

SYLLABUS: STUDY ABROAD WORKING EXPERIENCE

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COURSE PREFIX AND NUMBER: SPN 2949

COURSE NAME: Study Abroad Working Experience

The student must fulfill the requirement of 45 on-the-job hours for each credit earned in addition to written assignments

This course is designed to provide students with experiential learning in a study abroad setting. Students are immersed in the culture while integrating the language skills in the work experience. Students are graded on the basis of documented learning acquired through hands-on experiences in an actual work setting. Variable credits are available, one to three per course.. To find additional information, go to: <http://www.sampere.es/>

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Approval for participation in the program is subject to the participant

- being 18 years old or older
- having a GPA of 2.75 or higher
- being enrolled for credit in an approved study abroad program course
- being approved by the International Programs office
- obtaining a positive faculty recommendation for participation in the program
- paying all deposits and fees according to the fee schedule
- obtaining all immunizations required by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- In addition, participants are strongly encouraged to get all immunizations and preventative treatments recommended for the particular country and regions through which they will be traveling

MEETING INFORMATION/ATTENDANCE POLICY:

The program plan for this class (class meetings and activities, etc.) meets or exceeds the requirement of 45 contact hours for the course.

You will be expected to attend class regularly, arrive on time, and stay the entire class session. You are subject to being dropped if you accumulate more than five unexcused program hours (including class meetings, cultural activities and planned tours). It is the student's responsibility to notify the classroom instructor as well as the SPC lead instructor of ANY absence.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will apply the language skills learned in the classroom to the volunteer work experience by:

- a) communicating orally using only the target language.
- b) writing and reading in the target language.

The student will deepen his/her understanding of the culture by:

- a) recognizing differences between cultures while developing a sense of shared global citizenship.
- b) interacting with and relating to the members of the community.

The student will understand the policies of the place of employment by:

- a) participating in any activities related to the work setting.
- b) following work related instructions from employer and/or coordinator.

The student will evaluate his/her volunteer work experience by:

- a) receiving a satisfactory evaluation from the employer and/or coordinator.
- b) reporting his/her experience to the faculty leader.

PREREQUISITES:

Approval of Study Abroad Faculty Leader.

GRADING:

Upon successful completion of the course the student will, with a minimum of 70% accuracy, demonstrate mastery of each of the above stated objectives.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

St. Petersburg College has an Academic Honesty policy. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the policies, rules, and the consequences of violations. Read about the policy at: <http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm>. There is no tolerance for cheating and academic dishonesty. Discipline can range from a zero on that specific assignment to expulsion from the class with a grade of F. Note that copy/pasting published information, whether it's from your textbook or the Internet, without citing your source is plagiarism and violates this policy. Even if you change the words slightly, the ideas are someone else's, so you still have to cite your sources. Cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy and fabrication are defined in Rule [6Hx23-4.461](#), Student Affairs: Academic Honesty Guidelines, Classroom Behavior.

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:

Suggested Textbooks - none

ASSIGNMENTS:

Not Applicable.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS: The following tips will assist you to be successful in the program.

Live the language: Make and take opportunities to use the language in natural communication in and outside the class during your stay in Ecuador. Search outside sources to improve your language skills (newspapers, magazines, books, radio, television, etc...)

Think the language: Avoid heavy reliance on a dictionary and try not to translate everything word for word. Recognize the fact that grammar rules will be different. Learn the difference along with the similarities and your understanding of how the language works will increase ten fold.

Guess the language: When in doubt, try to guess new words in context and don't be afraid to make mistakes. Take constant advantage of cognates to understand new words and to comprehend new paragraphs.

Ask about the language: If needed, seek extra help from course instructor, SPC professors, families and friends in Ecuador.

Stay open minded to the language and the culture. The best tool for learning a language at any level is a good attitude. Understanding the culture helps with language acquisition.

Set realistic goals: Learning another language is not an easy task. It takes time, practice, and dedication. Go into the program with the goal of increasing your communication skills, but avoid setting those goals very high.

Enjoy! Learning another language is an adventure.

ITEMS TO PACK:

Clothing: As the climate varies from day to night and with altitude, it is recommended to bring a variety of clothing. Keep in mind that laundry services are provided at the host house. Instituto Sampere will send you a handbook before departure detailing suggested clothing and personal items to bring.

Computer: laptop is not required, but is suggested. There are many Internet cafés in Cuenca, as well as wireless services in parks and public areas.

Cameras and chargers. You do not need to bring a transformer, since the electricity in Ecuador is 110 volts.

Cell phones: Check with your provider about service in Ecuador. You may purchase an inexpensive cell phone with minutes in Cuenca.

Medical and personal items.

Documents: original and copies of passport, driver's license, health/travel insurance card and information, student ID card.

Dictionaries, travel guide, notebooks, folders, and other school items.

Money: credit cards and ATM card. We do not recommend traveler checks. Keep in mind that the currency in Ecuador is US dollars.

STUDENT CONDUCT / ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY:

Please refer to important information about student conduct and related policies in your study abroad application package.

EMERGENCIES/HEALTH & SAFETY:

Please refer to important information in pre-departure orientation materials.

LINK TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE ADVISORY FOR STUDY ABROAD DESTINATION(S):

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1106.html

This information is subject to change; please check this source again as departure time nears.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you anticipate requesting of the Learning Specialist an accommodation for a **documented** disability, it is important to notify the International Programs office as soon as possible that you plan to make a request. Please also make an appointment with the Learning Specialist on campus to make your request as soon as possible. The Learning Specialist can be reached at 791-2628 or 791-2710 (CL), 341-4758 (SP/G), 394-6108 (SE), 712-5789 (TS), or 341-4532 (AC).