International Opportunities for Students

Student Options Abroad

Study Abroad Programs Office
http://studyabroad.tamu.edu

Texas A&M University is committed to providing access to high impact international opportunities for all students. The ability to engage successfully across cultures and the development of international leadership skills are crucial for success as graduates enter the work force and commit to lifelong learning.

The Study Abroad Programs Office provides access for all Texas A&M students to a broad range of high impact international experiences. Last year, over 4,000 students participated in academic, volunteer, service learning and research opportunities in 96 different countries. The Study Abroad Programs Office also contributes to the development of on-campus experiences that foster cultural awareness, including the Academy for Future International Leaders.

Conducting Research Abroad

Texas A&M University faculty engage in research in many foreign countries. Students who join faculty on research programs overseas, or who develop independent research opportunities, should register with the Study Abroad Programs Office to ensure emergency assistance as needed while abroad. Several other research options include the following:

- Fellows Program – MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness (http://ltjordan.tamu.edu/fellows)
- Honors and Undergraduate Research (http://honors.tamu.edu/research)
- Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs (http://bush.tamu.edu/scowcroft)

Internships/Work Abroad Options

Students have a variety of options for credit or non-credit work or internships abroad. In all such cases, students should register their work abroad experiences with the Study Abroad Programs Office to ensure emergency assistance as needed while abroad. Several other internship options include the following:

- Internship and Living Abroad Programs – MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness (http://ltjordan.tamu.edu/ilap)
- Public Policy Internship Program (http://ppip.tamu.edu)

University Locations Abroad

Many Texas A&M partner organizations offer international opportunities to students. Students can check the Study Abroad Programs Office search engine to locate such experiences or contact their academic departments about programs and locations they recommend. In addition, Texas A&M has a research and education center in Costa Rica.

The Soltis Center for Research and Education in Costa Rica
http://soltiscentercostarica.tamu.edu

The Soltis Center for Research and Education in north-central Costa Rica was established in January 2009 to support research, education, and outreach in Costa Rica and throughout Central America. The Center is located in San Juan de San Isidro de Peñas Blancas, about three hours northwest of San Jose. The modern facilities of the Center include dorms, a cafeteria, wet and dry labs, classrooms, a videoconference room and multiple use areas. The Center provides students and faculty with access to more than 250 acres of primary and second growth forests with an experimental watershed complete with a meteorological station, a canopy tower and weir dam. The Center is adjacent to more than 50,000 hectares of protected forest in the Children’s Eternal Rainforest and the Monteverde Conservation Area. The Zona Protectora Arenal-Monteverde extends to the Center through a forest corridor that descends in elevation from 1,800 meters at Monteverde to 450 meters above sea level at the Center. This natural reserve has four major tropical life zones and includes more than 3,000 species of vascular plants and more than 400 species of resident and migratory birds. At the regional level, the Center is located in the heart of the Peñas Blancas River Watershed, which extends over 40,000 hectares that transition from rainforest in the highlands to pastures and agricultural crops below the Center. The unique physical and cultural setting of the center provides students and faculty with research and educational opportunities in tropical ecology, civil engineering, ecosystem sciences, geosciences, public and rural health and agricultural economics.

On Campus Engagement in International Opportunities

Students don’t have to go abroad to take advantage of international opportunities offered by Texas A&M. Students who remain on campus are encouraged to participate in many options available including the following:

- Academic certificates and minors with an international focus (http://studyabroad.tamu.edu)
- Academy for Future International Leaders (http://afil.tamu.edu)
- Center for International Business Studies (http://cibs.tamu.edu)
- Confucius Institute at Texas A&M University (http://confucius.tamu.edu)
- Corps Global Leadership Initiatives (http://corps.tamu.edu/global)
- MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness (http://ltjordan.tamu.edu)
- Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture (http://borlaug.tamu.edu)
- SCONA (http://scona.tamu.edu)
- Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs (http://bush.tamu.edu/scowcroft)
- Student Organizations (http://studentactivities.tamu.edu/app/organization)
  - (To find internationally focused student organizations, please visit http://studentactivities.tamu.edu/app/search/index and search international.)

Students should consult their department and college advisers for additional opportunities to engage in global education on or off campus.