

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

Program: Marine Biology and Ethnobiology of Belize

Dates: Spring Semester

Program Description: This is a field-oriented program that will be taught on campus from January through March, and in Belize for the last month of the spring semester. Students will take 4 courses on campus. In Belize, we will emphasize the biodiversity, ecology, and physiology of marine organisms, especially as they relate to organism adaptation to the environment; emphasize human influences on the marine environment; study ways in which people understand and participate in human-plant-animal-natural interactions. Most days in Belize are spent snorkeling along the second-largest Barrier Reef in the world with expert guides; thus, all students must be comfortable swimming and snorkeling in the open water.

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

	Frequency						
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Recommended	Required
Course work in a foreign language	X						
Course work in English				X			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			X
Field Work				X			X
Internship	X						
Research			X				
Comments:							

	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:					

	Frequency				
PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Daily
Lifting luggage			X		
Carrying luggage upstairs	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: Ability to swim and snorkel in the ocean is a requirement.					

	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:					

	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: Students will live in Furman housing until April. In April, the housing will be in hotels or guest houses.					

	Frequency				
WATER ACTIVITIES	Never	Seldom	Often	Optional	Required
Swimming			X		X
Snorkeling			X		X
SCUBA		X		X	
Boating (speed boat)	X				
Rowing	X				
Comments: In Belize students will snorkel daily in the reef with expert leaders. All students must be able to swim and comfortable in the open water. Boats will bring us to many sites to snorkel.					

Center for Disease Control Recommendations: No required immunizations. Recommends routine vaccinations, Hepatitis A, Typhoid. Zika present but low risk.