

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

Program: Furman in Berlin, Germany

Dates: Spring Semester

Request accommodations through the Student Office for Accessibility

Resources (SOAR)

Program Description: This program offers a high-quality comprehensive language immersion program with a homestay (including breakfast and dinner) with Berlin families, as well as a broad range of courses to select from in both English and German. The University is well-equipped with facilities, and provides a full range of student services (full access to local libraries, computer facilities, lecture series, etc.). Students are required to take 4 courses. German language courses and the Furman course offering will be taught in the target language; other topical classes may be in taught in English.

	Frequency						
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Recommended	Required
Course work in a foreign language				X			X
Course work in English			X				X
Use of laptop						X	
Use of smart device					X		
Traditional Classroom				X			
Indoor Course Work				X			
Outdoor Course Work			X				
Group Work				X			
Presentations			X				
Interactions with local residents				X			
Field Work		X					
Internship	X						
Research			X				
Comments: Students may volunteer at a local school; internships in Germany usually take place during the summer (post-program). This is a language immersion program. Participants will be required to use German as frequently as possible.							

	Frequency				
HEALTH & DIET	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Vegetarian Options				X	
Vegan Options	x	X			
Food Allergy Accommodations				X	
Group Meals					X
Cooking for oneself		X			
Host family prepares meals				X	
Healthcare easily accessible				X	
Comments: We cannot guarantee a vegan life style while traveling or for homestays. Host family provides dinner and breakfast; healthcare is excellent, but it might take several weeks to see a specialist.					

	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					
Dusty			X		
Air Pollution				X	
Recent Terrorism		X			
Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness		X			
Earthquakes	X				
Other Natural Disaster	X				
Comments:					

	Frequency				
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
Host Family					X
Roommate			X (trips only)		
Shared Apartment	X				
Dormitory	X				
Camping	X				
Hotel			X		
Cell phone signal available				X	
Internet signal available				X	
Comments: Cell phone signals are good, but very limited while using public transportation.					

	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: Navigating Berlin requires physical mobility and use of public transportation to commute from the host family to classes daily.					

	Frequency				
WATER ACTIVITIES	Never	Seldom	Often	Optional	Required
Swimming		X			
Snorkeling	X				
SCUBA	X				
Boating (speed boat)	X				
Rowing	X				
Comments: Swimming is optional - if at all.					
Center for Disease Control Recommendations: be up to date with routine vaccines.					

For COVID-19 Information Visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>