

About the only place on campus where I can get any work done is in the library. I find it impossible to study in my room. Even Old English pales beside the lure of cheesy 70's reruns on TBS and the mental challenge of lofty conversations with my friends. For example, many prime study hours have been devoted to heated debate over which member of Duran Duran was the hottest. I always say John Taylor.

When I try to study for a test, I end up rearranging a photo album. Too many English papers have been abandoned due to the sudden pressing importance of cleaning the sink. When I was forced against my will to take a math class here at Meredith, it was absolutely imperative for me to go to the library and do my homework. Unfortunately even the most lively word problems could not keep me from entering into serious discussions with my roommate about the merits of different deodorants or about which bar would admit us without checking our I.D.'s.

All in all, having a quiet, distraction/roommate free zone where I can study really makes the difference in my grades. I depend on the library to be a relatively silent place where my concentration isn't interrupted by loud talking and laughing.

Lately though, it seems that those who use and work in the library have forgotten the golden

rule of silence. This semester, everytime I've tried to study in the library, I have been rudely distracted by students who feel that it is

their absolute right to yell across the room to a friend or by herds of people chattering noisily with amazing gall and a lack of respect for others (sort of like a certain bunch of Republicans in Houston).

Just remember - the next time you feel like having an extended conversation about your boyfriend's foot problems, stay in your room, talk on the phone. Just don't come to the library. Easily distracted people like me will thank you for your consideration.

**Jessica Cook**



## An experience of a lifetime

by Hollis Hayworth

Have you ever thought about going on Meredith Abroad or have you just heard about it without giving it consideration? Well, change your attitude and make it the biggest consideration of your college career. I was not solicited to write this article. I am simply a student that had the time of her life this summer on Meredith Abroad, and I want all of you to think about doing the same.

Just imagine...the canals of Venice, the art of Florence, the islands of Greece, the markets of Prague, the Alps of Switzerland and Austria, the streets of Paris, and the theater of London. I could go on forever about all the wonderful things you could see and experience while on Meredith Abroad. For ten weeks of the summer, you sample a mound of culture and somehow try to process that you are seeing the actual things that you have learned so much about in your many years of school, books, and television.

Meredith Abroad is different from what you may have imagined. It is not a huge tour of Europe. Instead, it is a program that teaches you how to become an independent traveller. You learn how to get from country to country, how to experience a huge city like Rome or Amsterdam, and how to appreciate and learn from other cultures. If you doubt your abili-

ties to handle such an open program, DON'T! The only requirements for having a successful experience are eagerness, openmindedness, and curiosity.

Meredith Abroad is the least painful way I know to take summer school. Speaking from my experience, Dr. Betty Webb, Dr. Theresa Spencer, Dr. Jack Huber, Dr. Lyn Aubrecht, and John Rose were always willing to answer questions about their subjects whether at the breakfast table, in the laundry room or on a train to Germany. Also, when you are in a class of only eight or nine people, the atmosphere is much more open and in my opinion, better for learning. During the course of the program, I enjoyed getting to know all of the professors, not only as scholars, but also as people.

There is so much more that can be said about the program than I have space to tell you, but I can tell you that it was the most valuable learning (and entertaining) experience of my entire life. If you even feel a tiny twinge of wanting to go on this trip, please look out for flyers or talk to Dr. Webb about it. Dr. Webb works very hard to make this program as efficient and rewarding as possible. She will work with you and help you find needed funds, incentives, and even courage. Please do not pass up your chance to take off to Europe for ten whole weeks and have the time of your life.

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Everyone in the Meredith community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name and address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld upon request.



Angela Swain and Adrienne Hiner in Edinburgh.

Photo by Hollis Hayworth