

  
**Saint Mary's College**  
 NOTRE DAME · INDIANA

**STUDY ABROAD SURVEY**

*While your experiences with different cultures, higher education systems and standards of living are still fresh in your mind, please take 15 minutes to record your impressions. Your responses will help Saint Mary's College prepare future students to gain the most from their Saint Mary's College study abroad experience. **Please be as honest as possible, and feel free to add additional comments to any of the questions that you would like to elaborate on.** Thank you for your participation and we look forward to reading your responses.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
                   (First)                  (Middle)                  (Last) E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Had you traveled, studied or lived abroad before you went on this SMC program?

- No                    Yes, please explain:

**Goals**

What were your goals for studying abroad? (*Check all that apply*)

- |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greater understanding of different cultures                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual stimulation and development in the liberal arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gain a different perspective on American culture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase ability to communicate in a foreign language        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greater understanding of the US in world affairs and history | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater autonomy in independent decision-making              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gain a different perspective on your ethnic heritage         | <input type="checkbox"/> Take classes that are not offered at SMC or home institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greater understanding of my faith                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Enhance resume, increase job opportunities                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth in self-awareness                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel and see new places                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth in maturity and self-confidence                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth in interpersonal skills and ability to adapt          |                                                                                       |

**Pre-Departure**

How many pre-departure meetings did you attend?

- |                                       |                                         |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All of them  | <input type="checkbox"/> None           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Most of them | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

*Please rate the following aspects about pre-departure:*

	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Your use of pre-departure information/resources provided by SMC	1	2	3	4	5
Your independent effort to gather information about the host country	1	2	3	4	5
<u>Resources offered by SMC home-campus Faculty Counselor/Director/Coordinator</u>					
Academic advising/course selection	1	2	3	4	5
Travel arrangements	1	2	3	4	5
Information on passports, visas, budgets, insurance, packing	1	2	3	4	5
Reading lists/websites on the host country	1	2	3	4	5
<u>Resources offered by CWIL Study Abroad Advisor</u>					
Resources on American identity and cultural differences	1	2	3	4	5
Information on health and safety	1	2	3	4	5
Information on grants and scholarships	1	2	3	4	5

**In retrospect, is there other information you wish you had received before participating in the study abroad program?**

- No                    Yes, please explain:

## Study Abroad Academic Program

How many hours a week did you spend outside of the classroom on coursework? \_\_\_\_\_ hours/week  
 What percentage of required coursework did you complete while abroad? \_\_\_\_\_ %

*Please rate the following aspects about the study abroad academic program:*

	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Overall quality of teaching	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the course content	1	2	3	4
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	1	2	3	4

*Please compare the following to your home campus:*

	<b>Much More</b>	<b>More</b>	<b>Similar</b>	<b>Less</b>	<b>Much Less</b>
Degree of independent learning required	1	2	3	4	5
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Difficulty of grading scale	1	2	3	4	5
Academic resources (library, reference materials, study space, technology)	1	2	3	4	5

**If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.**

## Cultural Tours & Excursions

*Please rate the following aspects about the program's cultural tours & excursions:*

	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Organization and planning	1	2	3	4
Value as a learning experience	1	2	3	4
Integration with coursework content	1	2	3	4
Appropriateness of the time spent on tours	1	2	3	4

## On-Site Student Services

	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Please rate the initial orientation upon arrival	1	2	3	4	5
Please rate the resources/preparation for re-entry into American culture	1	2	3	4	5

If you had difficulties while abroad, where did you seek assistance? (*Check all that apply*)

- |                                                       |                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I did not seek assistance    | <input type="checkbox"/> SMC home-campus Faculty Counselor/Director/Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Another student              | <input type="checkbox"/> CWIL Study Abroad Advisor                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site program staff        | <input type="checkbox"/> Home-campus counseling center                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site instructor           | <input type="checkbox"/> Parents                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site counseling resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Others:                                                |

**If you had difficulties while abroad, were you satisfied with the help you received?**

- Not Applicable       Yes       No, please feel free to explain:

*Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangements:*

	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Location (safety, accessibility to transportation and sites of interests, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Building staff (Hotel Tiziano staff, landlords, host family, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Place for spiritual worship	1	2	3	4	5
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	1	2	3	4	5

## Intercultural Engagement

We would like to know how you were able to immerse yourself in the host country's local culture. We are not suggesting that more often is necessarily better and some options may be "Not Applicable" to your program, but your honest reply will help us advise future students about what to expect. If applicable to your program, please indicate how often you used the following cultural resources in your free time:

	<b>Frequently</b> (2/month)	<b>Occasionally</b> (1/month)	<b>Rarely</b> (1-2 times)	<b>Never</b> (0 times)	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Theater/opera/symphony/concerts	1	2	3	4	5
Museums/ historical sites	1	2	3	4	5
Forests/parks/beaches	1	2	3	4	5
Traveling outside of the host country	1	2	3	4	5
Traveling within the host country	1	2	3	4	5
Local media (TV, newspaper, magazine, radio)	1	2	3	4	5
International news	1	2	3	4	5

How often did you interact with local people in the following contexts?

	<b>Frequently</b> (3-5/week)	<b>Occasionally</b> (1-2/ week)	<b>Rarely</b> (<1/ week)	<b>Never</b> (0 times)	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Shopping/visiting local markets	1	2	3	4	5
Movies/entertainment catering to locals	1	2	3	4	5
Restaurants/pubs/cafes catering to locals	1	2	3	4	5
Visiting local families/friends in their homes	1	2	3	4	5
Participating in worship services	1	2	3	4	5
On-campus informal conversations	1	2	3	4	5
Events sponsored by the study abroad program	1	2	3	4	5
Extra-curricular activities (student clubs, intramurals, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Volunteering/service-learning/internships/shadowing	1	2	3	4	5
Other:	1	2	3	4	5

Individuals reflect on abroad experiences in many different ways. Please indicate how often you reflected on your interactions with the culture in the following ways while you were studying abroad:

	<b>Frequently</b> (3-5/week)	<b>Occasionally</b> (1-2/ week)	<b>Rarely</b> (<1/ week)	<b>Never</b> (0 times)
Journaling/Blogging	1	2	3	4
Photography	1	2	3	4
Other artistic expression (painting, drawing, collages, etc.)	1	2	3	4
Class discussions	1	2	3	4
Informal conversations with locals	1	2	3	4
Informal conversations with students studying abroad	1	2	3	4
Calling/e-mailing family/friends/faculty in America	1	2	3	4
Other:	1	2	3	4

Please indicate how satisfied you are with the following:

	<b>Very Satisfied</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Somewhat Satisfied</b>	<b>Very Dissatisfied</b>
Your effort to immerse yourself in the local culture	1	2	3	4
Your effort to reflect on your interactions with the local culture	1	2	3	4
Amount of contact you had with the local people	1	2	3	4
Depth/quality of contact you had with the local people	1	2	3	4
Amount of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	1	2	3	4
Depth/quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	1	2	3	4

**Suggestions for getting students more involved in the local culture:**

## Overview of Program

How important was the availability of a study abroad program in your decision to attend Saint Mary's College?

*(Please check "Very Important" if SMC is not your home institution.)*

- Very Important                     
  Important                     
  Somewhat Important                     
  Not Very Important

Overall, how valuable was this study abroad program to your undergraduate educational experience?

- Very Valuable                     
  Valuable                     
  Somewhat Valuable                     
  Not Very Valuable

*Please give your overall rating of how well the following officials/institutions fulfilled their roles:*

*(See your program's addendum for references)*

	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
SMC home-campus Faculty Counselor/Director/Coordinator	1	2	3	4	5
CWIL Study Abroad Advisor	1	2	3	4	5
On-site Program Director	1	2	3	4	5
Other on-site staff (resident advisor, chaperone)	1	2	3	4	5
Host institution	1	2	3	4	5

**What are the overall strengths and weaknesses of the program?**

## Program Impact

*Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:*

	<i>Great Growth</i>	<i>Moderate Growth</i>	<i>Little Growth</i>	<i>No Growth</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Understanding of different cultures	1	2	3	4	5
Different perspective on American culture	1	2	3	4	5
Greater understanding of the US in world affairs and history	1	2	3	4	5
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	1	2	3	4	5
Understanding of my faith	1	2	3	4	5
Self-awareness	1	2	3	4	5
Maturity and self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	1	2	3	4	5
Intellectual development in the liberal arts	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	1	2	3	4	5

**Please describe one experience while abroad that impacted you or helped you achieve your personal goals for studying abroad.**

*Please check which of the following activities would interest you upon re-entry:*

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study abroad re-entry workshop<br><input type="checkbox"/> Study abroad photo contest<br><input type="checkbox"/> Course on re-entry after studying abroad<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information on other intercultural courses offered at SMC | <input type="checkbox"/> Information on intercultural opportunities at SMC<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information on intercultural opportunities in Michiana<br><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering to tell other students about study abroad |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

***Thank you for completing this survey!***