

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

Program: Math and the Mouse: Explorations of Mathematics and Science in Walt Disney World

Dates: May 11 - June 1, 2022

	Frequency					
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Required
Course work in a foreign language	X					
Course work in English				X		
Use of laptop			X			
Use of smart device			X			
Traditional Classroom		X				
Indoor Course Work			X			X
Outdoor Course Work			X			X
Group Work				X		X
Presentations			X			X
Interactions with local residents			X			
Field Work			X			X
Internship	X					
Research	X					

Comments: We use flexible classroom spaces, sometimes meeting for class in hotel spaces, restaurants, and in theme parks. Interactions with guest speakers may occur in a conference room/office setting or in a restaurant or theme park.

	Frequency				
STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Foreign Language Environment	X				
Mountainous	X				
Tropical			X		
Desert	X				
Urban		X			
Rural	X				
High Elevation	X				
Dusty	X				
Air Pollution	X				
Recent Terrorism		X			
Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness		X			
Earthquakes	X				
Other Natural Disaster		X			

Comments: While central Florida may not be considered 'tropical', it is often hot and humid, with the possibility of mosquitoes. Walt Disney World has mosquito prevention measures in place and offers free insect repellent options to all guests. The Pulse nightclub shooting occurred in Orlando, but not near WDW or any parts of town where our program takes place. Additionally, a small child died during an incident with an alligator at a hotel on WDW property. WDW may be considered to be a target as an iconic American destination, but there are security measures in place to protect against such nefarious events (most noticeably metal detectors at all theme park entrances). There is a fault line in central Florida, although earthquakes are unlikely. Hurricane season does not officially start until June 1st, so that is unlikely to affect our program, but WDW was impacted and did close during Hurricane Irma in September 2017.

	Frequency				
PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Daily
Lifting luggage			X		
Carrying luggage up stairs			X		
Carrying equipment			X		
Carrying groceries			X		
Standing 30+ minutes					X
Walking 1+ miles					X
Hiking (easy)			X		
Hiking (strenuous)		X			
Sitting 5+ hours		X			
Use of public transportation			X		
Flat terrain					X
Hilly terrain		X			
Stairs				X	

Comments: Students will be responsible for carrying their own luggage upon arrival and departure. On a daily basis, students will be responsible for carrying what they need for daily excursions in theme parks (typically a small backpack). There is a significant amount of daily walking on this trip (sometimes exceeding 10 miles in a given day). There are times that the walking is at a leisurely pace, but there may be a few instances where the pace is a bit more accelerated and possibly considered strenuous by some. The walking occurs in theme parks, so crowds may be a concern at times. In the case of less than ideal weather (e.g., rain), the outdoor portions of the course often continue as scheduled, so participants are expected to be able to walk comfortably in rainy conditions as well as hot, sunny, humid conditions. The hotel and WDW both have accessible ways to avoid stairs (ramps and elevators), but travel primarily occurs in a 15-passenger van, so that may create accessibility concerns.

	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: Walt Disney World is well-known for its ability to work with food restrictions and allergies. Every restaurant on Disney property has protocols and procedures in place to ensure that guests have a safe dining experience. There will be some meals that we will eat in restaurants off of Disney property, but we try to work with students to find amenable options. For many meals, students are responsible for themselves, so with grocery shopping and in-suite kitchenettes, students are able to manage their food needs fairly independently.

	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	

Comments: Typically students will share a hotel bedroom and a bathroom with one other student, and share a common living area (including kitchenette) with up to three other students. The hotel has free hot breakfast and free coffee available daily. In the past, the hotel wifi has been somewhat unreliable.

Frequency						
WATER ACTIVITIES	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Required
Swimming		X			X	
Snorkeling	X					
SCUBA	X					
Boating (speed boat)	X					
Rowing	X					

Comments: The hotel has a swimming pool that participants may use during down time.

<https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/experience-updates/>