Teaching and Researching Around the World

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Study Abroad Center provides opportunities for UHM faculty to teach and conduct research abroad as faculty Resident Directors. Faculty participation across the Manoa campus as Resident Directors is encouraged for faculty development and enrichment opportunities.

Where can I teach/research abroad?

Argentina: Mendoza; Australia: Adelaide; China: Hainan; Denmark: Copenhagen; England: London; France: Angers, Annecy, Lille and Paris; Germany: Berlin; Italy: Florence; Japan: Kobe and Machida; Russia: Vladivostok; Spain: Seville

When can I teach/research abroad?

- Fall semester (usually September – December)
- Spring semester (usually January through May)
- Summer term (between four and nine weeks, May-July)
- Academic year in Japan (from September-May and September-August)

What can I teach?

Here’s a partial list of subjects our UHM faculty Resident Directors have taught abroad:

- Anthropology, Archaeology
- Architecture
- Art, Art History, Graphic Design
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Bioengineering
- Business, Finance, Marketing
- Computer Science, Library and Information Science
- Drama and Theater
- Economics
- Engineering
- English Literature
- Environmental Science
- Ethnic Studies
- Ethno-botany
- Family Resources
- Film Studies
- Geography
- Geology, Geophysics
- History
- Journalism
- Languages (Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish)
- Law
- Music
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Women’s Studies

What do I need to do in order to become a faculty Resident Director abroad?

Applications are available on the Study Abroad Center website: www.studyabroad.org and ask for country-specific course proposal/syllabi, a personal statement, a professional enrichment plan, a recruitment plan, a confidential letter of recommendation, summary of teaching evaluations, CV and departmental and college level approval.

The application review is a competitive process. Successful applicants are appointed on the basis of the strength of the courses being offered and their relevance to the target country and learning outcomes for the students; their research plan and relevance/benefits to the Mānoa campus upon return; student recruitment plan; and teaching evaluations.

What are my responsibilities as a faculty Resident Director abroad?

- Teach courses related to the target country
- Oversee the program abroad
- Monitor and mentor students abroad
- Liaise with the host institution’s personnel
- Conduct your own research/professional development
The semester was very rewarding for me, both inside and outside the classroom. The courses turned out very well, both substantively and in terms of process. By teaching my subject area (environmental law) in a new way, to undergraduates, I was able to read (and use) some new textbooks, cover material in a different way, and learn more about both systemic and cutting-edge environmental issues the EU and Italy.

– Denise Antolini, Law School

I gained professionally as an ethnic studies scholar by acquiring new theoretical and empirical knowledge of London and the UK in general as another important setting of race and ethnic relations, besides Hawai‘i and the continental United States. As a specialist in Asian American studies, I learned quite a bit about the status and experiences of British Asian groups, including Indians, Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Chinese, and how they are both similar and different from those of Asian groups in the United States.

– Jonathan Okamura, Ethnic Studies

While in Annecy I was able to work 6-8 hours a day on my own research projects via internet, and actually got published a scientific paper that had been in preparation for nearly three years. I was able to find excellent examples of Alpine and Jurassic fold belts, metamorphic textures, and marine fossils to complement my growing collection of geologic photographs, and hiking these features in person gave me a much better understanding of their formation mechanisms and emplacement origins. There is no doubt that my summer in Annecy was more productive to me professionally than had I spent that month here at UH.

– Jennifer Engels, Geology and Geophysics

I had one of the best experiences in my life. It was a wonderful break from administrative duties and committee work. I was able to read extensively, take notes for my book, go to a conference and lectures, meet with colleagues, go to the British Library, travel, etc. I was able to do so much notetaking, coding, and thinking that when I arrived back in Hawaii I was able to write two chapters in five weeks. The book I am currently writing sprang from the preparation I did on the syllabus for the class I taught in London. And I revised that class and am teaching it as a new LIS special topics course over HITS this semester. I ABSOLUTELY LOVED THE EXPERIENCE!!!!

– Rebecca Knuth, Library and Information Science

For more testimonies please visit www.studyabroad.org

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