

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY PROGRAMS

Northwest University's is affiliated with several organizations through which students can spend an extended time – usually a full semester – immersed in concentrated study away from campus. As a member of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), students are able to participate in the Best Semester student programs. In addition, Northwest has established relationships with other organizations that afford life-changing learning experiences for our students.

Off-Campus Study Program Options

The Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) The CCCU is an association of over 110 members in North America and over 70 affiliated institutions in 24 countries which offers many programs to students of its member institutions. The programs offer a unique opportunity for students to make the world their classroom, going beyond the confines of the traditional classroom. These off-campus, interdisciplinary learning opportunities are available to upper-class students. For further information, contact the Provost's Office or the CCCU Student Programs website: www.bestsemester.com. Specific course descriptions for CCCU programs are listed in the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDIS) course description section of this Catalog.

Non-CCCU Study Programs Many students also participate in programs offered by organizations not affiliated with the CCCU. Several of them are listed below. Periodically students request to travel through other study abroad programs and desire to have the learning applied to their academic programs. Because the University must verify the level of quality for all student learning experiences, the approval of a new program requires many months and students must inform their academic department and the Provost well in advance of their intended travel semester if they desire the program to be covered by registration at Northwest, and thus included in any financial aid packages.

Africa: GoED. Africa

Students spend 16 weeks in Uganda and Rwanda to study the root causes of conflict and the efforts for peacebuilding and reconciliation in the region. Study in both Uganda and Rwanda helps students gain perspective about the complexities of the issues, regional and international responses, and efforts towards building lasting peace. Opportunities to interact with local residents, including victims, enhance understanding of the impact of conflict and the challenges of reconciliation. Although Uganda has had relative political stability since 1986, civil dislocation and ethnic tension continue to present the country with considerable challenges to community reconciliation. Students also examine the 1994 Rwandan genocide, a tragedy that resulted in the killing of nearly one million Tutsi and moderate Hutus in a time span of 100 days.

In both Uganda and Rwanda, classroom discussions, readings, and lectures focus on contextual issues of development, culture and religion, issues of peacebuilding, and post-colonial literature. Excursions to carefully selected sites, field-based practicum placements in relief and development, and homestays with local families complement studies.

American Studies Program (CCCU)

The American Studies Program (ASP) is designed to help students connect biblical faith with public life and vocation. Through a semester of experiential learning in Washington, D.C, ASP students can explore their career interests while examining specific public policy issues. It provides regular and direct engagement with expert scholars and practitioners leading in their respective fields. The program provides the internship experience to have the opportunity to be mentored by established Christian professionals in the student's field of interest. At completion, students are invited to join a community of over 2700 professionals to continue the experience long after the semester is over.

Au Sable Institute

Northwest University is a Participating College in the Au Sable Institute, a Christian institute whose mission is to bring healing to the biosphere and the whole of Creation. It does this through academic programs for college and university students, research projects, environmental education for local school children, and information services for churches and the wider world community. Supported by the natural settings of the Great Lakes Forest of northern Michigan, Puget Sound of the Pacific Northwest, Tangier Island in the Chesapeake Bay, as well as in India and Africa, participants take courses, engage in scholarship, gain field experience, confer, and develop practical tools for environmental stewardship in programs that take seriously both science and theology.

Australia Studies Centre (CCCU)

At the Australia Studies Centre (ASC), students attend Wesley Institute, a dynamic evangelical Christian community of people from a variety of vocations, locations, churches, languages and cultures. The Institute is located in Drummoyne; a harbourside suburb of Sydney located 10 minutes away from the City Centre, where students live with carefully-selected Australian families. Classes include Australian history and culture and a broad

selection of studies in culture, music, drama, design, and theology. Travel excursions include the Blue Mountains and Jenolan Caves, Gledwood Homestead, and Canberra's national museum, Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, and other historical sites.

Belize: Creation Care Study Program

Located along the Caribbean coast of Central America, Belize is home to a host of Caribbean and Central American cultures and ethnic groups. It is also home to inspiring ecological diversity, including neotropical rainforests, with their assortment of monkeys, jaguars, and toucan, as well the largest barrier reef in the western hemisphere. Within this context, students are able to examine sustainable development and tropical ecology through a Christian lens of creation care and stewardship by utilizing field studies in Belizean villages, tropical rainforests, mountain streams, and Caribbean atolls. Students also have the opportunity to take part in interest-specific internship and practicum experiences with Belizean organizations seeking regeneration and renewal of the land and communities. Throughout the semester, the schedule also allows for independent exploration of Belize (and neighboring countries), during breaks and free weekends.

Cascadia: Creation Care Study Program

Through this program students gain a deeper understanding of God's loving purposes for the created order and for human society. Drawing on the remarkably rich Pacific Northwest location of Camano Island, Washington, the program helps empower students to develop new skills as social, environmental, and economic entrepreneurs who live and serve God responsibly in this time of rapid change. Students in this program learn about creation care, economic and environmental sustainability, and new possibilities for community for life after graduation. In addition, opportunities for fieldwork among regional Native American tribes provide cross-cultural experience without the expense of travel outside the United States. This rigorous academic semester comprised of studies in social entrepreneurship, environmental issues, and the theology of creation care is enhanced by and integrated with the program's intentional community living experience.

China Studies Program (CCCU)

The China Studies Program enables students to engage this ancient and intriguing country from the inside. While living in and experiencing Chinese civilization firsthand, students participate in seminar courses on the historical, cultural, religious, geographic and economic realities of this strategic and populous nation. In addition to the study of standard Chinese language, students are given opportunities such as assisting Chinese students learning English or helping in an orphanage, allowing for one-on-one interaction. Students choose between completing a

broad Chinese Studies concentration or a Business Concentration that includes a three-week, full-time internship. The program introduces students to the diversity of China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an, Xiamen and Hong Kong. This interdisciplinary, cross cultural program enables students to deal with this increasingly important part of the world in an informed, Christ centered way. Students earn 16-17 semester hours of credit.

Contemporary Music Center (CCCU)

The Contemporary Music Center (CMC) offers students the opportunity to spend a semester studying, living and working in Nashville, TN with faculty, music industry experts and other students who share similar interests in making and marketing contemporary music.

Designed as an artists' community, the program seeks to develop artists, technicians and music executives with a Christ-centered vision for music content, production and delivery. The mission of the CMC is to prepare students academically and creatively for potential careers in the music. It is an opportunity to live and work in the refining context of community while seeking to understand how God will have them integrate music, faith and business.

India Studies Program (CCCU)

The India Studies Program (ISP) is offered in partnership with Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Sciences located in Coimbatore, India. The Program is structured to provide students with both immersion in a local community and broad exposure to a variety of peoples, places and customs in India including an extensive two-week travel portion of the program to provide students a close up look at India's diversity. Students participate in two core courses designed to provide a broad overview of the historical, religious, geographical and economic landscape of India. Building on their basic understanding of India's past and contemporary realities students have opportunities to explore a variety of issues -poverty, social justice, rapid social change, religious pluralism - through the eyes and experience of Indian Christians. Rounding out the semester experience, students also have the opportunity to take courses in their major areas with Indian students and professors. Core Courses

Jerusalem University College

Northwest University is affiliated with the Jerusalem University College (JUC) (formerly the Institute of Holy Land Studies) in Jerusalem. This institution offers specialized training in the fields of geography, archaeology, the history of the Holy Land, and Judeo-Christian studies. Credits earned at JUC are accepted at Northwest University, where applicable. Details may be secured from the Provost's Office.

Latin American Studies Program (CCCU)

Students live and learn in Latin America through the Latin American Studies Program, based in San Jose, Costa Rica. The program introduces students to a wide range of experiences through the study of the language, literature, culture, politics, history, economics, ecology and religion of the region. Living with a Costa Rican family, students experience and become a part of the day-to-day lives of Latin Americans. Students also take part in an internship/practicum and travel to nearby Central American nations. Students participate in one of four concentrations: Latin American Studies (offered both fall and spring terms); Advanced Language and Literature (designed for Spanish majors and offered both fall and spring terms); International Business (offered only in fall terms); and Environmental Science (offered only during spring terms). Students in all concentrations earn 16-18 semester credits

Los Angeles Film Studies Center (CCCU)

The Los Angeles Film Studies Center (LAFSC) exists to introduce students to the work and workings of Hollywood and to prepare them to serve with professional skill and Christian integrity in the film industry. Each semester, students live, learn, and work in L.A.

The curriculum consists of two required seminars, *Hollywood Production Workshop* and *Theology in Hollywood*, focusing on the role of film in culture and the relationship of faith to work in this very influential industry. In addition, students choose one elective course from a variety of offerings in film studies. Internships in various segments of the film industry provide students with hands-on experience. The combination of the internship and seminars allows students to explore the film industry within a Christian context and from a liberal arts perspective. Students earn 16 semester hours of credit, 6 from the internship and 10 from seminar study. See also the Film Studies Concentration

Middle East Studies Program (CCCU)

The Middle East Studies Program, based in Cairo, Egypt, allows Council students to explore and interact with the complex and strategic world of the modern Middle East. The interdisciplinary seminars give students the opportunity to explore the diverse religious, social, cultural and political traditions of Middle Eastern peoples. Students also study the Arabic language and work as volunteers with various organizations in Cairo. Through travel to Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Turkey, students are exposed to the diversity and dynamism of the region. At a time of tension and change in the Middle East, MESP encourages and equips students to relate to the Muslim world in an informed, constructive and Christ centered manner. Students earn 16 semester hours of credit.

New Zealand: Creation Care Study Program

From New Zealand's snowcapped mountains to its topaz coastline, students explore a wonderland of unique ecosystems. Home to about twelve percent (12%) of all the earth's endangered species and a world leading innovator in conservation and environmental management, New Zealand is an ideal place for studying care of creation. A rigorous academic semester comprised of ecology, theology, environmental literature, and sustainable community development is enhanced by a community living experience from the first day students move into CCSP's Old Convent campus, to homestays with locals. The schedule also allows for independent travel during a week-long mid-semester break and during free weekends.

Oxford Summer Programme (CCCU)

The Oxford Summer Programme is a program designed for students wishing to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between Christianity and the development of the British Isles and give more focused attention to topics of particular interest through the seminars which emphasize student learning and research under expert guidance. Seminars (and their attached tutorials) are given on specialized topics under the direction of expert Oxford academics in the areas of history, religious studies, philosophy, English literature, the history of art, and history of science.

Scholar's Semester in Oxford (CCCU)

The Scholar's Semester in Oxford is designed for students interested in doing intensive scholarship in this historic seat of learning. Working with academic tutors, students hone their skills and delve into the areas that interest them most. As Visiting Students of Oxford University and members of Wycliffe Hall, students have the privilege to study and learn in one of university's historic halls. SSO students enroll in a Primary and Secondary Tutorial, an Integrative Seminar and the course Christianity and Cultures. The SSO is designed for students interested in the fields of Classics, English & Literature, Theology & Religious Studies, Philosophy, and History, though all majors may apply. Applicants are generally honors and other very high-achieving students.

Thailand: Bangkok

The greater Bangkok region has some 15 million people and only around 40,000 Protestant Christians. This semester abroad opportunity allows students to participate in the ministry of a local Thai church as they reach out to the urban neighbors, including slum dwellers, while doing academic reflection in the heart of this Asian megacity among Buddhist and Muslim communities. This experience will help you to build filters for understanding your part in God's mission to increase the impact of your cross-cultural ministry in the future.

Thailand: GoED. Mekong

Students spend 16 weeks in the Greater Mekong Subregion in the highlands of northern Thailand to study the root causes of exclusion and exploitation of marginalized people groups. Study in the heart of continental Southeast Asia helps students gain perspective about the complexities of the issues, state and NGO responses, and efforts towards greater empowerment and justice in these communities. Opportunities to interact with local communities, particularly those of the hill tribes, enhance understanding of the relationship between exploitation and its root causes: poverty, discrimination, exclusion and violence. Historically, Chiang Mai was the hub of the La Na kingdom, a dynasty going back to the 1200s. The local peoples are very proud of their northern roots, and the region is home to distinctly different food, music, arts, way of life and even language. Chiang Mai can be thought of as a melting pot of hill tribes and their own unique cultures.

Uganda Studies Program (CCCU)

The Uganda Studies Program provides students with both immersion in a local community and broad exposure to a variety of people and places in Uganda and Rwanda. Students in the Uganda Studies Emphasis (USE) and Social Work Emphasis (SWE) share their lives with university students, living primarily on campus at Uganda Christian University (UCU)-an international affiliate member of the CCCU located 15 miles east of the capital city of Kampala. They also participate in two short home

stay experiences. Students in the Intercultural Ministry & Missions Emphasis (IMME) live with host families within walking distance of UCU. Most of the courses offered are taught by UCU professors and many include both UCU and USP students. As a result, USP students have a spectrum of Ugandan relationships that give them a firsthand perspective as they explore issues such as poverty, cultural expressions of Christianity and missions, and as they seek to reconcile the realities of East Africa with their Christian faith. Students also spend time in Rwanda and rural Uganda. In addition to the core experiential course, students will choose from an approved selection of courses from the UCU curriculum to earn 13 to 16 hours of credit.

Washington Journalism Center (CCCU)

The Washington Journalism Center (WJC) is a semester-long study program in Washington, DC, created for students interested in the field of journalism. While in Washington students will take classes focusing on the history and future of the media and how it relates to the public as well as to their personal writing skills. These classes - *Foundations for Media Involvement; Reporting in Washington; and Washington, News and Public Discourse* - combined with an internship at a top news publication will help students learn to integrate their faith in a journalism career. Students will stay in the Dellenback Center (along with students from the American Studies Program) and will participate in several service learning opportunities within the DC community.