

Furman University Study Away Program: Academic, Environmental, Physical & Health Expectations

Program: Indian Country: Indigenous Culture and Religion in the Southwestern United States (New Mexico, Arizona)
Dates: May 13-June 3, 2020

Request accommodations through the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR)

Course Description: REL-277 Indigenous Religion and Culture in SW US. Study of Navajo, Hopi, and Pueblo Cultures through visits to museums, archaeological sites, and reservation villages. Students attend traditional corn dances and visit various sacred sites, homes, schools, churches, medical facilities and corn fields.

Program Description: Traveling within the borders of the continental US, this May Experience will take students into four Indian nations that are as different as anything seen overseas—including places 60 miles away from any fast food restaurants. Students will be among a small number of non-Indians who will attend traditional Hopi religious dances and talk with tribal elders. By the light of a full moon and with a Navajo guide, travelers will see the side of Monument Valley not recorded in the famous westerns filmed there. An eerie boat ride on Lake Powell through what should be a desert ends at Rainbow Arch, a sacred Navajo rock formation. In Chaco Canyon, under a very dark night sky, we will experience what ancient astronomers used to inform the people’s religious worldview.

	Frequency								Frequency						Frequency					
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Required		STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always		PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Daily
Course work in a foreign language	X							Foreign Language Environment	X						Lifting luggage				X	
Course work in English			X					Mountainous			X				Carrying luggage up stairs				X	
Use of laptop	X							Tropical	X						Carrying equipment	X				
Use of smart device	X							Desert			X				Carrying groceries		X			
Traditional Classroom	X							Urban			X				Standing 30+ minutes			X		
Indoor Course Work			X					Rural				X			Walking 1+ miles			x		
Outdoor Course Work			X					High Elevation			X				Hiking (easy)			X		
Group Work		X						Dusty			X				Hiking (strenuous)					
Presentations	X							Air Pollution		X					Sitting 5+ hours	X				
Interactions with local residents				X				Recent Terrorism	X						Use of public transportation	X				
Field Work	X							Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness		X					Flat terrain			X		
Internship	X							Earthquakes	X						Hilly terrain			X		
Research	X							Other Natural Disaster		X					Stairs		X			
Comments:								Comments:							Comments: More difficult hiking is available as an option occasionally.					

	Frequency				
HEALTH & DIET	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Vegetarian Options					X
Vegan Options			X		
Food Allergy Accommodations					X
Group Meals		X			
Cooking for oneself	X				
Host family prepares meals		X			
Healthcare easily accessible					X
Comments: Special diet options are limited but always there are vegetarian options and generally vegan options. Sometimes convenient stores and fast food are the only options available when we are on the road.					

	Frequency				
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
Host Family	X				
Roommate					X
Shared Apartment	X				
Dormitory	X				
Camping	X				
Hotel					X
Cell phone signal available				X	
Internet signal available				X	
Comments: There are places without cell signal, but usually one does not have to go far.					

	Frequency				
WATER ACTIVITIES	Never	Seldom	Often	Optional	Required
Swimming				X	
Snorkeling	X				
SCUBA	X				
Boating (speed boat)		X			
Rowing	X				
Comment: One day on a boat. Could be made optional if needed.					

Center for Disease Control Recommendations: You should stay up to date on routine vaccinations. Some recommended vaccines are HEP A/B, rabies, measles.