MARIST ABROAD IN BARBADOS

This short-term program will allow students to study and practice the principles of human communication. Students practice such skills as self disclosure, active listening, assertiveness and value clarification in small groups and class discussion.

THE COURSE

Three (3) credits will be offered for the course. Students can choose one (1) course from the following:

Undergraduate
- PSYC215L-150 Psychology of Interpersonal Communication

Graduate
- PSYG545L-160 Psychology of Interpersonal Communication

PSYC215L (undergraduate) satisfies the Marist College Cultural Diversity Requirement. The course satisfies the 3 credits for Core/Liberal Studies Distributive Area Requirement in Social Science, and is a Psychology elective.

PROGRAM CO-DIRECTOR

John Scileppi, Ph.D. and Lynn Ruggiero, Ph.D., a husband and wife team, will lead the program jointly.

Students interested in the program should make arrangements to meet with Dr. Scileppi to discuss program details. Each student is interviewed before being admitted into the program.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The program will consist of a combination of pre-departure lecture, readings, and on-site lectures/activities designed to engage students in the psychology of interpersonal communication and the exploration of Barbadian culture and history.

Students are required to attend orientation/class session during Fall Semester. Dates and times to be announced.

THE COURSE

In this course, the class will learn and practice the principles and techniques of human communications. We will begin by discussing techniques useful in daily communication (active listening skills). Then we will learn skills for enhancing self understanding (values clarification). This will be followed up with techniques of expressing ourselves to others (self disclosure). Finally, the course will conclude with a discussion of skills useful in deeper interpersonal and counseling oriented relationships (deeper understanding and confrontation techniques, group skills). To round out the course, each graduate student will prepare a presentation on a topic relevant to the course.

Cultural Diversity Requirement: Undergraduates must have a cultural diversity component in their curriculum. To enable this course to meet this requirement, students will a) attend a lecture on Barbados culture, b) tour the nation’s cultural and historic places of interest and attend its cultural festivities, and c) write a reaction paper describing what they learned about the culture of Barbados.

Students on the program are expected to:

1. Be prepared for each class session. Students will be asked to write a short essay describing a significant theme included in the assigned reading at the beginning of each class.
2. Prepare two-page reaction papers to the lectures on conflict resolution and values clarification. Reaction papers should include a summary of the material, application, examples, insights and personal reaction.
3. Graduate students will prepare an oral presentation on a topic related to interpersonal communication, and by January 28, submit a typed 10 page paper in duplicate on this presentation.
4. Undergraduate students will prepare a two-page reaction paper to one graduate student’s oral presentation.
5. Prepare anonymous written feedback (regarding form and style of communication) to the graduate student presenters. Discuss questions such as “Was the speaker clear?”, “Did h/she talk too fast?”, “Did the speaker answer questions helpfully?” etc.
6. Undergraduate students will prepare a three page reaction paper describing what they learned about the culture of Barbados.
7. Prepare a notebook journal concerning the assigned exercises in the textbook. One exercise (#54) is to be handed in.
8. Attend all classes. Since much of the learning of this course is the result of the group’s participation in class, attendance at all class sessions is essential. A penalty of one third letter grade will be imposed for each half class session missed.
9. Practice the skills learned for at least one-half hour during the day after each class. We will discuss feedback from these out of class applications during the following class session.

TENTATIVE ITINERARY*

A tentative program itinerary will be given out during the first orientation. For program details, please see the Program Director, Prof John Scileppi.

HOUSING

Accommodations are at the Monteray Apartments in Barbados in triple and quad rooms. Each studio-style room has a kitchen equipped with dishes, pots, and utensils. For more information on accommodations, contact Dr. John Scileppi, Program Director.

MEALS

A daily US$10.00 meal voucher is included with the program along with 4 dinners. Other meals will be the responsibility of the student. Students are encouraged to explore the culinary offerings available in the host country.

MIP reserves the right to make changes to the scheduled itinerary. Any changes will be discussed during orientation.
PROGRAM COST OF $1,400.00 INCLUDES:

- Airport Transfer in Barbados
- Program Transportation in Barbados
- Accommodations (triple or quad occupancy)
- US$10.00 meal voucher per day
- 4 Dinners
- Site visits (entrance fees to designated venues)
- Traveler’s Insurance
- Health Insurance

COSTS NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare (NYC-Barbados)
- 3-credits Marist tuition
- Food/meal charges not mentioned above
- Personal expenses, transportation and excursions
- Passport and visa (if required)
- Airfare, taxes and surcharges (airline, airport and departure)
- US Airport Transfer
- Gratuities

IMPORTANT PROGRAM NOTES

- All students are required to purchase trip cancellation insurance. This cost is included in the program fee.
- Fluctuating exchange rates, airline and other fees may lead to costs changes.
- Course registration is handled by the short-term program coordinator; you cannot register for this course on your own.
- Program fees are based on a minimum number of participants (generally 12-14) for the program.
- Refund Policy: Please speak with the short-term coordinator for specific information on Marist International Programs short-term program refund policy prior to making any payments for the program. Your $300 non-refundable deposit indicates your acceptance of the Refund Policy.
- Applicants should demonstrate flexibility and a sincere desire to increase their understanding of Barbadian culture and society, and should possess the emotional strength to adjust to a foreign environment.
- Marist International Programs reserves the right to modify or cancel the program as dictated by current weather, economic and/or political situations. This may include changes to the scheduled itinerary or program dates.
- All fees will be refunded if a program is cancelled.
- Information in this brochure is subject to change.

PROGRAM AND TUITION PAYMENT

Students are expected to follow the program and tuition payment schedule as indicated on this brochure. Failure to do so can result in withdrawal from the program and financial penalties. Tuition must be paid in full in order to register for the course.

All payments, including the $300 non-refundable deposit, should be made in Student Financial Services, Donnelly 200. Student Financial Services can accept payments by cash or check.

Alternative loans are available for winter intersession programs. Visit our website at http://www.marist.edu/financialaid for information on alternative loans.