

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE/NUMBER	SSC 297: TRAVEL/STUDY EXPERIENCE (Continuous enrollment course. Participants have the equivalent of two quarters to complete coursework.)
CREDITS:	Variable: 5-10 credits (quarter hour credits) Students who plan to use this course to fulfill specific curriculum areas should discuss transfer options, and obtain written approval from a counselor or study abroad advisor at their own college/university PRIOR to enrollment in this course. These credits are considered <u>electives</u> for Washington State residents attending Seattle Central Community College and may apply toward the elective area of the Associate of Arts degree. Note: 10-credit option includes coursework for 5-credit course <u>plus</u> 2+ months travel/research and three additional research/critical thinking papers. Job, internship, volunteer time must be shown.
FEES:	5 credit course: \$375.00 10 credit course: \$750.00 (Course fees subject to change)
PREREQUISITES:	None
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	Designed to provide hands-on learning opportunities for undergraduate students and other individuals who undertake domestic and/or foreign travel. It offers the participant an opportunity to learn outside the classroom; affords an opportunity to take advantage of cross cultural materials, historic sites, geographic locations, geologic formations, museums, art centers, regional customs and foods, language enhancement opportunities, specialized research libraries, local universities, legislatures, etc. which are available only through travel.
COURSE GOALS:	This course provides students with an opportunity to learn about the history, culture, economy, politics, and/or development of the host country through independent research. Students are also able to reflect on their experiences abroad as they are occurring thereby enhancing their understanding of other cultures. Audience is projected to be students from all over the USA who wish to conduct travel/study research in coordination with an instructor.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1. Document research skills as evidenced by selection of books, scholarly journals, outside readings and critical analysis of these works.
2. Examine differences in foreign/domestic cultures, economies, politics, art, history, sports, scientific advancement, humanities, literature, etc. as seen in development of research project.
3. Recognize, accept, and seek to develop the uniqueness of each individual of the world as evidenced by discussion of such in journal writings.
4. Investigate a specific topic based on travel experience using active learning methods such as on-site study, historic site visitation, libraries, archives, cultural events, museums, etc. Such methods have a direct emotional and intellectual impact on students that would be difficult to achieve in a classroom setting.

INSTRUCTOR: Steven J. Tash
23786 Villena
Mission Viejo, CA 92692
E-mail: travelstudy@yahoo.com
Office phone: 949-340-0094
Fax: 949-340-3574
Web: www.WeStudyAbroad.com
Hours: 9 am - 9 pm PST

AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with your instructor, or if you need special arrangements, contact your instructor as soon as possible.

INSTRUCTOR'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY:

Experiential education is but one tool to help nurture the learning desire of undergraduate students. Course participants will describe themselves and their experiences, if appropriate, as members of the global community, and will value the views of diverse peoples, cultures, places, etc.

Steve Tash is a full-time faculty member in the Learning Resources Center at Saddleback Community College, and an AD Hoc Faculty member at Seattle Central Community College in Seattle, Washington. Mr. Tash has accumulated credentials, including a B.A. in History, a M.S. in Information Science, and teaching credentials from Elementary to Community College. He has been involved with experiential education coursework with major universities for over 25 years. He is currently engaged in research using Internet, the World Wide Web, MOOS and MUDS in providing on-line coursework.

STUDENT OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Convey differences in cultures, economies, politics, art, history, humanities, literature, language,

education, etc. through a research paper.

2. Select articles and journals, etc. related to the travel/study experience and analyze them critically.
3. Recognize and identify ethnic, cultural, political, historical, artistic, literary, scientific, leisure-time, and educational diversity in the host country through journal entries.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1. This course meets electronically or by mail (E-mail, phone, fax, snail mail). There is no physical site or classroom.
2. Course instructor usually available via E-mail 12 hours daily.
3. Optional: Students will use the Internet/WWW to access resources and evaluate information sources according to external criteria, such as the author's credentials, the timeliness of the information, the genre of the source, etc.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS:

1. A DAILY JOURNAL must be maintained during the travel/study period. It is to contain notes, observation on places visited, personal contacts, interviews, job/internship/volunteer duties, geographical points of interest, museums, libraries, leisure-time activities, historic sites visited, specific cultural traits noted, learning experiences, tourist points of interest, etc. This may be submitted electronically via E-mail or PC diskette (high density) or in hardcopy format.
2. RESEARCH PAPER on a topic agreed upon in advance with instructor (eight page minimum, typed double spaced) based on travel/study experience. Use standard research paper format i.e. MLA, APA, Stanford, Turabian, etc. Paper may be submitted on PC diskette (high density, either size) or via E-mail.

INTERNET OPTION: If you have access to Internet/WWW, you may submit the following in lieu of research paper:

- a. Locate 10 sites on Internet/WWW related in some way to your travel/study project.
- b. Evaluate all 10 sites in terms of accuracy, usefulness, authoritativeness of Webmaster (site developer/author), timeliness, and research potential.
- c. Provide the URL (WWW) address for each site.
- d. Tell what "search engine" you used to locate each site (i.e. "Infoseek" "Excite" "Lycos" "Webcrawler" "Gopher" "Archie" "Jughead" and trace your steps leading to each final site selection (keep a log).
- e. Submit items a-d in electronic format (E-mail, diskette, paper format).

CRITICAL THINKING PAPERS:

Read and analyze two articles from a scholarly journal (usually a signed article with a bibliography usually

written by expert in their field) from fields such as counseling, education, psychology, history, political science, humanities, ethnic studies, cross-cultural studies, women's studies, business and economics, international studies, gender studies, etc. on a topic related to any aspect of the Travel/Study experience. Answer the following questions and staple a photocopy of article to your sheet.

- a. Title of article, full title of journal, date, page numbers.
- b. Author of article, author's qualifications or basis of authority. Was this author qualified to write on this topic? Why or why not? If no information is available, what do you think, based on the article and your critical judgment? Explain. (Hint: Use Contemporary Authors, Directory of American Scholars or other library reference tools to locate biographical data).
- c. Brief summary of article (main points and conclusion).
- d. Validity of information: What type of evidence does the author give for any claims that are made? Are sensational claims made? Are several viewpoints or just one presented?
- e. Author's motivation: Why was this article published? (Example, to sell something, publicize new research data provide information or clarification).

INTERNET OPTION: If you have access to Internet/WWW, you may submit two articles from electronic journals appearing on the Internet. These may be submitted via electronic format to instructor.

CALENDAR/SCHEDULE:

Students may enroll anytime. All course requirements must be submitted to instructor for grading before the end of the quarter (or within two quarters from date of enrollment).

FEEDBACK TO STUDENT/COURSE POLICIES:

Daily Journal (200 points): Evaluation criteria includes, but is not limited to, clearly presented observations, creative thought and imagination and appropriateness.

Research Paper (500 points): Evaluation criteria includes, but is not limited to, research format, content appropriateness, organization skills, analysis of topic.

Critical Thinking Papers (150 points each = 300 total): Evaluation criteria includes, but not limited to, journal selection, critical thinking research and analysis, author critique and article summarization.

GRADING STRUCTURE:

A	4.0 - 3.9	Excellent	900+ points
A-	3.8 - 3.5		
B+	3.4 - 3.2		
B	3.1 - 2.9	High	800 - 899 points
B-	2.8 - 2.5		
C+	2.4 - 2.2		
C	2.1 - 1.9	Average	600 - 799 points
C-	1.8 - 1.5		
D+	1.4 - 1.2	Minimum	500 - 599 points
D-	0.8 - 0.7		

E	0.0	Failure	0 - 499 points
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NOTE: Seattle Central Community College awards numerical grades.

**** IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLING IN 10-CREDIT OPTION****

Additional Course Requirements:

1. Additional research paper related to volunteer project, employment and/or internship that required the 2+ months travel/study period (500 points).
2. Two additional critical thinking papers related to volunteer project, employment, and/or internship (300 points total).

Grading Structure for 10-credit Option:

A	4.0 - 3.9	Excellent	1620+ points
A-	3.8 - 3.5		
B+	3.4 - 3.2		
B	3.1 - 2.9	High	1501 - 1619 points
B-	2.8 - 2.5		
C+	2.4 - 2.2		
C	2.1 - 1.9	Average	1260 - 1500 points
C-	1.8 - 1.5		
D+	1.4 - 1.2	Minimum	1080 - 1259 points
D-	0.8 - 0.7		
E	0.0	Failure	0 - 1079 points

EVALUATING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT FORMS:

Upon enrollment a questionnaire will be sent to each enrollee to study whether this "self-guided," and "self-paced" aspect of learning met with their needs and approval. It will ask how valuable the course was to them in this manner, what they felt was missing, and what portion of this course was the most helpful to them in their educational plans.

HONOR SYSTEM

It is expected that each student will prepare his or her own assignments and that any assignments submitted will be the sole work of the student.

Academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information, will not be tolerated.

Violation of these rules will be considered **Misconduct** under the student code WAC 132-F-120-110. Students suspected of misconduct will be referred to the Dean of Student Development Services. Students found guilty of misconduct will forfeit all fees and credit will be denied.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Terms of Enrollment: Enrollment in travel/language courses does not constitute admission to the college.

Students who are not attempting to earn a degree or certificate are registered as non-matriculated students.

Time Limitations: Students have two quarters to complete courses and will receive a “Y” (on-going) grade on grade reports until all coursework is completed. One extension (for one additional – or 3rd – quarter) will be granted at a cost of \$50/extension. (Please note: The “Y” will remain on transcripts if students do not complete courses.)

Please note: Seattle Central is on a quarter system. Approximate dates are as follows:

Summer:	Last week in June through mid-August
Fall:	Last week in September through mid-December
Winter:	First week in January through March
Spring:	First week in April through mid-June

Refund Policy: To receive a refund, a student must submit a written request (mailed, e-mailed, or faxed) to the Cooperative Education Office. No refunds will be given once the quarter officially ends. Please note: If you are taking two quarters to complete coursework, no refunds will be granted during the second quarter.

Final Grade/Transcripts: If you receive a “Y” for your course, the Cooperative Education Office will submit a grade change to the Registrar's office as soon as the grade is received from the instructor.

To request an official or unofficial transcript of grades, students should call (206) 587-3805 (8:00 am - 4:30 pm, Pacific Standard Time). The fee for official transcripts is \$3.00 per copy. Unofficial transcripts are available at no cost to the student.

Change of Name/Address: Students are responsible for providing current contact information to the Cooperative Education Office. Delivery of mail to the last address on record constitutes official notification to students.

Cooperative Education Program, SEATTLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 1701 Broadway,
Room BE 1103, Seattle, WA 98122. Phone: 206-587-5422 FAX: 206-287-5529 www.seattlecentral.edu/coop