

DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES

STUDY ABROAD: INFORMATION AND POLICIES

The Programs

The Department of Romance Languages sponsors semester and year long abroad programs, in the fall in Dijon (France), in the fall and spring in Salamanca (Spain), and intensive summer language institutes in Querétaro (Mexico) and in Dijon (France). As Wake Forest programs, these study abroad opportunities are evaluated in accordance with Wake Forest guidelines, fall under the Wake Forest Honor Code, and are administered as a regular Wake Forest study program. As part of these academic programs, and included in their respective costs, a number of group excursions and trips to places of cultural interest are offered.

The Director

The Director of the study abroad program is a faculty member in the Department of Romance Languages who is authorized to supervise all aspects of the program. The Director remains with the group throughout the length of the program, accompanies students on group excursions, and is available to aid, advise, and attend to students and their concerns during the stay abroad. In Dijon and in Salamanca, the Director teaches one course.

The Faculty

Except for the course taught by the Director, all courses are taught by professors from universities located in the respective study abroad sites. The Department of Romance Languages considers this collaboration with native professors an asset to its programs. Their European or Latin American background and perspectives provide students with a more international and global approach, an essential goal of the study abroad experience. Students should expect their professors to offer a different approach to the discipline, not only in perspective, but also in terms of course plan and evaluative tools. Students should not expect the teaching style of their Spanish, French, or Mexican professors to replicate the style of the professors on the Wake Forest campus.

Courses

Courses taken as part of the Romance Languages study abroad programs are Wake Forest courses and are evaluated as such. All courses are taught in the target language by the Director and/or the faculty from the local university. Course content is presented either in a syllabus or in a general description of the course.

Grades

As part of the Wake Forest curriculum, courses taken as part of any of the Romance Languages study abroad programs are evaluated in accordance with the grading system on campus. Native professors are provided with a translation into the respective language of the description of grades published in the Wake Forest undergraduate bulletin. When the grading system used is that of the country of the study abroad site, grades are translated into the American system before they are reported to the Office of the Registrar.

Cultural Activities

Participants in the Romance Languages study abroad programs are encouraged to explore the culture of the country where they study. Program monies underwrite many cultural activities, including group trips and excursions. During such trips, students must remain with the group and follow its itinerary. A student may not separate from the group to visit other cities. The program will pay for cultural activities under the following circumstances: when the group is together; when, in the judgment of the Director, the activity is related to the Program or to a course; and when the Director organizes the activity. In the event that a student declines to participate in a cultural activity sponsored by the program, s/he will not be reimbursed for the cost of that activity.

Books

The program will pay for books and other materials (e.g. newspapers) that students need for their coursework while studying abroad. The Director will inform the group of where texts may be picked up or purchased. Students may receive some of their textbooks at Wake Forest before leaving the U.S. while other texts may be purchased after they arrive at the study abroad site.

Meals

For students participating in the Salamanca and Querétaro programs, all meals are provided by their respective host families. Host families participating in the Dijon program offer students a daily breakfast and two evening meals per week; they receive a daily allowance from the Director to pay for the cost of other meals, available in cafes or restaurants in town or at student cafeterias at the university.

Breakfast and dinner are included during all excursions and trips that are a part of the academic program in Salamanca and Dijon; during these, students also receive a daily allowance for lunch. Students will receive no reimbursement for meals they miss either with the host family or during group excursions and trips.

Transportation

The Dijon and Salamanca programs pay for students' roundtrip transportation costs to and from the foreign study site. While the program will pay transportation costs for group excursions and trips, when students travel on their own during weekends and other breaks, they must pay their own way. Because Dijon and Salamanca pose different local transportation needs, policies pertaining to local transportation are different at the two sites. Participants in the Dijon program will be provided funds to purchase the bus passes they will need to get to their university classes. In Salamanca, no travel allowance will be provided for transportation unless a student is housed outside a normal radius from the town center.

Schedule

To give students participating in the Dijon and Salamanca programs time to travel on their own, the academic program allows for three-day weekends (except when group excursions and trips are scheduled) and other breaks, as the calendar permits. Participants in the Salamanca program will have a week off for personal travel following the group trip to the south of Spain.

E-mail

Students participating in the Romance Languages study abroad programs should not expect to find the same technological infrastructure and on-demand access to e-mail and the Internet that they have on the Reynolda Campus. Arrangements will be made, however, for them to have access to e-mail accounts while they are in Dijon and Salamanca, although, this may be on a more limited basis than what they are accustomed to. All Wake Forest students participating in a study abroad program are required to complete forms on which they state their intent to leave, store, or take their computer with them. They must also sign computer liability and insurance forms.

Medical Insurance

Students enrolled in the Salamanca program receive insurance, paid by the Program, through the Office of International Studies at the University of Salamanca. Students must be prepared, however, to pay for any medical expenses not covered by the insurance and then to present receipts for those expenses to their insurance company in the United States. Students enrolled in the Dijon program must confirm with their insurance company that their policy will cover their medical expenses while they

are abroad. They will then be expected to pay their own medical expense and present receipts to their insurance company once they return to the United States.

Visits from Family

Students are encouraged to invite their families to visit them while they are abroad. Such visits should take place after students have settled into life with their host families; it is recommended that families from the United States not visit during the first three weeks of the program. Visiting family members and friends should not expect to stay in the home of the host family. It will not be possible for anyone not enrolled in the Program to participate in group trips and excursions.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE POLICIES.

STUDENT

SIGNATURE/DATE
