

Strengthening Study Abroad At Community Colleges:

Practical Strategies to Develop, Promote and
Implement Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs

CEPA Europe & Broward College

CCID Conference

February 28 - March 3, 2009

Orlando, Florida



Practical Strategies
to Develop, Promote
and Implement
Faculty-led Programs
CCID 2/28 – 03/03

Welcome & Introduction

Presenters:

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Presentation Overview

1. Introduction to faculty led programs
2. Study Abroad Providers (Vendors)
3. Developing faculty-led programs
4. Promotion, recruitment, financial aid
5. Implementing faculty led programs
6. Conclusion, questions, comments

What Is A Faculty Led Program?

- Academic group programs taught abroad by home institution
- Typically 1 - 2 courses taught by home faculty
- 12-30 students per group
- May/Jan. terms, Spring break, summer

» Standards of Good Practices set by the Forum on Education Abroad

- Mission & Objectives
- Student learning and development
- Academic Framework provided ?
- Extra Academic Framework – if the program is „for credit“
- Preparation for the learning environment abroad

» Standards of Good Practices set by the Forum on Education Abroad

- Student selection and code of conduct
- Organizational and program resources
- Health, safety and security
- Does the program follow ethical principles ?

More infos at: www.forumea.org

» School's Advantages

- More economical with flexible options
- International teaching experience and professional development for faculty
- Internationalize the curriculum
- Establish international partnerships
- Easier to recruit students
- Home courses = home credits

» Student Advantages

- Life changing global experience
- Cross-cultural experiences
- Parent / student comfort level
- Safety to travel in a group with professor and fellow students
- Very economical option
- Foreign language skills not a requirement

What Are Study Abroad Providers?

- Educationally focused travel specialists who develop college level study abroad group programming
- Sometimes also referred to as vendors or third party providers
- Can be either be based in the US or abroad

» What Do Providers Do?

- Your single liasion for all suppliers & payments for services abroad
- Offer logistical support, expertise, local knowledge, and networks abroad
- Works closely with your faculty, curriculum, and program dates
- On-site support, coordinators, orientations, health & safety
- Saves faculty time and reduces administrative costs

CEPA Europe

Customized Educational Programs Abroad

- Over 10 years experience in education abroad programs for US colleges
- European base and team
- Access to English-speaking faculty and universities abroad
- Low overhead = lower program costs
- Internships

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CEPA Europe

Customized Educational Programs Abroad



Study centers in France,
Germany, Switzerland
and England



Developing Faculty Led Programs Together

Faculty Leader/SA Office:

- Curricular oversight
- Course(s)
- Campus culture
- Program dates & duration
- Location(s)
- Estimate budget

Complete a
development
form

Study Abroad Provider:

- Cultural activities, professional visits & excursions
- Host institutions & classrooms
- Guest speakers & faculty
- Housing & Meals
- Flights & transportation
- Insurance

» First tentative itinerary and quote from provider

Academics

1. Identify the course or develop a new course
2. Set the minimum requirements
3. Proposal
4. Approval
5. Financial aid / scholarships

Identify the course or develop a new course

- Faculty should determine how many credits will be offered through their program
- All overseas courses must provide at least 3 semester hours of credit.
- Some courses may have a “study abroad” designation, such as “History Study Abroad” or “Humanities Study Abroad.”

Set the minimum requirements

- Broward College has developed the “Guidelines for BC Personnel Directing Study Abroad Programs.”
- Identifies academic guidelines for developing a program, methods for recruiting students, and financial matters.

Request for Proposal

- The International Education Office encourages faculty members to submit a formal proposal for the development of new study abroad programs.
- A memorandum is distributed to all BC faculty and department heads in August. Proposals are due in September.

Approval

- All proposals must be routed through and approved by the faculty's appropriate department chair.
- Proposals are reviewed by the International Ed. Office, academic deans, VP for Academic Affairs and the President.
- Proposals are then reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Financial Aid/Scholarships

- Students are able to use financial aid toward the tuition portion of their program
- We offer a partial scholarship (SASA) designed to help students with financial need defray the cost to participate in a BC-sponsored overseas program.

Recruitment and Selection

Faculty Leader/SA Office:

- Marketing & Promotion
- Study abroad fairs
- Classroom presentations
- Program orientations
- Selection Criteria
- Applications



Study Abroad Provider:

- Provide pre-departure assistance and resources
- Provide additional information about on-site activities
- Marketing support
- Program flyers, power-point presentations, etc.

» Itinerary and program price are finalized

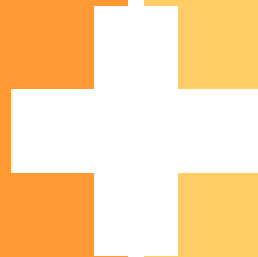
Challenges

- Program costs
- Family and work obligations
- Interest and attitudes about studying abroad
- Lack of awareness
- Funding and institutional support
- Access to existing programs

Pre-Departure Orientation

Faculty Leader:

- Textbooks, materials
- Contact Numbers
- Passport/Visa
- Expectations
- Exchanging Money
- Safety and health abroad
- Emergency contacts



Study Abroad Provider:

- Final participant & rooming list
- Participant details and emergency contact info
- Confirm all reservations
- Arrange on-site coordinator

» Program commitment is made and booked

Implementing Faculty Led Programs

Faculty Leader:

- Lead and motivate students
- Prepare students for daily activities
- Teach the course
- Accompany & engage students in cultural activities and excursions
- Manage funds abroad



Study Abroad Provider:

- Maintains continual contact during the program with the on-site coordinator
- Ready to respond in case of changes to program
- Manage emergencies

» Communication between faculty / students - provider - college

Arriving Back Home

Community Colleges:

- Evaluations
- Grading and reports
- Testimonials for future programs?

Study Abroad Provider:

- Evaluations
- Review of program



» Feedback from all sides

Conclusion, Questions and Comments

What type of faculty collaboration exists at your institution?

What is working?

What problems need to be addressed?



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