

PROPOSAL FOR NEW STUDY ABROAD or EXCHANGE PROGRAM
New USAC programs adding as a part of new affiliation agreement

RATIONALE:

In January 2019, UW-Eau Claire became the 34th affiliate member campus of the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC). As a part of the affiliate agreement, the Center for International Education has agreed to open up more of USAC's program offerings to students at UW-Eau Claire.

After doing a review of current programs and partnerships we have, we have identified nine programs that we would like to add at this time. The programs listed below will fill a gap in programming in countries where we might not have location options, academic options, or term options. The locations being proposed are:

- Geelong, Australia
- Florianópolis, Brazil
- Puntarenas, Costa Rica
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Bangalore, India
- Haifa, Israel
- Reggio Emilia, Italy
- Gwangju, Korea
- Hawke's Bay or Wellington, New Zealand: National Expedition Field Study and Internship

We currently use USAC for our programs in China, Heredia & San Ramon, Costa Rica, Cuba, Pau & Lyon, France, Ghana, Poland, Thailand, New Zealand and Nagasaki, Japan and have noticed very good support and structure in their programs.

A breakdown of the USAC programs we want to add are on the attached spreadsheet.

ENROLLMENT LIMITS:

USAC has enrollment limits more many of their programs. While UWEC's expected application rate is unknown, due to our earlier timelines, we have not had issues with any of the other USAC programs and don't foresee this to be an issue with any programs being added.

ACADEMIC LOGISTICS:

- **Can UW-Eau Claire accept credit from this program? What other UW System colleges/universities or U.S. universities are accepting credit from the host institution?** Yes, we currently accept USAC grade reports for Heredia & San Ramon, Costa Rica, Pau & Lyon, France, China, Thailand and Ghana.

- **How are grades reported?** Grades are reported on an official USAC Grade Report. Grade reports from summer will be received by UWEC in late August. Semester grade reports will be received about one month after the program ends.
- **What language is used on the above document? If not English, what resources are required for an English translation?** All grade reports will be in English.
- **What credit system is used and how does it translate into U.S. credits?** All students earn U.S. credit while on a USAC specialty program.
- **How is course level determined?** Course levels are the same as UW-Eau Claire: 100, 200, 300, and 400. Currently 100 & 200 level courses are considered lower division courses and 300 and 400 level courses are considered upper division
- **What grade scale is used and what is the conversion to UWEC grades?** Grades are reported using the standard A-F scale with plus and minus designations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- GPA requirements vary by program:
 - Geelong, Australia = 2.6
 - Florianópolis, Brazil = 2.5
 - Puntarenas, Costa Rica = 2.5
 - Prague, Czech Republic = 2.5
 - Bangalore, India = 2.5
 - Haifa, Israel
 - Summer = 2.5
 - Semester = 3.0
 - Reggio Emilia, Italy = 2.5
 - Gwangju, Korea = 2.5; degree-seeking students attending 4-year university
 - Hawke's Bay or Wellington, New Zealand: National Expedition Field Study and Internship = 2.75; completed at least 2 courses at the 200-level in related major
- Good academic, conduct and financial standing
- May apply as first year student, but must have sophomore standing by program start

FOREIGN CULTURE REQUIREMENT:

If we have a student who is in the 2015 catalog year or earlier, we will work with them to determine if a study abroad program will fulfill their foreign culture or not. (Students earning a B.A., B.F.A., or B.M. degree in the College of Arts and Sciences cannot use study abroad to fulfill their foreign language/foreign culture requirements. See the university catalog for details.).

LIBERAL EDUCATION CORE:

For students in catalog year 2016 and later, this program can fulfill an integrated learning (I1) requirement upon completion of the integrated learning assignments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The first opportunity that UWEC student would have to participate in the program would be summer 2020 and fall 2020.