

Salzburg

Salzburg is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. With a population of about 140,000, it is situated on the northern edge of the eastern Alps close to the German border. It is surrounded by picturesque mountains and near a famous lake district. The city itself still reflects a thousand years of European history and culture. By its history, its cultural and educational environment, and its location, Salzburg is an ideal setting for a European study experience.

Salzburg College, established in 1970 to provide a Salzburg study experience for English-speaking college students, takes advantage of this ideal setting. The college is located in the historical Meierhof which forms part of the 18th century Leopoldskron Palace. Many recognize the palace because of its prominence in the film "Sound of Music" (it served as the film site for the Von Trapp family home).

The program was initially developed jointly with Northern Illinois University and Illinois State University by Dr. Ina Stegen, the director of Salzburg College. Students from other colleges and universities were soon attracted to the program, and alumni now represent more than 250 institutions in the United States, Canada, and Japan. Only 60-70 students are accepted by Salzburg College per semester, in order to maintain its small, caring environment and the personal attention given to each student.

A key theme of the academic program at Salzburg College is the integration of classroom work and field experience. Excursions, guest lectures, and interactions with local professionals constitute an important aspect of virtually every course. For example, business courses feature weekly visits to companies. European History students go to the concentration camps of Dachau and Mauthausen. Music History includes the attendance of concert and opera performances. Art History classes take field trips to museums and architectural monuments. Studio Art and Music



Performance students work with local artists, share international workshops with young Europeans, attend show openings in Salzburg, and give recitals. Education students attend classes in the local school system.

Salzburg offers a wide range of courses. All courses, with the exception of upper-level German language and literature, are taught in English and students register for a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 18 credit hours per semester. All students are required to enroll in one German language course (at any level) and an Austrian Civilization course.

To integrate with the Austrian community as much as possible, housing is arranged with carefully-selected Salzburg families who provide a "home away from home." Stegen and her staff conduct extensive interviews with both host families and students in order to create the perfect

"fit." Learning to understand and appreciate different customs and values, by becoming part of a host family, is one of the most exciting aspects of the "European Semester" at Salzburg College.

Travel plays an important and integrated role in study at Salzburg College. The program begins with a one-week trip through Germany that gives a hands-on introduction to European culture, while providing a great opportunity to meet other students. The initial tour includes visits to Trier, Cologne, Bonn; the Rhine; the imperial cities of Worms and Speyer; Heidelberg with its famous castle, old town, and university; Rothenburg, a medieval city completely preserved within city walls, towers, and gates; and Nuremberg. Weekly field trips are scheduled along with an extended field trip to Vienna, an experience which helps to tie the entire semester of study together.

Program integrates classroom work and field experiences with excursions, guest lectures, and interactions with local professionals

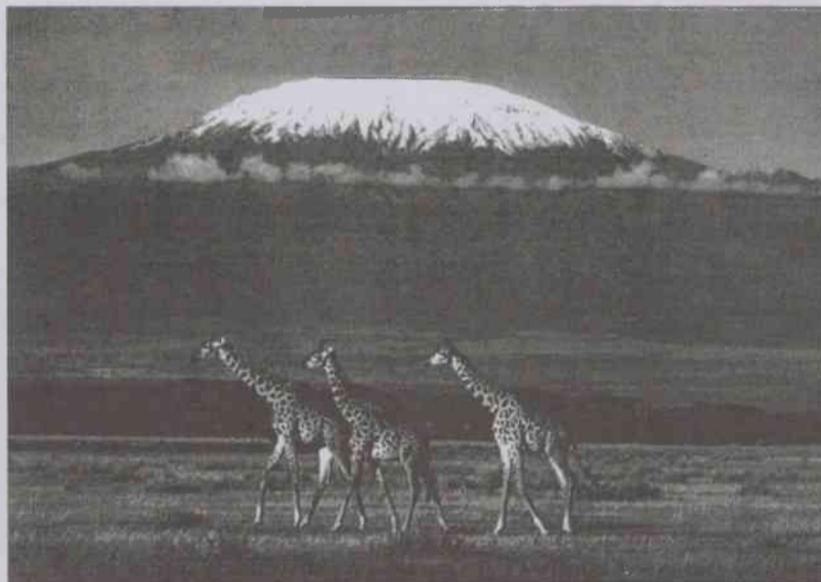
East Africa

The East Africa Semester Abroad program is operated by the African Studies Program of Baylor University, which has conducted academic programs in East Africa since 1990. The coordinator of the program is Dr. Blake Bursleson of Baylor University and the field director of the program, Dr. Sam Harrell, is a Baylor professor who currently resides in Kenya year-round with his family. On hand at all times, Harrell accompanies students on all organized group excursions. In addition, the program employs faculty members from the University of Nairobi and other Kenyan institutions, a resident Swahili instructor, and a driver.

Based at the Brackenhurst Baptist International Conference Centre, near Nairobi, Kenya, the program offers excursions to other parts of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Students reside at the Brackenhurst facility (rooms accommodating 2 to 5 students with private baths, dining facilities, and classrooms) for six weeks. Five weeks are spent in rural or urban homestays with Kenyan families, three weeks in housing provided by non-government or mission agencies (during the internship), and one week camping in game preserves.

Students enroll in 13 to 17 hours of courses which focus on Africa: at least one course in Swahili, the interdisciplinary course "Africa Within the Contemporary World," and two other courses in East African literature, history, or religions. Finally, students are required to pursue a course of guided, individualized study based on the student's participation, journal record, and research of the following field components: rural/agricultural homestay, urban homestay, rural/pastoral homestay, ecology trip, and internship.

Homestays begin after an intensive five-day orientation and prior to any other contact with Africans. An initial rural homestay experience provides a critical "total immersion" experience, giving the students an immediate context for developing empathy with members of African society. During this homestay, students share in the full range of African agricultural lifestyles in



both traditional and modern contexts and individual students spend at least six days with families, observing and participating in all aspects of family life.

A second homestay of longer duration occurs in urban East African society. The extended period of contact provides students with excellent opportunities for understanding the processes of modernization and urbanization in an African context. The third homestay of one week occurs in the pastoralist Maa-speaking community. This field component, in which students reside in tents near the Maasai manyattas, is physically demanding and mentally rigorous. Students explore settlement and herding life with their Maasai hosts. Interpretive lectures are given by field-component leaders including topics such as pastoralist life-cycles, philosophy, cosmology, development, and modernization.

Near the end of the semester, students devote full energies to a three-week project arranged individually according to their academic field.

Internships are offered in: student teaching, mission or ministry-related programs, rural development, archaeology and museum collection/compilation, wildlife (endangered species) surveys, community health education, and refugee relief work. Such study and service offers students tremendous opportunities for professional growth, personal challenge, and self-discovery. Internships also provide students with opportunities to apply academic learning to practical experience and to contribute their intellectual and physical skills in small but meaningful ways directly to East Africa.

The East Africa Semester is a demanding program designed for mature students, but it is one of the best and most fulfilling of overseas programs. As a member of the Consortium for Global Education, Chowan's eligible students will be given priority. The opportunities provided in this program fulfill an important aspect of the mission of Chowan College: "promoting and supporting the ideal of responsibility to self and others."

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