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Study Abroad Internships: Overview

Like higher education, study abroad is an investment in your future. As with any other type of investment, it requires planning, careful management, perseverance and commitment.

The personal, academic and professional rewards, however, will last a lifetime.



An international experience is never more affordable than it is during your college years. You have access to financial aid, loans, special grants and scholarships. Most students find that a semester study abroad program costs \$4,000 more than a semester. For others, the cost is the same or even less. Ask anyone who has traveled abroad as a tourist and they will tell you that \$4,000



will only buy you a two to three weeks vacation in Europe, not three to four months as a student engaged in another culture.

Why are more students studying abroad? U.S. students recognize that our world is increasingly interdependent and these experiences increase mutual understanding and provide students with direct knowledge and career relevant skills. Globalization is more than a buzz word – it is an economic reality necessitating the ability to interact with individuals from diverse cultures.

Why Study Abroad should be a part of your education:

- Education is an investment in your future, adding studied abroad to your resume can put you one step above your competition

- Gain direct knowledge and career relevant skills to interact with individuals from diverse cultures

- Expand your perspective on the world and global economy while you experience fascinating cultures and their histories.



- Explore beautiful regions of the world as you earn credits or complete an internship.

Visit our web site: www.ulm.edu/cehd



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

Semester Abroad or Year Abroad Programs -Study in Australia or New Zealand!

The opportunity to study in New Zealand, Australia, or Fiji is incredibly valuable on many levels. This beautiful region has a rich culture and many students find it has a profound effect on both their education and perspective on the world. In addition to a quality education from a respected institution, students are immersed in the varied and fascinating cultures and histories of these South Pacific nations. Our semester abroad programs offer some of the most unique experiences available to college students. Or see and read interviews from students who have completed their internship:

http://www.australearn.org/programs/internships/interviews_with_past_interns/

Complete an Internship Abroad for College Credit

An internship is an important part of any college student's education. Internships expand upon classroom learning by providing hands-on experience and valuable work skills. At AustraLearn, we develop that experience even farther by enabling students to do their internship abroad in Australia or New Zealand. Our programs allow students to perform their internship in a setting that broadens their minds as world citizens and solidifies their educational foundation.

Australia is a country like no other. An island continent almost as large as the continental United States, with a population of just 20 million, or roughly that of New York State. A vast, ancient and breathtakingly beautiful land that is as unique as it is wonderful. In its modern, sophisticated cities you will find an abundance of international standard sporting facilities, restaurants, nightclubs and a rich cultural life. You'll also find McDonald's, Nike, and many other things that will remind you of home. But the real spirit of Australia can be found in the legendary Aussie pubs, Australian rules football, snags on the "barbie" – the outdoor grill, not the doll – lamingtons (chocolate-coconut cakes), Anzac biscuits (oatmeal cookies) and friendly, hospitable people with a great sense of humor.

One of the best aspects of studying abroad for a semester or year is that you truly do LIVE in your host country. By living in a country, you will discover the deeper cultural differences (and similarities!) between your home country and host country, which often help you gain a greater appreciation for and understanding your own background, values, and comforts. While living abroad, you will build friendships, develop new lingo, eat new foods, try new sports or hobbies, and be exposed to different perspectives. The opportunities are endless...

If you are an education major, you might ask yourself "why should I consider studying abroad?" particularly if your plan is to teach in your local school system. More than any time in the past, employers, from local school districts to large multi-national education companies, are seeking candidates with a global viewpoint, international experience and understanding of other cultures and peoples.

Plus, today's local schools are more ethnically and socioeconomically diverse than they ever have been, a trend that is only going to continue. Educators with international study or teaching experience will be the ones best positioned to take advantages of teaching opportunities not only locally, but around the globe. You'll not only give yourself a significant advantage career-wise, but you will also have a once-in-a-lifetime experience that's never more in reach than during your college years.

Not sure studying or interning abroad is for you? Check out the following where the process is laid out step-by-step – it is easier and more accessible and affordable than you may think.

<http://www.australearn.org/Programs/Internships/>



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

About the Program

ULM students can participate in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) 6-Week Internship program through AustraLearn in Sydney, Australia or Wellington, New Zealand.

Program dates

Fall 2010

The program dates are estimated to be Oct. 11 - Nov. 20, 2010.

Application Deadlines: Minimum deadline is 4 months prior to start date and no later than June 11, 2010.

Spring 2011

The program dates are estimated to be Feb.14 - April 8, 2011.

Application Deadlines: Minimum deadline is 4 months prior to start date and no later than October 14, 2010.

Internship Placements

Students participating in these internship placements will be completing their field experience/student teaching in Australia while taking 9-12 online credits hours through ULM. Students will be placed in primary and secondary schools in Sydney and Wellington, including:

1. Houghton Valley School

Wellington, New Zealand

Elementary Education

Houghton Valley School is a primary school situated near Wellington's southern coast. Approximately 180 children, between the ages of 5 and 11 years, attend the school. They have a total staff of 19, including 8 full time teachers. The school is situated in a semi-rural environment with large outdoor playing spaces. They aim to educate the 'whole child' with a heavy emphasis on numeracy and literacy.

Student placed in classroom with Teacher. The student will be expected to assist with the classroom program and depending on his/her level of knowledge and skill, will also work with groups of children as part of the daily program.

2. Botany Public School

Sydney, Australia

Elementary Education

Botany Public School endeavors to meet the individual needs of its students in a safe, attractive and supportive environment where they are encouraged to work to their potential by a competent, committed and caring staff through a relevant, challenging and stimulating curriculum. They seek the active involvement of concerned, informed parents working together with the staff in the best interests of the students. The school aims to assist in the development of happy children who are motivated, conscientious, self-disciplined and caring of others.



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

Internship Placements (continued)

3. Rozelle Primary School Rozelle (Sydney), Australia Elementary Education

Rozelle Primary School is a diverse school in the Inner West Suburb of Sydney with a population of 430 students including 14 Aboriginal students. The school has a strong restorative philosophy and won a Director General's State Award for Outstanding Achievement in Being and Learning Together. Enhanced Student Achievement has been achieved through this emphasis on social/emotional as well as academic achievement.

You will be asked to be a part of a collaborative and happy staff amongst whom shared leadership, respect and empowerment is paramount. You will engage in a participatory process of observation, reflection on existing understandings, and engaging in pertinent professional conversations and dialogue. Through your interaction with children, parents, and teachers, you will gain an understanding of how shared leadership, visionary planning and focus on a statement of purpose lead to achievement of goals and a building of capacity.

4. Wellington High School Wellington, New Zealand

Wellington High School is an interesting, creative, co-educational campus in the heart of Wellington City where learning is central and high expectations with effective teaching produce resilient, self-directed learners. Internships are available across a wide variety of practicum, including music, math, physical education, and more. Interns will work in the classroom alongside the teacher to assist in the delivery of curriculum and will also have the opportunity to work in small groups to ensure that learning needs are met.

5. Sydney Secondary College, Balmain Campus Sydney, Australia Secondary Education

Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus, is a public junior high school with students to year 10 (age 16). Half of the students are academically selective (ie sit a state – wide exam to be placed here), the other half come from the local area. As a result the school is diverse. Being an inner – city school they have a large number of socio – economically disadvantaged students, as well as very affluent students. They have approximately 600 students on this campus. This internship will offer experience as a support teacher for either gifted and talented students OR students who have high support needs.

The Program Provider



AustraLearn, the program provider facilitating the internship program, is a leading provider of study abroad programs to Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific. Having sent over 20,000 students abroad in the last 19 years, AustraLearn strives to offer programs that are both academically and culturally enriching for students. The in-office coordinators guide students through each step of the enrollment process. AustraLearn is known as the “personable” program where there are no silly questions or concerns.

AustraLearn believes that cultural integration is key, even when students select an English-speaking destination where no foreign language is required. Unlike other programs, cultural integration is a cornerstone of their program whereby they supply extensive country and cultural information, offer counseling and support, house students with locals and other international students, and offer flexible travel opportunities that do not group you only with Americans and Canadians.



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

Why Participate in an International Internship?

Interning abroad is an excellent opportunity for a student to gain valuable career and international experience all in one program. Interns are immersed in the host country through a carefully selected internship site and, in many cases via the living arrangements. AustraLearn works to match up interns with the best learning opportunity to maximize their time abroad.

What is Included in the Program Fee?

The 6 week College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) internships in Sydney and Wellington include the following:

- Pre-departure guidance and services from AustraLearn
- Assistance with immigration visa applications and group flight arrangements
- Housing without meals
- International health insurance coverage
- An international cell phone
- In-Country Academic Assessment Coordinator
- 24 hour emergency in-country support.



The Application Process

First, ULM students will need to contact:

Dr. Thilla Sivakumaran

Strauss Hall # 262

(318) 342-1242

Sivakumaran@ulm.edu

-Provide your name, CWID, email, phone, major, and which class you will be in while abroad: block class or student teaching.

Second, visit the Financial Aid office at ULM to determine what you can qualify for. Financial aid could be used to cover additional expenses such as ULM course (9-12 hrs), airfare, meals, and daily transportation.

Third, you will complete an application for AustraLearn. AustraLearn will contact you with the next steps in the process. Applicants must submit a \$400 program deposit. This is to ensure that AustraLearn is focusing placement efforts on the most serious applicants. Once the \$400 deposit is submit, an AustraLearn counselor will be in contact to discuss possible education internship opportunities that are the best match for your learning objectives. After a selection of internships sites has been narrowed down, AustraLearn will forward your application to their overseas office for placement into an internship. In some cases AustraLearn may need to seek out new schools to host students. The placement process typically takes between 2-8 weeks depending on what type of internship the student is looking for and the availability of internships.



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

Academic Credit

Students will be enrolled for 9 (Secondary Ed) or 12 (Elementary Ed) credit hours at ULM and they will have an opportunity to earn a letter grade for the course by meeting learning objectives and submitting academic assessment assignments.

Learning Objectives

On successful completion of the Internship, students will:

- be able to reflect and assess the nature and characteristics of an international internship;
- be knowledgeable about the skills and observation offered and completed;
- be able to reflect upon the experiences from an academic perspective;
- be able to reflect upon the cultural experiences from a philosophical perspective;
- be able to reflect critically upon the internship experience from a personal experience;
- have gained insight into the organizational differences in a domestic, international, and global context.



Academic Assessment Assignments

In order to meet these objectives, students will complete academic assessment assignments online to help them set goals and maximize their learning efforts.

All students completing an ULM internship in Sydney or Wellington are required to submit a variety of assessment assignments in order to complete the program and be awarded credit. All documents will be submitted by email to the AustraLearn Academic Assessment Supervisor:

- A 500-word Pre-Departure Paper regarding expectations for the internship.
- A Work Plan determining student objectives and related observational tasks will be completed in conjunction with the on-site supervisor.
- A mid-term and final evaluation to be completed by the supervising teacher.



Pre-Departure Phone Orientation with the South Pacific Educational Support Centre (SPES) Introduction

Arriving into a new country can be overwhelming, especially when you are arriving as an international intern. To make your transition a little smoother, AustraLearn will conduct a pre-departure session with each intern to ensure that they are prepared for arrival in the host country. This session will be facilitated by a Resident Direct at our overseas office, the South Pacific Educational Support Centre.



CEHD INTERNSHIPS

Program Housing

AustraLearn pre-arranges housing for interns prior to arrival and the housing cost is included in the program fees (meals and housing deposits not included).

Numerous factors affect the types of accommodation in which students are placed. These include: cost, location, number of interns, and availability. Sydney and Wellington are very expensive cities, so affordable short-term housing can be very hard to find.

AustraLearn's main goal is to provide safe, secure, clean, reasonably priced accommodation that allows us to provide the internship program at a reasonable price. Therefore you will appreciate that the majority of the time, housing will be in homestays. In some cases, students may be assigned to housing in shared student apartments, hostels, or university on-campus accommodation. Because this is an international internship program, the emphasis is not on housing students with other Americans, but rather integrating students into the host culture and placing students as close as possible to their internship site.

Amenities with each housing placement will vary. Students in homestays will most likely need to purchase meals from their host/s and provide their own toiletries. Students assigned to student apartments, hostels, or on-campus accommodation may have additional expenses for utilities, bed linens, food, toiletries, paper products, cleaning supplies, and refundable housing deposits. In all housing arrangements, television, cable, and internet may not be available or may be available at an additional cost.

AustraLearn strives to place students as close to the internship site as possible. Students should expect a 30-45 minute, door-to-door commute time, though actual times can be longer in large metropolitan areas like Sydney where an hour commute is not uncommon. Public transportation is an additional cost to the student. Students will receive their specific housing arrangement details after acceptance and approximately one month prior to departure.

Special Requirements:

All students participating in education internships must have a current and official FBI background check that they can bring with them to Australia or New Zealand. Students will be required to show their background check to their supervising teacher on their first day.



Your adventure begins....

