

CAMPUS LIFE

Meredith Offers Variety in Summer Study Abroad

Shea Pierson, staff writer

The past decade has seen the number of study abroad participants skyrocket. Why? Studying abroad is a great way to experience new cultures and languages, see different parts of the world and get academic credit for it. Meredith College showcased a collection of international opportunities at the Study Abroad Fair on Nov. 14 and 15, but in case you missed it, here is what you need to know.



A view of Sansepolcro— Image via meredith.edu/abroad

Meredith is offering six programs in five different countries: Costa Rica, Belize, France, Italy and the United Kingdom. Each program has a different academic focus, so consider academics as well as location. Here is a list of the program dates, academic foci, costs, directors and basic information.

Costa Rica - Language & Culture

June 2 – 29
Focus: Spanish
Base cost: \$3,600
Estimated total cost: \$4,950
Program Director: Callie DeBellis 760-8195
Details: Learn Spanish, visit a coffee plantation and a volcano; opportunity to travel independently (to a beach, waterfall or rainforest)

Costa Rica - Tropical Ecosystems

May 14 – June 2
Biology
Base: \$3,100 / Estimated Total: \$4,500
Francie Cuffney 760-2879
Start in San Jose, travel indepen-

dently for four days, spend five days at rainforest research facility La Selva Biological Station, visit the Chiquita

banana plantations, end at the Monte Verde Cloud Forest

Belize

June 8 – 30 (tentative)
Teaching and young adult literature
Base cost: \$2,950
No total cost estimate, as this is a new study abroad program.
Dr. Kelly Roberts
Spend mornings at an English-speaking K-8 school tutoring with the Meredith Reads program, attend afternoon classes on young adult literature and cultural perspectives. Weekly guided tours of Mayan ruins.

France

June 14 – July 15
Fashion Merchandising and Design
\$8,250
\$11,120
Sponsored by Dr. Diane Ellis and Dr. Eunyong Yang
Seminars with fashion experts, workshops with stylists, private museum tours, stay a while in Italy, trips to

Versailles, Belgium, and Giverny

Italy

May 16 – June 21 (tentative)
History, Math, Interdisciplinary Studies
Base: \$5,300 / Estimated total: \$7,425
Dr. Greg Vitarbo
Stay in Sansepolcro, Italy, take group trips to see great art and architecture, travel independently for two three-day breaks, spend a week in Rome area for independent travel

United Kingdom

June 24 – July 27 (tentative)
Interdisciplinary Studies, Business, English
Base: \$5,950 / Estimated total: \$10,550
Catherine Rogers
Attend morning and early afternoon classes in London, spend evenings as you like, travel independently over two long weekends (you can easily travel to other Northern or Western European countries in this time)

Seniors, though Meredith's options will not be available to you post-graduation, you too can work, volunteer, or intern abroad through outside programs. See the "Programs Offered" tab on Meredith's study abroad website.

At 22 pages, the application packet is pretty hefty, and don't forget that you need teacher recommendations and a passport. Applications for the programs are due on Feb. 1 (except for the France program, due Jan. 19) and travel award applications are due Feb. 15, so start exploring your opportunities now! Scholarships and financial assistance are available. The deadline for summer 2013 travel awards is Feb. 15. Contact the Office of International Affairs for more information.

Office of International Affairs
124 Joyner
760-2307
Meredith.edu/abroad



A view of the United Kingdom – Image via meredith.edu/abroad

MEET...

Meet ... is a new series where Herald reporters interview and introduce Meredith College staff members. With this column we hope to highlight staff contributions to campus and share their concerns.

In our third interview of the series, staff writer Alexis Stout introduces Deb Laube.

Many of you may know Debra Laube from being a part of the Art department or Honors program. She is the Administrative Assistant for the Art Department and Honors Program here at Meredith College. She was born in Onedia, N.Y.—a small city in

central New York. Laube moved to North Carolina in 1981 and has lived in Raleigh since 1992. The most important thing in her life is her family, and the most important thing to her at Meredith is the people within her surroundings.

When Laube's daughters were young, she worked with the Wake County Public Schools. Later, she started working at Meredith in the year 2001, in the Office of the Register. She says, "Meredith is a great place to work because of the students and my co-workers." Before working at Meredith College she had only four jobs and all were small places. She feels that Meredith was a good fit for

her because of the small atmosphere, which she was used to from previous job experience. She notices that not only do the faculty and staff do their jobs, they are also devoted to the students' achievements and the growth of the institution as a whole.

When Laube first started college she wanted to be a medical lab technician; however, she ended up changing her major to Horticulture and Floral Design. Laube graduated from a two year college in New York in the late 70s, named SUNY. After graduating from SUNY, all she wanted to do was work. Later on in her life she decided to go back to college to seek another degree.

She chose to complete another degree at Meredith College. She is a junior here at Meredith and is still undeclared, but she has put a lot of thought into different degrees, such as English, History, Art and Family Consumer Science.

She is a hard working woman that works full time while balancing her coursework. Even though she said she is only taking one course each semester, it can be a little overwhelming. She completes her course working during lunchtime, after work and on the weekends. Although things can be a little hectic, she enjoys learning new things.