

Maymester 2015 Field Experiences Abroad

What is a Field Experience?

A field experience is a short term faculty-led study abroad program. The field experience is a 3-credit, pass/fail course and is preceded by a 3 credit pre-requisite spring semester 2015 course. The field experiences will be held during Maymester, April 28-May 16, 2015 (*exact travel dates of each field experience are tentative*). **The Chatham Field Experience courses meet the GBL requirement and one Maymester graduation requirement.**

Eligibility. Students eligible to apply have:

1. Good academic standing and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and not on academic probation at the time of application or at the commencement of the spring 2015 semester.
 2. Completed 30 or more undergraduate credits at time of travel, including at least 15 credits completed at Chatham at the time of travel.
 3. Good judicial standing (to be verified by Office of Student Affairs).
 4. Good financial standing. No financial holds and all accounts up to date (to be verified by Student Accounts).
- Priority will be given to students with 30-59 credits completed at Chatham. Upper class students who have not participated in a Chatham Maymester field experience can apply and will be considered for participation. Transfer students who will have completed at least 30 undergraduate credits including 15 credits at Chatham at the time of travel will also be considered for participation.
 - Although individual applicants may have priority according to their status, applications are reviewed holistically.
 - Due to minimum and maximum enrollment numbers, students may not be offered their first choice program.
 - Undergraduate students who have participated in a Chatham Maymester program abroad previously can apply to be considered for participation but they are not eligible for a Study Abroad Voucher and will pay the full program fee.
 - These are undergraduate courses. Graduate students must have the written approval of their Graduate Program Director before applying.

Program Fees, Deposits, Study Abroad Vouchers.

Fees: The Chatham Field Experiences are self-supporting programs. **Each Maymester Field Experience must meet minimum enrollment numbers (listed below) or it will be cancelled.**

Program fees	
<i>Brazil</i> – Indicator Species and Sustainable Resource Management in the Pantanal- (Fraser) \$3600 – min. 10 students	If using study abroad voucher \$2400
<i>Brazil</i> – Eco-building & Agroforestry in the Pantanal (Lettan) \$3600 – min. 10 students	If using study abroad voucher \$2400
<i>South Africa</i> – Rainbow Country Trails (Sène) \$4643 – min. 7 students	If using study abroad voucher \$3443
<i>Germany / Belgium</i> – Identity, Diversity and Social Policy in the European Union (Rossbach/ Rubin) \$3900 – min. 12 students	If using study abroad voucher \$2700

<i>Czech Republic – Business Sustainability in Prague (DeLong)</i> \$3312 – min. 10 students	If using study abroad voucher \$2112
<i>Czech Republic – Sustainability Communications in Prague (Cruger)</i> \$3312 – min. 10 students	If using study abroad voucher \$2112

What is included in the program fee varies according to each field experience’s budget. If you have any questions about what is included, please ask the field experience faculty leader. In general, the program fee includes airfare, travel insurance, accommodations abroad, some meals, local transportation, excursions/ entrance fees. **Not included in the program fee: passport, visas (as needed), immunizations (as needed), additional meals, personal expenses, luggage fees.**

Deposits: Once applicant is accepted, \$100 nonrefundable deposit needs to be turned in to Office of International Affairs, Falk 001 by **4 pm on Tuesday, November 4, 2014**. You may submit cash, check or credit card (credit cards incur 2% fee). The balance of the program fee will be billed with your spring 2015 tuition and is due by **December 15, 2014**. See Student Accounts regarding setting up a payment plan.

Study Abroad Vouchers: Who is eligible for the \$1,200 voucher?

Full time undergraduate students who have completed a minimum of 30 credits, of which 15 credits must have been completed at Chatham prior to departure, are eligible for the \$1200 study abroad voucher. Undergraduate students who have previously participated in a Maymester field experience are not eligible for the \$1200 voucher. **Each undergraduate student receives one \$1,200 voucher.**

What programs can I use the \$1,200 voucher toward?

The voucher can be applied toward any credit bearing study abroad program, including semester programs, academic year programs, summer programs, and field experiences. The voucher can be applied toward Chatham programs, including approved exchanges, approved partner programs and short term field experiences or toward programs that are not affiliated with Chatham (third-party programs). The voucher also can be applied toward the cost of an internship or experiential learning program abroad provided that the student is earning academic credit for the experience.

How will the voucher be applied to a Field Experience?

Once students are accepted and approved for a Field Experience, the voucher will be added to the aid package for the spring 2015 term along with the registration. The voucher will then be posted with other aid at the start of the term.

Scholarship for Maymester Field Experiences:

The Glenda Rich DeBroff '60 Memorial Scholarship Fund – approx. up to \$900 available

This award is granted to a full-time Chatham student who is in good standing and has financial need. The award is intended to enrich the student’s academic program as approved by the University and to provide opportunity for study and/or travel during Maymester. Students must complete a separate application to be considered for this scholarship, with a deadline of **November 1, 2014**.

Field Experience Application and deadline:

The application will open after the September 23, 4 pm Information Session in Sanger Hall. Apply by 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014 through this link –

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JmKdhA1xNemlea9fVq8rMDuV0MvksUM3BYI9nZUy9JI/viewform>

Decisions on application status will be sent by email to applicants before advising begins on 10/28/14.

Additional Information:

1. Once accepted into a Field Experience, students are required to add the corresponding spring 2015 prerequisite course. Accepted students must submit the signed and initialed **Contract for Participation in Maymester 2015 Field Experience** and **nonrefundable \$100 deposit** by 11/5/14.
2. Students must fulfill all requirements of and pass the prerequisite course in order to participate in the Maymester Field Experience course. Students who do not pass the prerequisite course will be responsible for the full cost of the Field Experience. Students are also required to attend all pre-departure meetings and orientations as specified by the field experience leader.
3. Upon return from the field experience, students must fulfill all post-course requirements, in class meetings and presentations as specified in the syllabus of the Maymester course.
4. Students are responsible for immunizations which may be required for specific travel destinations. Please visit the Center for Disease Control, <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/> or the Allegheny County Health Department website, <http://www.achd.net/infectd/travel.php> for required or recommended immunizations/medications for each destination.
5. Students are responsible for having a valid passport. Passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months after return of field experience or **11/15/2015**. Students must provide a copy of their valid passport to Office of International Affairs by **1/16/2015**. **If you do not currently have a valid passport, upon acceptance into a field experience you agree to apply for a passport and provide a copy of your passport or evidence of your passport application NO LATER than 1/16/2015. If you fail to do so, you will forfeit your participation in the Field Experience.**
6. Students are responsible for acquiring any necessary travel visas. International Affairs does not process or issue visas for students. Students must check the embassy web page of countries they plan to visit for updated visa and travel requirements.

2015 Chatham Field Experiences:

Brazil: Indicator Species and Sustainable Resource Management in the Pantanal

Faculty: Dr. David Fraser

Duration: May 2-May 16, 2015

The Course: This course is designed to guide students through a service learning environment centered on the sustainable development and resource management in the Pantanal region of Brazil. During the course, students will participate in ongoing research projects by doing data collection, analysis, and presentation at evening slide shows. Projects may vary depending on the current research need but will focus on habitat and population monitoring. In particular the white-lipped peccary is endangered in the Pantanal and students will participate in capture and radio tracking protocols as well as aquatic macroinvertebrate sampling to analyze the relative health of local streams. Cultural events include attending a local churrasco (barbeque), traditional dancing exhibition, and playing in a local soccer game. Excursions into the Cerrado regions will also include visiting numerous freshwater swimming areas and various natural caves with prehistoric paintings.

Prerequisite Course: ENV 129, Our Fragile Earth

Brazil: Eco-building & Agroforestry in the Pantanal

Faculty: Dr. Robert Lettan

Duration: May 2-May 16, 2015

The Course: This course will guide students in a service-learning environment, working with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in the Pantanal region of Brazil. The project works to support and implement sustainable development and improve protected area management. It also reaches out to ranchers to help minimize livestock-carnivore conflict on private lands. Projects may vary depending on the current research need but will focus on agro-forestry, eco-building and sustainable farming. Students may participate in seedling bank evaluation to analyze the effects of cattle grazing, construction and remodeling using materials gathered from the local area, and the design and construction of rotational grazing systems.

Prerequisite Course: ENV 129, Our Fragile Earth

South Africa: Rainbow Country Trails

Faculty: Dr. Jean-Jacques Sène

Duration: April 27-May 15, 2015

The Course: Through an itinerary of both structured group events and individualized activities, explore some top attractions of Soweto and Johannesburg, Kruger National Park in rural South Africa, Pretoria and Cape Town. You will meet with University of Witwatersrand counterparts and engage in service learning initiatives at an orphanage, school for Zimbabwean children refugees, and a health clinic. The course analyzes issues of social unrest, revolt, revolution, and radical social transformation in the modern age with emphasis on such structural elements of conflict as power, oppression, identity, the enemy, non-violence, and restorative justice.

Prerequisite Course: HIS 205W/GBL, Africa, Past & Present

Czech Republic: Business Sustainability in Prague

Faculty: Dr. Deborah DeLong

Duration: May 2- May 11, 2015

The Course: This course will expose students to the challenges of integrating sustainability principles into the daily life, culture and business at home and abroad. Students will consider the many different ways in which sustainability practices are being adopted by companies and citizens in the US and in Europe, specifically in Pittsburgh, PA and in Prague, the Czech Republic. While the two cities are quite different culturally, politically and economically, Prague and Pittsburgh are similar in their focus on moving toward increased sustainability in the daily lives of their citizens and business sectors. At the same time, both cities have a uniquely rich heritage to protect, requiring creative and innovative ideas for improving the status quo. During the course, students will study important historical and cultural sites and visit companies and agencies specializing in sustainable business practices. Students will gain insights from strategic business leaders, communications experts, and organizers involved in the effort to advance sustainability as a core value in US and European settings. As a bonus, students are invited to a special roundtable session with University of Prague college students to share and compare their cross-cultural perspectives.

Prerequisite Course: BUS 240, International Business (this class has a prerequisite BUS 105)

Czech Republic: Sustainability Communications in Prague

Faculty: Dr. Katherine Cruger

Duration: May 2- May 11, 2015

The Course: This course will expose students to the practical realities of integrating sustainability principles into communication (both personal and professional) in domestic and international contexts. The course's setting, Prague, is the cultural epicenter of the Czech Republic as well as an economic hub where many international companies have a presence. It is ancient city that faces unique challenges when adapting to more sustainable infrastructure and business practices without sacrificing its rich heritage. During the course, students will visit cultural sites and companies in Prague specializing in sustainable communications practices.

Prerequisite Course: COM 360, Advanced Public Relations (this class has a prerequisite COM 260W)

Germany and Belgium: Identity, Diversity and Social Policy in the European Union

Faculty: Dr. Rossbach and Dr. Rubin

Duration: April 29-May 11, 2015

The Course: This field experience will focus on German identity while in Berlin, Germany and examine the legacy Nazi Germany, reunification and the incorporation of minority identities and cultures (especially Turkish) into contemporary Germany. In Brussels, Belgium, the focus will shift to the divided Belgian identity and the role of the European Union in social integration. In both cities, students will meet with policy-makers, academics and NGOs, as well as regional offices representing ethnic and cultural minorities.

Prerequisite Course: POL 213, Special Topics in Political Science: European Union-Identity and Policy