/her current institution is eligible to apply. Several programs may have higher GPA and/or class standing requirements; please see each program section for that information. We strongly recommend that students have one semester of college completed at the time of application. Students who do not meet the stated academic eligibility requirements may apply, but will be asked to submit additional materials in order to be considered.

Available openings are filled in the order of complete applications received. When your application has been accepted, you will receive notification and additional forms and instructions will be available online.

NON-CONSORTIUM UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
It is easy to participate on a USAC program if you are not a student at one of the USAC Affiliate Universities. First, you apply to USAC. USAC will then provide you with instructions to be registered properly. In some cases, you will receive credit directly from one of our university partners abroad but in most cases you will receive credits from a USAC Affiliate University. You will then work with your home university to accept and/or transfer the credits. USAC is here to assist you through the process.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Facilities abroad often are not as accessible to individuals with disabilities as facilities within the United States. We advise individuals with special needs to conduct careful research into the conditions of the area where you wish to study and to make time for plenty of advance planning. Students requesting accommodations must do so at least 60 days prior to the start of their program. To inquire about special accommodations, contact the USAC Enrollment Department at enrollment@usac.unr.edu.

EXTENDING YOUR PROGRAM
While you are abroad, you may choose to extend your program at the same location or at a new site upon completion of your original program. If interested, you should contact your Resident Director/Program Coordinator or the USAC Enrollment Department to begin the process.

USAC STUDENT GATEWAY ACCOUNT
The Student Gateway feature of the USAC website provides you exclusive access to your account once your application has been processed. This feature allows you access to program-specific forms and important program information such as housing options, scholarship opportunities, flight information, academic information, and billing and payment status. Invoices and most documents are not mailed to your physical address; they are only available on your Student Gateway account. You also can view your balance and make online payments via credit card from your Student Gateway account. See Money Matters on the USAC website for more details.

A current email address is required to access the Student Gateway; login information will be sent once your application has been initially processed. Contact the USAC Enrollment Department for more information at enrollment@usac.unr.edu.

“I can’t imagine going through another program.”

USAC PROGRAM MODELS
There are two basic program models: USAC Specialty and Partnership programs. A student who chooses a USAC Specialty program will attend the USAC program located at a foreign host university, have a set selection of courses to choose from, will be in a cohort of USAC students with dedicated support and organized activities, and will earn a US transcript. A student who chooses a Partnership program will enroll directly in the host university, have access to a wide array of courses in many disciplines, will be an independent international student with access to host university support and activities, and will earn an overseas transcript.

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS
A Specialty program represents a kind of extension campus of the USAC Consortium Universities; US credit is earned on a Specialty program. It is the responsibility of the USAC Central Office and its employees around the
USAC SPECIALTY PROGRAM SITES

Brazil: Florianópolis
Chile: Santiago
China: Chengdu
China: Shanghai
Costa Rica: Heredia
Costa Rica: Puntarenas
Costa Rica: San Ramón
Cuba: La Habana [summer/January]
Czech Republic: Prague
England: London [summer]
France: Pau
France: Lyon
Germany: Lüneburg
Ghana: Accra [summer]
India: Bangalore (Bengaluru)
Ireland: Cork [summer]
Ireland: Galway [summer]
Italy: Reggio Emilia
Italy: Torino
Italy: Viterbo
Spain: Alicante
Spain: Bilbao/Getxo
Spain: Madrid
Spain: San Sebastián
Thailand: Chiang Mai

USAC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM SITES

Australia: Gold Coast and Brisbane at Griffith University
Australia: Melbourne, Geelong, and Warrnambool at Deakin University
England: Brighton at the University of Brighton
England: Bristol at the University of Bristol
England: Reading at the University of Reading
England: London at London Metropolitan University [semester/year]
Ghana: Accra at the University of Ghana [semester/year]
Ireland: Cork at the University College Cork [semester/year]
Israel: Haifa at the University of Haifa

Japan: Hiroshima at Hiroshima University
Japan: Nagasaki at Nagasaki University of Foreign Studies
Japan: Osaka/Kobe at Kwansei Gakuin University
Korea: Seoul at Yonsei University
New Zealand: Palmerston North, Auckland, and Wellington at Massey University
Netherlands: The Hague at The Hague University
Norway: Oslo at the University of Oslo
Scotland: St Andrews at the University of St Andrews
Scotland: Stirling at the University of Stirling
Sweden: Växjö/Kalmar at Linnaeus University
Turkey: Istanbul at Bahçeşehir University

world to design and operate each program abroad.

A Specialty program provides a great deal of individualized support and attention prior to departure and throughout the program session. Each program site abroad has a permanent, full-time Resident Director, staff, and faculty to ensure that your needs are met. Courses offered abroad meet or exceed US accreditation standards. Similar courses tend to be offered every year and become a defining characteristic of each program. These courses receive approval from USAC universities, greatly facilitating access to scholarships and financial aid. If and how your USAC credits apply to your degree is always your home university's decision.

A Specialty program often offers language study at a number of levels as well as an assortment of courses from disciplines such as economics, political science, history, etc. It also may offer a concentration of courses in one discipline, such as international business in Shanghai, China, Bilbao, Spain, and Torino, Italy; ecology in San Ramón, Costa Rica; and art history in Madrid, Spain. In most locations, you’ll be able to choose among courses that are taught either in English or in the local language. Students are taught by local and visiting US professors and attend class primarily with other USAC students. Specialty programs are located on the campus of a foreign university. Many of the resources at that university are available to you and provide extraordinary integration opportunities: cafeterias, Internet labs, recreational facilities, activities, clubs, etc.

USAC staff members arrange housing, plan USAC-sponsored field trips/tours, seek out internship and volunteer opportunities in the local community and businesses, and are available to students for travel suggestions, advising, and other needs while abroad. Approximately 80% of USAC students attend a Specialty program.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

The Partnership model represents a collaborative effort between USAC and the partner university abroad. Partnership programs are based on exchange agreements in which USAC functions as the intermediary between you and our partner university abroad; overseas credit is earned on a Partnership program. The USAC Central Office will provide you with US-based support prior to your study abroad experience, such as pre-departure suggestions, housing contacts, immigration and visa instructions, travel tips, assistance with the course selection process, and providing specific arrival information.

Upon arrival at the program site, many services will be offered to you directly by the on-campus International Programs Office of that foreign university, such as orientation, student activities, and assistance with course registration. You will become an international student at the university abroad. At the end of your program abroad, USAC will deliver your transcript to your home university along with recommendations for converting the foreign credits and grades to US equivalencies. How your credits will apply to your degree is always the decision of your home university.

As a student of that partner university, you will be required to assume more responsibility and initiative for your academic and social life. Many of our Partnership programs are located in English-speaking countries but all provide instruction in English. Approximately 20% of USAC students attend a Partnership program.

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

Courses and academic requirements at Specialty programs are the responsibility of USAC. Each USAC course meets or exceeds accrediting agencies' standards of 15, 50-minute contact hours per credit, or the equivalent. Non-lecture courses such as internships, service learning, and some art courses have additional time requirements (see course listings). Contact hours do not include long distance or inter-site travel time, tours outside the focus of a specific course, meals, recreational activities, receptions, or local travel. Contact hours can include course specific tours, guest lectures, student projects, or other activities furthering the specific objectives of the course.

SPECIALTY PROGRAM REGISTRATION

USAC Specialty programs pre-register you for courses, with the option to adjust courses upon arrival. Consult the registration information in your Student Gateway account for guidance. Be sure to check your registration plans with your home university academic advisor before you depart from the US and document any course approvals for your record. It is helpful to have alternative courses approved by your academic advisor in case you change your registration for any reason. We recommend that students retain syllabi and course materials in case they...
are needed to support requests for course substitutions, etc. It is also wise to bring your advisor's email address should you need to make contact while abroad.

Students attending Specialty programs are registered through their home universities or one of the USAC Affiliate Universities, using course titles and numbers appropriate to each of those US institutions. Course names and numbers can vary among them; however the final articulation of your credits is determined by your home university. For simplicity, we have employed generic course titles and numbers in this publication. Detailed course descriptions may be found in each program's section of the USAC website.

Courses offered at the 100 or 200 level are intended as lower division undergraduate courses, while courses at the 300 or 400 level are intended as upper division undergraduate courses. A 600 level indicates that a course may be taken at the graduate level. Any student who would like to take graduate courses must receive approval from the USAC Central Office at least 60 days ahead of departure as well as approval of the Resident Director. Please take note of the language of instruction and whether there are course prerequisites before registering. Service Learning and internships are also available for credit in many locations.

For nearly all full semester-length Specialty programs (please refer to each program’s academics section), you must enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours to a maximum of 18 credit hours per semester. However, you will want to have time to experience the area’s culture and develop friendships with locals; therefore, we recommend you enroll in 12-15 credit hours per semester.

The minimum and maximum credits you can enroll in for summer programs is dependent on the length of the session. See each program section for guidelines. Students using financial aid or scholarships should work very closely with their financial aid advisors regarding required minimum credits while studying abroad.

Specialty Program Transcripts
Upon completion of your Specialty Program, grades will be sent to your home university or to your USAC Affiliate University. If you are enrolled via a USAC university, you may then request that university to forward your transcript to your home school.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS
Courses and academic requirements at Partnership programs are the responsibility of the foreign host university. USAC students at these programs fulfill and are subject to that institution’s requirements, academic policies, and procedures.

However, USAC does require that students maintain full-time registration. In most cases, Partnership universities define full time status the same way that USAC does (that is, as equivalent to 12 US credits per semester). Your home university may require more than 12 credits, especially if you are receiving financial aid.

Partnership Program Registration
Registration procedures vary, depending on the program, and Partnership programs differ greatly in their registration procedures. For example, in many cases advance registration is not possible and course enrollment is not finalized until you arrive on site. Consult the registration information in your Student Gateway account for guidance. Be sure to check your course registration plans with your home university academic advisor before you depart from the US and document any course approvals for your records. It is helpful to have alternative courses approved by your academic advisor in case you change your registration for any reason. We recommend that students retain syllabuses and course materials in case they are needed to support requests for course substitutions, etc. It is also wise to bring your advisor’s email address should you need to make contact while abroad. USAC requires 12 credits or the equivalent for partnership students whenever possible, even when host requirements differ.

Partnership Program Transcripts
Upon completion of a Partnership Program, your foreign transcript will be sent to USAC and you may then request that USAC forward it to your home school. Some USAC Affiliate Universities arrange this in advance for their students.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
USAC is committed to providing a serious academic experience. Attendance at all Specialty Programs is required for optimal student academic achievement, as coursework abroad is intensive and complex. Absences and/or tardiness will affect the quality of your work and success in the course as well as disrupt the continuity of the instructional process. Consequently, unlike most US colleges and universities, USAC maintains a strict attendance policy. Attendance is mandatory for all courses in which you are enrolled. Examinations must be taken as scheduled. Absences and tardiness will have negative consequences on your grade in the course.

The specifics of USAC's attendance policy are available in the Student Handbook and in the Academic Policies and Procedures document available on your Student Gateway account. Your specific program's attendance policy will be discussed during the mandatory on-site orientation. In addition, each instructor will include the attendance policy in the syllabus and review it in more detail.

GRADES/INCOMPLETES/AUDITS/PASS-FAIL
For all Specialty programs, USAC’s grading policy, including provisions for Incompletes, Audits, and Pass/Fail options, are provided in the Academic Policies and Procedures document available via your Student Gateway account.

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL AND ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Misconduct abroad refers to actions that, in the judgment of USAC, jeopardize a student’s own welfare or that of the fellow students and/or the program. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following: the use of physical and/or verbal violence, possession of weapons, violating the laws of the country or the host university, openly abusing the customs and mores of the community, drug use or alcohol abuse, unauthorized absences from program classes and activities, actions and behaviors that interrupt, delay, or prevent activities, or interfere with others’ ability to fully participate in any part of the program.

Academically, USAC expects students to maintain full-time status, to prepare for and attend all classes, to complete required assignments, to follow appropriate classroom protocols, and to maintain standards of academic honesty.

Inappropriate conduct abroad, either behavioral or academic, can result in your dismissal from a USAC program. Termination of your participation in the program, voluntary or not on your part, shall not diminish or otherwise affect your obligation to make any and all payments.

HEALTHCARE

HEALTH INSURANCE

All US students are covered under USAC-purchased health insurance, unless otherwise noted in your USAC Program Agreement. Speak to home university international programs/study abroad office about whether or not you are covered under USAC-purchased health insurance. Information about purchasing additional insurance (extended coverage dates and/or personal property coverage) and making insurance claims will all be available on your Student Gateway account. Insurance ID cards will be distributed during orientation at the program sites or sent to you shortly before the start of the program. Students participating in programs in Israel, Australia, and New Zealand are covered under local host university insurance providers. Some Partnership programs require additional local insurance. Specific insurance coverage information will be provided upon your USAC acceptance and be accessible on your Student Gateway account.
Health insurance is not optional and cannot be deducted from your program fees. If your home university has a different insurance arrangement with USAC, it will be noted and reflected in your Program Agreement.

VACCINATIONS/MEDICINE ABROAD
Before departure, be sure to get the appropriate immunizations and medications as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and/or your physician. Some countries require vaccinations or other special specific inoculations prior to your arrival. If you are taking any prescription medication, check with the embassy of the country to which you are going to see what the laws are for importing your prescription medication. There may be restrictions on the amount you can enter the country with and/or your medication may not be legal abroad. Generally, you should bring sufficient supply to carry you through the duration of your stay. Medicine that is mailed may be stopped at customs. Always carry prescription drugs in the original bottle with a label showing your name, the instructions for use, as well as the name and dosage of the medication. In addition to the resources listed below, you should also refer to the health information you receive prior to departure via your Student Gateway account.

World Health Organization
www.who.int/ith

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/travel

EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING WHILE ABROAD
Adjusting to and living in a new culture can be an exhilarating, personally rewarding, and intellectually stimulating experience. Adapting to a different set of norms also can have its frustrations.

People usually experience a variety of emotions when acclimating to a foreign culture, ranging from excitement and interest to depression and fear of the unknown. Most experts agree that some difficulties and emotional insecurities, in one form or another, are inevitable. Those with a history of physical, mental, or emotional conditions may be more susceptible to difficulties adjusting abroad; they are advised to plan ahead for handling potential increases in symptoms or recurrences of past conditions, and to consider carefully whether the time is right to live abroad.

TRAVEL INFORMATION
You can prepare yourself with reading and research prior to your departure. There are also extensive resources available to you on the USAC website and your Student Gateway account.

PASSPORTS
A passport gives you permission to exit and return to your country of citizenship. You must have a passport in order to travel internationally. If you do not have a passport, apply for one immediately. Your passport should also be valid for a minimum of 6 months after your planned return date. If your passport expires before then, renew it immediately. Refer to the US Department of State’s website for information regarding applying for or renewing passports. If you are not a US citizen, refer to your home country’s embassy website.

VISAS
A visa is official permission to stay in a country for an extended amount of time. Visas are granted by the government of the country in which you are studying or visiting. Visa formats vary considerably, from a simple stamp imprinted on one of the pages in your passport prior to entering the country, to an official document with your photograph attached.

Some visa application processes require you to surrender your original passport to the consulate/embassy, where it will remain until your visa is issued. The processing time for visas may be lengthy and if they are not started in a timely manner it could affect your ability to leave by your departure date. You are responsible for any fees and costs associated with your visa application process (including group visa submissions). This includes fees imposed by the consulate, along with personal costs like passport fees, shipping, passport photos, document copies, notarizations, travel, etc. USAC does not charge an additional fee for the group visa submission (if applicable). It is ultimately your responsibility to determine whether or not you will be required to obtain a visa prior to departure, compile the necessary documentation, and complete the application process.

USAC will provide additional information about visas in the USAC Visa Update approximately 3 months prior to departure. If you are not a US citizen, you may be required to obtain a specific type of visa prior to departure. Check with your home country consulate/embassy, as well as the consulate/embassy for the country in which you will be studying. You should begin researching your visa application process immediately. It is your responsibility to determine specific visa requirements and acquire your visa prior to the start of your program.

GROUP VISA APPLICATIONS
Many countries require students to apply in person for their visas at a particular consulate in the US, which can mean some students are required to travel long distances in order to make that appearance in person. USAC has established relationships with a select number of consulates that allow us to submit groups of visa applications on behalf of our students; USAC provides this service at no additional cost. If a group submission is available for your program, you will be informed of this opportunity by your USAC Program Advisor.

US Passport Services
www.travel.state.gov/passport
Embassy Directory
www.embassyworld.com
Consular Information
www.travel.state.gov

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS
For many programs, USAC organizes optional group flights from central departure points in the US, often with both an east coast and west coast departure option. Departures from other cities are available upon request. Specific information will be provided on your Student Gateway account once you have been accepted into the program. When making your flight reservations, be sure to arrive on the suggested arrival date before your program orientation and to depart after the final examinations; it is required that you be at the program site for both. It is your responsibility to book and pay for a flight to your program site, as airfare is not included in the program fees.

Frosch Student Travel
www.froschstudenttravel.com/usac
air: 1.800.467.5032
rail: 1.800.467.4595

STA Travel
www.statravel.com

Eurail Services
www.raileurope.com

Important Info
Money Matters
for all programs

- Introduction
- Financing your Study Abroad and USAC Scholarships
- Program Fees and Expenses
- Billing and Payment Schedule
- Changes, Cancellations, and Withdrawals
- Learn More and Plan More about Expenses and Money while Studying Abroad
**INTRODUCTION**

As a non-profit, university-based organization, USAC understands the financial pressures students (and parents) face to finance their education; we are committed to maintaining modest fees for our programs in order to provide an affordable study abroad opportunity with USAC. We believe the value of study abroad is worth your investment of time, energy, and money. Therefore, we work to make these educational opportunities as accessible as possible—including providing scholarships and access to information about other means of financing.

By planning ahead, studying abroad can be more affordable. Keep your finances in mind from the beginning as you choose your USAC program. We have a broad range of options, sometimes with several location choices in a single country. Be willing to consider various locations in order to find one that is financially within reach. Begin to plan your on-site budget and finances as early as possible. You want to be sure to have enough financial resources to take full advantage of living in a foreign country and the numerous travel possibilities that will be available to you. Your travel plans and lifestyle will largely influence the amount of money you will want to have accessible.

Money management while abroad is generally more challenging for a number of reasons. The two most common reasons are that there are more opportunities to spend and you are not yet accustomed to the local currency. Familiarize yourself with the exchange rate to better gauge the value of items. Prior to your departure, utilize the interactive budget sheet on the USAC website to plan carefully. It is a good idea to budget more than you think is necessary in case an emergency arises.

**Exchange Rates and Currency Converters**

www.xe.com  
www.oanda.com

**FINANCING YOUR STUDY ABROAD AND USAC SCHOLARSHIPS**

As you select a program and then budget for and collect resources in order to afford it, keep in mind the wide variety of strategies you can employ (including working, saving, loans, and using existing financial aid resources). In the Money Matters section of the USAC website, you will find extensive information and resources to help you as you plan financially to study abroad including:

- Interactive budget sheets for each program
- Advice on how to use your existing financial aid
- How to find and apply for federal financial aid
- How to find and apply for scholarships specifically for study abroad, including study abroad scholarship search engines
- A full, up-to-date list of USAC scholarships and discounts
- How to learn more about the USAC payment plan

**Financial Aid**

USAC has assisted thousands of students in using financial aid and scholarships as part of their plan to pay for their studies abroad; we also closely with your home university’s study abroad, international programs, and financial aid offices. USAC students are eligible for many financial aid opportunities including scholarships, loans, grants, and fellowships. They may be local, smaller organizations that have funding available; look into local service clubs and organizations to see what scholarship opportunities they have. In the majority of cases, institutional, private, state, and federal financial aid are also available to you. Federal law allows you to receive aid from your home universities while attending study abroad programs sponsored by your home university or other institutions.

You must apply for financial aid to receive it, and the process is almost always time-sensitive. It is your responsibility to follow all instructions from your financial aid advisor at your school and complete all paperwork well before your departure. It is important during this process that you take the initiative to be sure that you are aware of eligibility requirements and to communicate with both your university’s study abroad/international programs and financial aid offices, especially to determine if you will need USAC to process your financial aid application with your assigned USAC affiliate university.

**USAC Scholarships and Discounts**

In addition to the already modest, competitive fees that USAC—as a non-profit consortium of universities—is able to make possible for you, USAC is proud to have many scholarships and discounts available to help students with their study abroad expenses. Scholarships are available to students from USAC affiliate universities as well as non-consortium universities. Together with outside organizations USAC students received over $865,000 last year alone. Additionally, there are specialized scholarships for specific program sites and regions, internships and service projects, and study abroad. For a complete, up-to-date list of USAC scholarships and discounts, visit the USAC website or email the USAC Scholarship Coordinator at scholarships@usac.unr.edu.

**Financial Aid Resources**

usac.unr.edu/money-matters  
www.fafsa.ed.gov  
www.fastweb.com  
www.studyabroadfunding.org

**PROGRAM FEES AND EXPENSES**

USAC works hard to keep fees modest and affordable. Since programs are organized months in advance, minor adjustments to specific dates and courses are sometimes necessary. USAC has rarely changed the published fee of a program, but reserves the right to do so, particularly in the event of unusual fluctuation in the exchange rate. Estimated expenses not included in program fees may vary depending on exchange rates. Please check your Student Gateway account, the USAC website, the online interactive budget sheet, and the Program Changes document frequently for any changes to fees or estimated expenses.

**BILLING AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Please check your USAC Student Gateway account frequently for updated transactions posted to your account, such as tuition, housing, tours, additional course charges, etc. Online payment is also available through your Student Gateway account.

Invoices will not be mailed to you and are only available on your Student Gateway account. The program payment schedule must be followed in order for USAC to finalize program arrangements, such as housing. Refer to your USAC Program Fees and Options form (also available on Student Gateway) for exact payment deadlines.
If your home university pays all or part of the USAC fees on your behalf, then those fees will not be reflected on your Student Gateway account statement. Contact the USAC Finance Department for questions and details.

CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS

If you wish to change your program, USAC must be notified in writing immediately. If you change to a later program/term and then decide to cancel, the cancellation deadlines from your original program will apply. If you change to an earlier program/term, the new program’s deadlines will apply. If you wish to cancel, USAC must be notified in writing immediately. We highly recommend you keep the confirmation email you will receive from USAC. You may be billed for any unrecoverable costs paid on our behalf for housing, optional tours, optional courses, etc. If your cancellation request is made prior to the application deadline, $200 of the $300 application fee and deposit is refundable. If you cancel after this deadline, there will be no refund. Deposits for applications received after the application deadline are non-refundable.

Additionally, if you cancel within 45 days of the program start date, you will be charged a $750 penalty plus any unrecoverable costs paid on your behalf for housing and/or optional tours, optional courses, etc (unless otherwise noted in your Program Fees and Options form). The Program Fees and Options form will include a detailed chart listing the cancellation deadlines for your program.

The program start date is the first day of the optional pre-program tour/field study (if applicable and enrolled), or, the first day of the on-site orientation. Withdrawals occur on or after the program start date; for withdrawals full fees will be charged; no refunds will be given and any outstanding balance must be paid.

Some programs require a $1,000 position hold payment due with the application as part of the USAC approval process. This is only refundable if you are denied by USAC or the host university or if you cancel the program before the application deadline.

If you cancel or withdraw from your USAC program and are receiving financial aid/scholarships, you may be required to repay any funds awarded/disbursed. You are also still responsible for paying any outstanding balance you may have.

LEARN MORE AND PLAN MORE ABOUT EXPENSES AND MONEY WHILE STUDYING ABROAD

Are you or your family wondering how to use debit or credit cards abroad, how to send money to you while abroad, or other financial issues related to your upcoming study abroad experience? You have resources right at your fingertips: further detailed financial information about using money abroad, educational deductions from the IRS, and frequently asked questions regarding expenses, financial aid, and finances abroad are all available at the USAC website and in your pre-departure materials on Student Gateway. Please refer to those materials for the most up-to-date information. Your USAC Program Advisor and the USAC Finance Department are also available to provide assistance and answer questions about fees, budgeting, and preparing financially for your time abroad.
Australia
Costa Rica
Cuba
India
Spain

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Be a part of the USAC community!
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