

The University of Hawai'i Mānoa Study Abroad Center

Mission: Students in Study Abroad Programs shall acquire knowledge through academic work in other countries and develop cross-cultural understanding through cultural immersion. Faculty in Study Abroad Programs shall have similar opportunities for enrichment.

The Mānoa Strategic Plan 2002-2010 www.uhm.hawaii.edu/vision calls for undergraduate educational effectiveness and continues to endorse study abroad as one of the University's strategic imperatives. Thus, the University of Hawai'i Mānoa (UHM) Study Abroad Center (SAC) within the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs www.hawaii.edu/ovcaa/academics/campuswide_programs.htm continues to provide overseas educational venues for qualified students to study and for its faculty to have similar opportunities for enrichment.

The Center is headed by the Director, three Study Abroad Advisors, a Program Fiscal Manager, and Study Abroad Assistants www.studyabroad.org/contact.htm. The Center also offers several internships for credits in various fields such as Business, Communications, Foreign Languages, to name a few.

The Center offers programs for summer terms, semesters, and academic years www.studyabroad.org. Any UHM credit course that is offered abroad is delivered under the aegis of the UHM Study Abroad Center. The programs have carefully identified academic objectives. These programs assist students in furthering or completing their degree requirements. A student wishing to participate in an overseas program should be able to graduate within the time-frame allotted to her/his degree program. Since these study abroad programs are an integral part of student's academic program courses completed overseas are designed to fulfill a student's major, minor, certificate, core, foundations, diversification, language, or graduation requirements. All Study Abroad courses are expected to meet current Mānoa academic standards and are articulated as Mānoa courses. Study Abroad course work is completed overseas and is taught either by a Mānoa faculty or by faculty of an overseas institution of higher education. The Center is structured to appropriately respond to the changing general education and specific programmatic needs of the Mānoa campus relative to overseas offerings.

The Center plays a variety of roles in creating, administering, and evaluating academic Study Abroad Programs for the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The Center specializes in overseas academic program delivery, health, safety, security, risk assessment and management through a variety of means including on-site inspections, and program evaluations. As part of the Center's standard of care, it provides training to faculty members in health, safety, risk and liability areas as well as conducts pre-departure cross-cultural training for the students.

Each academic year the Study Abroad Center calls for applications from UHM faculty who are interested in teaching and or leading study abroad programs at one of our 24 locations abroad www.studyabroad.hawaii.edu. Application deadlines are usually in November 1 and December 1 for the next upcoming academic year.

Council on Study Abroad (CSA) is the Center's policy-making body and functions in an advisory capacity to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs through a designee, the Director of the UHM Study Abroad Center. Its fundamental charges are to recommend policy and advise on proposed Study Abroad academic programs in terms of their feasibility and consistency within established guidelines. CSA members collectively must employ a wide range of academic expertise outside of a specific discipline to be certain that high quality is maintained uniformly across all of the Study Abroad programs and to provide oversight, assessment of academic soundness, and evaluation of pedagogical achievements and ensure that the Mission of the SAC is achieved. Any UHM credit course that is offered abroad must be reviewed and recommended for approval by the Council on Study Abroad. In addition, the Council is the Curriculum Committee of the UHM Study Abroad Center that reviews and gives final approval to the academic content of the program. For detailed charges of the Council on Study Abroad and By-Laws visit the website at www.studyabroad.org.

Final appointments of the Members of the Council are made by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and serve three-year year terms. Membership is comprised of UHM faculty from a University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College or an academic discipline, the Director of the Honors Program, one undergraduate and one graduate student, the Director of the Study Abroad Center and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.