

Study Abroad Connections

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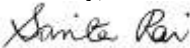
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Message from the Director

Welcome to the Fall 2013 Study Abroad Center Newsletter. In this issue we highlight our new semester program in Delhi, India with an article written by our first (and current) Delhi Faculty Resident Director, UHM History Professor Ned Bertz. We also feature UHM English Professor Judith Kellogg, who was the Spring 2013 Faculty Resident Director in Florence, Italy. She discusses the opportunities she had while living, teaching, and conducting research in the birthplace of the Renaissance. From the student perspective, Alyssa Fujii, who participated in our Summer 2013 program to Paris, France, reflects on her summer abroad and how the experience has inspired her to plan a full semester in Paris. I think it is clear from all these examples that both students and faculty gain much from UHM Study Abroad Center programs. It is our hope at the Study Abroad Center that everyone experiences firsthand how transformative living and studying abroad can be. Best wishes for a successful Fall semester.

Sincerely,



Sarita Rai

Monsoon Semester Inaugurates Semester in Delhi Program

Ned Bertz
Resident Director, Delhi, Fall 2013
Professor, Department of History

"Delhi, a city of sufis and skyscrapers, a massive megalopolis which also boasts many centuries of cultural splendor, is our hospitable host for the inaugural UHM study abroad semester in India. In mid-July the students arrived in India's capital during a mild monsoon season and since have easily lost track of the number of cups of *chai* they have consumed. Classes have already begun at our partner institution, Ambedkar University (AUD), where we all are learning to share the campus space with resident monkeys and fellow students snacking at the local canteen and gossiping (hopefully not about the visiting professor from Hawai'i!) under the green canopy of magnificently ancient trees. We all ride the sleek new metro into AUD from our various homes in affluent South Delhi, where the students stay with host families who provide them with delicious Indian meals. Every night as I ponder what I'm having for dinner I'm intensely jealous of this latter point.

The two courses which I'm offering at AUD will explore the contemporary history of India from different vantage points, and Delhi is the perfect canvas on which to think about the region's extraordinary past. Our metro journey into campus, for example, takes us underneath both New Delhi, the stately and monumental capital of the British Raj and the independent Indian state, and Old Delhi, the walled city of twisting lanes, massive mosques, and imposing Mughal forts. One class seeks to access this dynamic history through literary perspectives on

themes in recent Indian history such as imperialism, nationalism, religious politics, and globalization. The other course suggests that even oft-parochial Delhi, brimming with pride in its political and cultural centrality, has been influenced over time by regional exchanges across an area we might call the Indian Ocean world.

The UHM students have selected from a range of interesting course offerings at AUD, which include topics as varied as Delhi in History, Gender and Society, Hindi language, and Shakespeare. And they've also gotten a crash course in negotiating life in one of the world's most invigorating and challenging cities. I've enjoyed watching them hone their bargaining skills, gleefully shop in bazaars stuffed with cheap delights, taste all sorts of unfamiliar foods, and continually puzzle out what's going on in the colorful cacophony that continually fills the streets of Delhi. As the legendary Indian poet Ghalib wrote, *I asked my soul: What is Delhi?* *She replied: The world is the body and Delhi its life."*



Professor Bertz and UHMSAC Fall 2013 in Delhi students Laurie, Sam and Linnea.

Spotlight On...

Judith Kellogg
Resident Director, Florence, Spring 2013
Professor, Department of English

"For the Spring 2013 semester, it was my pleasure and privilege to serve as Resident Director for the Study Abroad in Florence program. UHM students each took a class with me, along with other students at the Lorenzo de' Medici Institute in Florence. LdM offers an outstanding academic program in diverse fields, and has an enthusiastic and attentive staff, but the memorable and transforming experiences went well beyond the classroom.

As RD, I served multiple functions. A primary role was to offer quality instruction to both UH and other LdM students, with a focus on integrating the course material with the Florence and Italian experience. As instructor, the quality of students and the small class format allowed for excellent interaction and quality discussion where everyone was involved—a privileged learning environment! My class in Background of Western Literature was designed to interface with the abundant and rich cultural resources available to students on a daily basis, since the stories in the classical, biblical, and medieval traditions are retold in so many artistic forms, and are essential means by which Western cultural attitudes and values have been both perpetuated and transformed.

I appreciate the importance of having a committed RD. The excellent UHM Study Abroad Center orientation, of course, provided a solid foundation, but the initial few days ensured that the group bonded. After the LdM orientation, I took the group to lunch at Mario's, a colorful, local trattoria, and we had fun while discussing initial adjustment problems and expectations. We set up a group Facebook page, "Aloha Firenze." This initial interaction was important in establishing open communication that continued throughout the semester, both on a comfortable personal basis, as well as for academic discussions, such as consulting about essays or reviewing for exams, where we could meet comfortably in cafes (I had no formal office space).

Since all my students had one class with me, we met after each class to touch base, discuss problems, and socialize, often going out for gelato or coffee with those who wanted to continue discussions. At the end of the semester, the student who had been enrolled in the Rome program came up to Florence. We went to the fashion show in which two of the students were participating, and then I took them to dinner—a nice cap to the semester. I think that the informal interaction is an important factor in the overall learning outcomes, since it shows students that learning and intellectual discussion can continue beyond the classroom. The breaking down of the walls between classroom and other interactive spaces also generates a comfortable atmosphere within the classroom, where academic discourse becomes more spontaneous and personal, and students can feel

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The program is not just transforming for students, but for faculty as well. As a medieval scholar with a strong interest in the Renaissance, the benefits of having been in Florence are immeasurable. The most immediate benefit will be to my teaching. Context is so important to the study of literature, and I have been able to assemble a wealth of visual materials, particularly focused on medieval art, Dante, and the markers of the transformation of perception from medieval to Renaissance. And since one of my research interests involves the relationship between texts and images, this will feed into my research as well. Exploring Florentine culture and artifacts has contributed profoundly to an understanding of the transition from medieval to Renaissance thought, and the different ways of interfacing metaphysically with lived experience within these two periods. This material will be immediately incorporated into my Fall classes at UH Mānoa.

During my stay I also had productive interaction with several academics that I met through LdM. Lucia Soldi teaches the LdM course on "Text and Image," and we were able to share our thoughts on that topic of mutual interest. In addition, at my public lecture on "The Legacy of Eve" I met Dr. Eva de Clercq, who has just published *The Seduction of the Female Body: Women's Rights in Need of a New Body Politic* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). Her work relates to my own on medieval women writers. In fact, we wished that I were around longer so that we could do a collaborative series of lectures, where I would lay the cultural foundation for Western attitudes towards the female body, and she would follow up with her vision of where we go from there. I am confident that we will continue our interaction.

Although LdM provides a venue where the Resident Director can certainly flourish, the most important aspect of the program is its quality, well-structured academic program, supported by a hard working and easily accessible professional support staff. The program affords students multiple ways to maximize their study abroad experience, both within and outside the classroom. I wish that more UH students would take advantage of the opportunities it offers."



It's time for gelato! Professor Kellogg and UHMSAC Spring 2013 in Florence students Jessica, Anastasia, Rebecca, Theresa and Bryana.

Je Ne Parle Pas Français

Alyssa Fujii
Paris, France
Summer 2013

"When I first landed in Charles de Gaulle international airport, I honestly thought that my decision to come to Paris for the summer might have been the biggest mistake of my life. I had no past experience in the French language and absolutely no understanding of the French culture. My idea of French cuisine was the croissant breakfast sandwiches served at Jack in the Box.

Almost immediately, I was able to see how greatly I had underestimated the culture shock I would experience in Paris. For example, although I had indicated on my housing application that I did not speak French, I was placed with a host family that did not speak a word of English. My homestay was located in the thirteenth *arrondissement* of Paris, in the city's largest Chinatown. Although my Parisian friends thought it was hilarious that I was an Asian studying abroad to live among other Asians, this living situation was another cultural experience in itself. I can honestly say that I was able to practice more Mandarin Chinese in Paris than I have since taking Chinese during my freshman year at UH.

As a student at the American Business School (ABS), I was able to take two classes. One, BUS 313 (The Economic and Financial Environment of Business), was taught by Professor McClain of the Shidler College of Business. The other, ECO 444 (The European Economic Crisis), was taught by an actual alumnus of ABS and a native of Pakistan. The French grading system differs from that of the United States, as does the methods of teaching. By taking this class at ABS instead of UHM, I was able to gain a completely different point of view on the situation. Similarly, being able to live where the crisis was actually occurring added a completely different dimension to my studies.

Beyond academics, it is often said that studying abroad is the ultimate journey of self-discovery. Personally, I learned that I have a bad habit of running late to train rides. On one occasion, I had the misfortune of actually missing my train to Amsterdam, a four hour train ride from Paris. At that point, however, I had

perfected the art of befriending strangers and took the advice of a friendly German traveler to take a leap of faith. After a series of failed ticket negotiations, I simply jumped on the next train to Amsterdam—definitely the most authentic cultural experience of my summer.

Time spent with my friends from ABS provided me with cultural experiences of a different sort. After final exams, we decided to go to a Japanese restaurant for dinner to celebrate the end of the summer session. Over a dinner of salmon *sashimi* and Korean barbecue, we discussed everything from *foie gras sushi* to American driver's licenses. I was sitting amongst students from France, Madagascar, China, and Africa, and between us, we were able to speak over six different languages. Hawaii is a melting pot of cultures, but of a different kind than Paris. Both are lively and cosmopolitan locations, and I now feel deep ties to both places.

When applying to this study abroad program, I felt that six weeks was more than enough time to do see France, take my classes, and go home. I was wrong. I feel like my business in Paris is not yet over, and I am currently in the process of working out the necessary details to return to ABS for this upcoming spring semester.

To prepare, I am now registered to take French 101 this upcoming fall. Even after a summer away, I will always be a Hawaii girl running on Hawaiian time. Better late than never, right?"



Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to the following Study Abroad Center alumni who participated in the **102nd Annual Commencement Exercises!** We wish you the best in your future!

Tyson Agbayani, Germany
Alexandra Bailey, France
Matthew Bartolome, France
Katherine Beaty, Italy
Faith Ben-Dor, Spain
Andrew Bertucci, Australia
Patrick Bither, Italy
Amanda Botinelly, France
Charles Branham, Spain
Tamara Budrow, France
Patricia Carr, France
Carson Chappins, France
Jackie Cheng, China
Jonathan Chin, England
Emma Ching, Italy
Jacob Cofer, Spain
Christopher Cooper, Spain
Devon DeAngelo, France
Terra Debold, France

Katie Donnenfield, Italy
Marisa Doran, Spain
Keri Engen, France
Leyna Jean Esaki, Japan
Kristine Espinoza, Argentina
Shaylyn Funasaki, Japan
Paul Gonzales, Japan
Royce Harada, England
Stacie Hata, Japan
Devon Hansen, France
Cash Helman, Spain
Shea Henson, England
Andrea Hidano, France
Douglas High, Australia
Alana Hippensteele, France & Italy
Corina Jacobson, Japan
Kristin Jones, Bolivia
Ikaika Kailiawa, Japan
Jennifer Kameoka, France
Brian Karamoto, Italy
Taylor Kasha, France
Allison Kawano, Japan
Sean Konieczny, France
Lisa Kotowski, Germany
Brandon Kurokawa, Germany

Kevin Lam, France

Allison Le, France
Benjamin Lee, France
Jena Lee, China
Victoria Lee, Spain
Stephanie Liborio, Italy
Alanna Lind, Italy
Marissa Mann, Italy
Shelby Matevich, Kenya
Lukas Mattice, Japan
Makana Mattos, England
Tanya Mayer, France
David McCaskey, Australia
Melodie Metze, France
John Michihira, Japan
Kevin Mitchell, Spain
Anamarie Monkoski-Takamure, Japan
Jenna Nakagawa, Japan
Aimee Nelson, France
Holly Nishiguchi, Japan
Stacie Nomura, Japan
Alex Olds, Japan
Danielle Oxley, Denmark
Rashae Rabang-Corpuz, Denmark
Michelle Radovan, Italy
Tanya Rames, Italy

Alena Reyes, Spain

Austin Rooks, France
Leslie-Ann Sanderson, France, Spain & Argentina
Jenna Sato, Germany
Kira Schwartz, France
Krysta Seiwert-Vassallo, Italy
Kenneth Shiu, China
Juvana Soliven, Italy
Amanda Stone, England
Emi Tanaka, China
Ayya Tawfik, Egypt
Kimberly Thoits, Spain
Brenda Jane Tilos, Argentina
Mai Timberlake, Japan
Christopher Towers, France
Andy Tran, Argentina & Spain
Jacob Vador, Israel
Jennifer Vasquez, Spain
Rashida Vennie, Italy
Tammy Visser, Spain
Nathan Walsh, France
Ryan Yamato, Japan



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Dare to Discover,
Dare to Learn, and
Dare to Understand

Fall 2013 Calendar at a Glance

**Teaching and Researching
Around the World: Could
You be the Next Resident
Faculty Resident Director?**
Mon, September 16
11:30am - 12:45pm
KUY 106

Study Abroad Fair
Wed, September 18
9:00am - 2:00pm
Hawaii Hall Front Lawn

Informational Meetings
**Thurs, September 19 -
Mon, October 7**

**Workshop for Study
Abroad Returnees**
Fri, October 4
12:00pm - 1:00pm
QLC 208

**Summer 2014 Faculty
Resident Director
Application Deadline**
Fri, October 4

**Spring 2014 Student
Application Deadline**
Tues, October 15

**Fall 2014 & Spring 2015
Faculty Resident
Director Application
Deadline**
Fri, November 1

**2014-2015 Academic
Year Faculty Resident
Director Application
Deadline**
Fri, November 1

Meet the Resident Directors

Fall 2013

London, England

Mark Branner branner@hawaii.edu
THEA 101 (W): Introduction to World Drama and
Theater
THEA 474 (O): Theatre for Children

Paris, France

Glenn Man gman@hawaii.edu
ENG 272 (W): Paris and France in Literature
ENG 494 (W): French Cinema, Culture and
Society

Delhi, India *NEW*

Ned Bertz bertz@hawaii.edu
HIST 401 (W): History of the Indian Ocean
World
HIST 451D: History and Literature - Asia/Pacific

Florence, Italy

Anne Freese freese@hawaii.edu
ITE 360 (W): Introduction to Multicultural
Education
ITE 399: Portrait of Florence: Action Research
and Inquiry

Machida, Japan

Wayne Iwaoka iwaoka@hawaii.edu
FSHN 181 (W): The Chemical Nature of Food
FSHN 476: Cultural Aspects of Food Habits

Seville, Spain

James Frankel jamesdf@hawaii.edu
REL 354: Islam in History
REL 495: Seminar in Religion: Mysticism in the
Abrahamic Faiths

Spring 2014

Shanghai, China *NEW*

Alison Conner aconner@hawaii.edu
ASAN 491: Law & Society in Chinese Movies
POLS 377: Introduction to the US Legal System

London, England

Jonathan Okamura okamura@hawaii.edu
ES 301 (W,E): Racial & Ethnic Identity in London
ES 420 (W,E): Racial & Ethnic Relations in London

Paris, France

Monique Chyba chyba@hawaii.edu
Math 100 (FS): An Encounter with Treasures of
Mathematics Island
Math 257: A Mathematical Journey Through the
Human History

Delhi, India

Lee Siegel lsiegel@hawaii.edu
REL 348: Religion, Politics & Society
REL 398: Religion and Art

Florence, Italy

Sarah Twomey twomey@hawaii.edu
EDCS 440: Multicultural Education
EDCS 453: Gender Issues

Machida, Japan

Wayne Iwaoka iwaoka@hawaii.edu
FSHN 181 (W): The Chemical Nature of Food
FSHN 476: Cultural Aspects of Food Habits

Seville, Spain

Jane Moulin moulin@hawaii.edu
MUS 407: Music in World Cultures
MUS 478Q (W): Musical Cultures