

Furman University Study Away Program: Program Expectations

Program Title: Exploring Education in South Carolina & New Zealand

Locations: New Zealand

Dates: May 10-31, 2023

Program Description: Students will examine the public education system of New Zealand and teacher preparation programs there. With British influence shaping the educational practices of the country, it has grown to become world leaders in many facets of education. Students will spend a week in Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand, followed by five days in the capital of Wellington, the political center of the country. The final leg of the program will be spent on the South Island in the university town of Dunedin. Schools visited will emphasize the use of technology and inclusion of diverse populations. These visits, along with the school visits in the Upstate before leaving and assigned readings, will prepare students for assignment in which they compare the education systems, teacher preparation, and instructional norms in New Zealand with that of South Carolina.

Academic, Environmental, Physical & Health Expectations for Participation

Below is a list of academic, environmental and physical expectations and requirements for participation in this study away program. The list captures most, but not all, requirements. If you have questions about the expectations and requirements, please check with the study away office or the program directors. Students requiring a physical or academic accommodation should contact the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR) no less than 4 months prior to the start date of the program.

Frequency		Frequency	
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional	STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional
Course work in a foreign language	Never	Foreign Language Environment	English and some Maori
Course work in English	Always	Terrain (Mountains, Tropical, Forest, Desert, Hilly, Flat)	Hilly, flat, some beaches
Laptop Required	Always	Population: Rural, Urban, Remote, etc.	Urban
Smart phone required (videos, photos, blogs)	Optional	Environment (high altitude, air pollution, dusty, sandy, humid, dry, hot, cold)	Moderate to cool temperatures
Traditional Classroom	Sometimes	Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness	No risk
Group Work	Sometimes	Is tap water safe to drink	Safe to drink
Academic Assessments (tests, journals, presentations, essays)	Presentations, blogs, reflection assignments	Other Risks (natural disasters, crime, pickpocketing, etc.)	Possible earthquakes
Interactions with local residents	Always	Cultural Dress Code	Sometimes
Field Work/Research	Field work	Curfew	No risk
Internship/ Volunteer Work	Never	Motion Sickness	Plane, bus and ferry boat travel
Other	Required readings	Other	

PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS		Frequency	HEALTH & DIET		Frequency
		<i>Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional</i>			<i>Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional</i>
Lifting/Carrying Own Luggage	Expected		Vegetarian and Vegan Options Available at all meals		Always
Carrying equipment or program supplies	Never		Food Allergy Accommodations		Always
Standing 60+ minutes	Not often		Group Meals		Sometimes
Ability to walk up one or more flights of stairs (elevators may not be available)	Sometimes		Cooking for oneself		Never
Hiking (easy to strenuous; frequency; miles)	Optional		Host family prepares meals		Never
Walking 3+ miles per day	Sometimes		Healthcare easily accessible		Always
Use of public transportation (buses, trams, trains, subways)	Sometimes		Quality of Healthcare		Excellent
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional	WATER ACTIVITIES		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional
Host Family	Never		Swimming		Optional
Roommate	Always		Snorkeling		No
Shared Apartment	Never		SCUBA		No
Dormitory	Never		Boat, canoes or other water activities		Optional
Camping	Never		Sea sickness		Potential
Hotel	Always		Other		
Cell phone signal available	Always		Center for Disease Control Recommendations:		
Internet signal available	Always				
Refrigerator Access	Upon request				
Air Conditioning	Always				
Other					