Intercultural Study for Global Citizenship

One of the five core values at the foundation of Goshen College is Global Citizenship, so intercultural study is an important component of the Goshen Core. There are four basic ways to meet the intercultural study requirement, including both international and domestic SST. All students also take CORE 300, Global Issues Seminar after completing their intercultural studies requirement.

I. International Study-Service Term (SST)

The SST program, launched by Goshen College in 1968, is designed to immerse students in a culture significantly different from dominant United States culture. Goshen faculty leaders arrange the academic program and give personal counsel to a group of up to 23 students. The first six weeks are spent studying the language and culture of the host country through host family relationships, lectures, discussion, field trips, reading, journal writing, and special projects. In the next six weeks, students work in a service-learning assignment, often in a rural area, and complete a major project to present during the last week of the term. Language competence equivalent to two semesters of college-level study is required to participate in SST.

International Spanish units are offered every year in Nicaragua (summer) and Peru (fall, spring and summer). Currently, other international units operate in these locations:
- Senegal (French) – summer of even numbered years
- Morocco (Arabic) – fall of even numbered years
- China (Mandarin) – fall of 2014 and 2017
- Tanzania (Swahili) – spring of 2013-14 and 2016-17
- Cambodia (Khmer) – spring of 2012-13 and 2015-16

Expect some extra cost (varied according to location) for international SST programs. Students may pre-register for two units. Enrollment form is at www.goshen.edu/sst. Completed forms can be submitted at either the International Education office or the registrar’s office, AD 06.

II. Domestic Study-Service Term (SST)

The Latino Studies domestic SST program is patterned after Goshen’s successful international SST program. It includes the same types of learning opportunities focused on culture, history, language and service-learning and requires the same prerequisite of competence in Spanish equivalent to two semesters of college study. However, there are three significant differences:
1. Latino Studies courses may be spread over one, two, three or four semesters.
2. Students interact with a host family during their Spanish language study, but do not live with them.
3. Cost for this program is the same as for on-campus study.

Contact the International Education office to plan your Latino Studies program: sst@goshen.edu or 574.535.7346

III. United States Culture Studies for International Students

International students complete three courses designed to help them more fully understand and engage with U.S. culture.
- COMM 206, Communicating Across Cultures is taken in fall or spring, along with U.S. students.
- INTC 253, U.S. History & Culture is taken in the fall semester and includes a relationship and discussion assignments with a host family.
- INTC 255, U.S. Arts & Literature is a spring semester course.

IV. Intercultural Study for Nursing Students

Because nursing students earn a B.S. degree rather than a B.A. degree, they may select a modified intercultural study program with the following components:
- One semester of Spanish language study at Goshen College (at individual student’s level).
- INTL 253, History & Culture of Latinos in the U.S.
- INTL 257, Arts & Literature of Latinos in the U.S.
- NURS 408, Community Health Nursing (with clinical placement in mostly Latino setting).

See the International Education section of the course catalog or the Study Abroad web site www.goshen.edu/sst for more information. For questions about individual situations, contact Tom Meyers, Associate Academic Dean and Director of International Education.