Faculty Led Study Abroad

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Why do we do it?
“Students demonstrate knowledge of human cultures and will be able to interact in meaningful ways with people from other cultures. This will be accomplished by acquisition of global knowledge and competencies through the study of social sciences, arts and humanities.”
Resources available to support program development

- Faculty Academic International Coordinator
  [http://www.mtu.edu/provost/faculty-resources/faculty-led/faculty/](http://www.mtu.edu/provost/faculty-resources/faculty-led/faculty/)
  The FAIC can help with: course design and implementation, coordination between Academic Affairs, IPS, college/department, registrar, etc.

- International Programs and Services
  [http://www.mtu.edu/international/](http://www.mtu.edu/international/)
  IPS can help with: program design and implementation, logistics and risk management, marketing and recruitment

- Faculty who have lead courses in the past

- Sample syllabi, budgets, course proposals, and other materials (available through FAIC and IPS)
An overview of options for faculty-led programs

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Why do students study abroad?

- They’ve always wanted to go to a specific country
- They want to increase their language proficiency
- They want a competitive advantage over their peers

*Their professor encouraged them to do it.*
The Power of Faculty

- They know you
- They respect you
- They like you
- They want to learn more from you
- They can take Michigan Tech courses
The Advantages of Faculty Led Programs Abroad

- Michigan Tech Credit—No transfer credit anxiety
- Discipline specific—Students can see immediate application to their area of study
- There is no tuition differential
- Financial aid and scholarships apply
A Variety of planning options are available
IPS can help you design a program that is best for you and your needs.

Ask yourself:

- How much control do you want to have?
- Do you want to determine the following:
  - Dates
  - Location
  - Field Trips/Secondary Sites
  - Lodging
  - Cost

- How much control can you handle?
  - What kind of support do you need?
  - What kind of support do you have available?

- What aspects of the course do you want to control?
  - Do you want to develop the whole course?
  - Do you want to lead an existing course?
  - Do you want to be a visiting professor abroad?
Start with what you know

- Do you speak a foreign language(s)?
- Do you have a strong interest/knowledge base on a particular part of the world?
  - Do you have expertise on the history, culture, or language of a particular country?
- Do you want to focus on students you hand pick or do you want to open it up to the campus? The country?
- Do you have colleagues at a university abroad?
- Do you want focus on students in your department or do you want to include students from an array of disciplines?
Designing Your Own Program

**Pros**
- Full control of the program
  - Dates, Design, Location, Cost
- Can be specifically tailored to Michigan Tech students
- Can be less expensive because you can eliminate many ‘extras’
- Can make adjustments throughout the planning phase to suit your needs
  - Number of students
  - Secondary sites
  - Cancellations/ rescheduling

**Cons**
- More time and human resources needed
- Can be more expensive because of novice mistakes
- Can be more expensive because of the low volume
- Can be more expensive when you factor all the time required to develop and design the course
- Students may want more than what you are able to offer (better hotels, excursions, side trips, etc)
Designing Your Own Program

IPS will help you with the development, execution, and support of your program

- We can connect you with other faculty members who have led trips abroad

- We can promote your program to Michigan Tech students and others within the region

- We can assist you with the logistics of the trip
  - Make housing recommendations
  - Connect you with current students, university partners, program providers, etc
Tools Available

- Templates of Agreements and Syllabi
- Budget Sheets
- Peer Network
- Pre-Departure Orientation/ Emergency Preparedness
- Administrative, marketing, and recruitment support
Using a Third Party Provider

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<td>Full support before, during, and after</td>
<td>Less control</td>
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<td>- You will have people on-site to assist you with the day-to-day operation of the course</td>
<td>- On location, course, and dates</td>
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<td>- You can focus more on teaching than logistics</td>
<td>- You may not have the option of adding additional sites</td>
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<td>- You need to worry less about meeting a minimum number of students</td>
<td>- May be cost prohibitive</td>
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<td>- More opportunity to collaborate with faculty from other schools/countries</td>
<td>- The third party provider will may insist on ‘extras’ that add to the per student overall cost</td>
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<td>- May be more attractive to students</td>
<td>- May cost less because they can lock in prices (no concerns about exchange rates). They have the ability to negotiate and/or have access to volume discounts.</td>
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Using a Third Party Provider

- **Course Content and Logistics**
- **Be a visiting professor for Summer or Semester**
- **Marketing and Recruitment**
  - They can assist you with finding students at other universities who can join Michigan Tech students abroad
- **Logistics Only**
  - Housing and in-country transportation
  - Access to local experts
  - Access to local sites of interest (museums, archives, businesses, etc)
IPS will help you review and decide on the best third party provider

- We can survey other schools to see which ones are the best, which ones to avoid
- We can make reference calls for you
- We can negotiate and review agreements with you
- We can connect you with our current program or exchange partners
Sample Courses

ART HISTORY AND STUDIO ART WITH SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
Application Deadline: Jan 18, 2013
Join SVSU in Florence, Italy this summer to complete coursework in Studio Art and Art History. As part of SVSU’s Art in Florence program, students will have the opportunity to take either or both three-credit hour courses offered.

GEOGRAPHY IN ARGENTINA WITH UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
Application Deadline: Feb 25, 2013
Designed as an intensive, in-country Latin American study abroad course and sponsored by USC's Department of Geography, this course will immerse students in the culture, history, economics and politics of the Southern Cone of South America, Argentina.

Italy (Viterbo) 3-credit anthropology, art history, studio art/drawing, cinema, history, literature, environmental science, geography, cultural area studies, photography, journalism, gender studies, or Italian-American Issues

LATIN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND POLITICS WITH UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Application Deadline: Mar 1, 2013
Students will study the economic development and political transformation of Latin America, one of the most dynamic regions in the world.
In Conclusion...

- There are numerous options and faculty-led program types available to you based on your needs and comfort levels.

- The support is here to help you along the way.

- The key is planning and utilizing the resources available.

- Take the first step!
Recruitment and Operations (Logistics) for Faculty-Led Programs

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Why am I talking to you?

- 1st off campus study program (14 yr old) – 1977
- Further student programs (5) until 1984 (1 week to 6 months)
- Grad student/Program Assistant/Site Manager 1987 – 1993 yearly (4 – 12 weeks)
- This is what I do, along with setting things on fire (iron smelting)
Why do it?

- It benefits you – $, time at site (before or after), contacts for future work
- It benefits the student – enough said
- It benefits your progress at Tech (see Dean/Dept chair)
- To misquote Prof Kent Flannery, “It is the most fun you can have with your pants on!”
Does it get old?
Recruitment: Early and Often

- Class tie-ins
- Information nights
- Any and all IPS events
- Use dept outlets and
- BEST OF ALL: once you get up and running – returning students
Operations: Site Specific

- Make use of existing contacts
- Plug into on-site study abroad offices
- Provider programs – $ but easier – um, well maybe, sort of, they might be, I guess
- Local – you have to like to chat with folk
- You will not anticipate it all, so don’t fret, you can’t – hospitals in many areas are very good
- You are on 24/7 – You MUST behave as such
- Be willing to add and change as the program develops – “don’t pet the bull”
What I say to Students

- MTU/Copper Country is a wonderful place, many people come here as tourists

- But can you go to (name your site here) on the weekend?

- GET OUT OF HERE!

- If it is valid for students, it is valid for you – go on, get out of here!
Initial steps for program development

1.5 – 2 years out:
- Attend study abroad workshop – CHECK!
- Meet with Faculty Academic International Coordinator <maseigel@mtu.edu> and IPS <dslade@mtu.edu> to discuss initial ideas
- Fill out course proposal form: [http://www.mtu.edu/provost/faculty-resources/faculty-led/faculty/](http://www.mtu.edu/provost/faculty-resources/faculty-led/faculty/)
- Talk to your dean and/or chair to ensure support, especially financial support—faculty led study abroad captures 63% of in-state and out of state tuition. It is crucial that this tuition gets allocated to your program.

1 year – 9 months out:
- Develop budget and begin to develop syllabus
- Recruit, recruit, recruit (begin recruitment the fall before you plan to lead the program)

9 – 6 months out:
- Coordinate with department, registrar, and cashier’s office to get courses on the books with necessary program fees
Questions and discussion