

Shrinking the Globe!

As innovative technologies and communication systems continue to link countries around the world, the international dimension of education grows in importance. True to its Mission Statement, Chowan College is committed to "providing the environment for students to become learners who possess the skills, knowledge, creativity, and ethical values necessary to survive and flourish in a rapidly-changing, culturally diverse, global society."

Inherent in that mission is Chowan's goal of providing opportunities for students to participate in affordable study-abroad programs – and other global education experiences – as an integral part of their college experience. Although the Internet and other media make information easily accessible from around the world, there is no replacement for the actual, first-hand experience of another culture.

A student's education is tremendously enriched by spending time in another country or by otherwise experiencing diverse peoples and cultures. Time abroad, for example, opens students' minds to social, political, economic, and cultural traditions different from their own. Such opportunities can serve to enlighten and prepare students for the challenges they will face in their lives and careers in the 21st century.

This semester, 15 Chowan College students are embarking on one such adventure to study in London, England with Dr. Nancy Duke of Chowan College, Dr. Connie Douglas of Louisiana College, and several British professors.

On these pages, you will find four examples of educational experiences currently available to Chowan College students. In addition, the college will continue to explore other overseas study opportunities.

For further information about these programs and others as they are added to the Chowan roster, please contact Dr. David B. Gowler, assistant dean for academic affairs, and visit the Chowan College Global Education web site.

<http://www.chowan.edu/acadp/GlobalEd/global.htm>

Washington, D. C.



American government. Law and Criminal Justice. Business Administration. Arts, Education, Science and Health. Real-world work experience for college credit.

The Washington Center offers all of the above and many more opportunities for college students across the nation and The Washington Semester program provides a way for Chowan students to work and study inexpensively for a semester in our nation's capital.

At the apex of The Washington Semester is a unique educational approach that integrates professional work experience with academic seminars. The Washington Center, which sponsors the program, has been at the forefront of providing educational internships to college students since its founding in 1975.

Specifically and individually tailored to meet students' needs, internship placements include positions in government offices, communications organizations, law firms, trade and professional organizations, human rights groups, and a variety of companies and organizations. Although the Washington Semester is open to all majors and all eligible students who are accepted by the Washington Center, Chowan students must work closely with academic advisors and the chair of the department in which they major.

The program is structured to provide:

- Substantive, entry-level professional work experience to merit academic credit (the amount and type of credit must be worked out with the chair of the department in which the student majors)
- Internships of 4 ½ days per week during a 15-week semester
- Program supervisor and staff members to assist students in putting together a program best for them
- Presidential Lecture Series on Monday afternoons
- Congressional Breakfast Series
- Weekly academic course
- Tours and topical discussion opportunities
- Housing at The Virginian Suites, near Rosslyn, Virginia (convenient, comfortable, and secure apartments)

In today's competitive employment environment, students who have practical experience have a significant advantage – both in obtaining a position and in succeeding in their chosen careers. The goal of the Washington Semester is to prepare students for the challenges they will face as they enter the working community. However, the program is much more than a resume-building experience; it seeks to enhance students' academic, personal, civic, and professional development through such opportunities as academic course offerings, professional work experience, and exposure to the insights and ideas of nationally and internationally-renowned guest speakers and lecturers.

London



London is one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities – unrivaled for the excellence and diversity of its theatres, concert halls, museums, and art galleries. Designed to take full advantage of this richness and diversity, the Chowan College/Louisiana College London Semester program allows up to thirty-two students to study in London for a spring semester. This remarkable semester-long program is only available to Chowan College and Louisiana college students.

Students study under British and U.S. faculty members who design courses around London as the classroom. British history, London museums and galleries, overseas media, theatre and parliament experiences are incorporated into the courses taught by British professors. U.S. professors teach courses in literature, history, science, religion, music, and other disciplines. Field trips include visits to such famous locations as the Globe museum, London Tower, Royal Society, Kew Gardens, Stratford, Cambridge, Dover, Canterbury, and Hampton Court.

Following six weeks in central London at St. Margaret's, a bed and breakfast hotel near the British Museum and the University of London, stu-

dents spend four weeks with a British family. During this "home stay," small groups of students move to the London suburbs and commute to classes on the Tube. Interaction with a British host family gives students an opportunity to learn first-hand about British life while sharing meals, conversation, and ideas.

During midterm break, students tour England, Scotland, and Wales. Visits include the Lake District, York, Bath, Stratford, and Stonehenge in England; Edinburgh in Scotland; and Carnarvon Castle in Wales.

The semester lasts mid-January to mid-April and students must enroll in a minimum of four credit courses to earn 12-15 hours of academic credit. They return to their home campus having studied in a major European city with all the knowledge, confidence, and cross-cultural skills that can only be gained through an overseas experience.

The London Semester truly is an exceptional program, especially when compared to programs at other institutions which charge a great deal more for fewer opportunities and experiences. It could prove to be the highlight of a student's entire college experience.