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1) Upcoming Events and Deadlines

See <http://www.muohio.edu/international/events.php> for more information on upcoming events and deadlines, including times, locations and links for more information.

- January 15 – Visit from Semester at Sea
- January 21 – Visit from Arcadia
- January 24 – Application deadline for 2009-10 MUDEC program (first round)
- January 30 – Application deadline for fall 2009 (and some spring 2010) ISEP Exchanges
- January 30 – Application deadline for Study Abroad Credit Workshop scholarships
- January 31 – Application deadline for DAAD scholarship
- February 11 – Financing Your Study Abroad session
- February 11 – Application deadline for Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grant Competition

Remember that our **Study Abroad 101** group advising sessions are held several times a week throughout the semester – see the events page of our website for specific dates and times.

2) Program Updates

- [CIEE's](#) Language and Culture program in Turkey will be relocating to Koç University in Istanbul starting in fall 2009.
- [Study Australia](#) is implementing two cost-saving measures for students studying abroad in Australia or New Zealand in fall 2009: Students who apply before February 16, 2009 will pay a reduced rate for the semester, and if students complete a one-day certification course, they will be eligible to work in the hospitality industry while studying abroad. This would be a great opportunity for students concerned about lost wages from studying abroad.
- [IES](#) Barcelona will now be offering, on a limited basis, housing with local residents. Housing with locals is a great option for cultural immersion and should be **strongly considered** by any student studying a foreign language. Homestay will now be the ONLY housing option for students at IES Buenos Aires.
- If you are planning to apply to a [CEA](#) program, apply by February 1 to lock in the 2008 prices!
- [IFSA-Butler](#) is introducing Intermediate Spanish programs in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Heredia, Costa Rica, in addition to their many Advanced Spanish options. In Australia, a new Antarctic Studies program will be available at the University of Tasmania, and a program in Coastal and Marine Sciences and Natural Resource Management will be offered in conjunction with Southern Cross University. A new Latin American Business and Culture program is being offered in Santiago, Chile. In Northern Ireland, A Peace and Conflict Studies concentration will start in fall 2009 at Queen's University Belfast and at University of Ulster (Magee campus).

3) Study Abroad Affordability

With the economy in its current state, affordability is a big concern. Many people assume that it will be quite costly to study abroad, but the fact is that study abroad can be affordable and *can even be less expensive than staying in Oxford*. The key is to make good financial decisions when it comes to choosing a study abroad program, participating in a study abroad program, and the future benefits of your study abroad choices. On February 11 at 5pm, the Office of International Education will be holding a “**Financing Your Study Abroad**” session to discuss methods for choosing a program that is cost-effective, scholarships that are available for study abroad and other financial concerns related to studying abroad.

4) Miami Sponsored Programs

In addition to the Tibetan Studies semester (described below in the “Featured Study Abroad Program of the Month” section), we have several other Miami Sponsored semester programs running or in development. These include:

- [Miami University India Semester Program](#) (Hyderabad) – currently running in spring 2009; next running in spring 2010.
- Miami University Tibetan Studies Semester Program (Dharamsala, India) – beginning fall 2009. For more information, contact Dr. Deborah Akers (akersds@muohio.edu)
- Miami University South Africa Semester Program (Cape Town) – beginning spring 2010. For more information, contact Dr. Jonathan Levy (levyj@muohio.edu)

The Miami University China Semester will not be continuing in its current form in fall 2009, but students wishing to study in China are encouraged to contact a study abroad advisor in the Office of International Education to learn about other study abroad options in China.

5) Congratulations to Scholarship Winners

Three Miami students have won a combined total of \$16,500 in Gilman International Scholarships to study abroad in spring 2009. Congratulations to Carrie Almasi, Joshua Hamm and Julia Hughes, who will be studying in Morocco, India and Italy, respectively. <http://www.miami.muohio.edu/news/article/view/6575>

Congratulations are also in order for Stephanie LaCava, who won a \$5,000 Freeman-Asia Scholarship to study in Japan. <http://www.miami.muohio.edu/news/article/view/6613.html>

If you're interested in applying for scholarships yourself, check out our [Scholarships page](#). Remember that it's important to plan and apply early and that for the strongest scholarship application, you should discuss your application with Richard Menard, scholarships advisor in the Office of International Education and have your essays reviewed by a consultant in the [Howe Center for Writing Excellence](#).

6) Study Abroad Blogs

Two of our spring 2009 study abroad students are blogging about their experiences for our office. If you'd like to follow them, you can read their blogs:

- [Allison in India](#) (Miami University India Semester Program - Hyderabad, spring 2009)
- [Steph in Japan](#) (Kansai Gaidai exchange - Osaka, spring 2009)

7) Become a World Traveler Intern

STA Travel offers a program where students can travel the world and document their experiences to raise awareness and teach other students about the opportunities available to them. The first STA World Traveler Intern was Rachel Rudwall, a Miami University alumna, who spent summer 2007 circling the globe. If you'd like to apply for this program, see <http://www.worldtravelerintern.com/>.

8) Featured Study Abroad Program of the Month: Tibetan Studies Semester

Miami's new Tibetan Studies Semester Program will be offered beginning in fall of 2009. Students accompanied by two Miami faculty members will travel to northern India to study at the Sarah campus of the Institute of Buddhist Dialects in Dharamsala. As Provost Jeffrey Herbst has put it,

"The program is an important part of Miami's effort to teach our students of the world outside of the United States and commitment to reach out to the entire world. It will help our students to understand Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, Tibetan society and culture that cannot be learned anywhere else in the world."

Students will have the opportunity to take courses on Buddhist philosophy, Tibetan medicine and meditation, as well as an intensive sequence of language courses in Chinese, Tibetan and Hindi. A sequence of three courses on the peoples and cultures of Tibet and South Asia, taught by Miami faculty, will fulfill the thematic sequence requirement. The courses can also fulfill capstones and senior seminar requirements.

The Tibetan semester-long program is ideal for students majoring in a variety of disciplines such as Anthropology, Comparative Religions, International Studies, Political Science, as well as many others. The cost of the Tibetan Studies Semester Program will be approximately the same as studying on the Oxford campus, including the airfare to India.

Application materials will be available from Dr. Deborah Akers of the Department of Anthropology by contacting her at akersds@muohio.edu.

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