

**Western Oregon University**  
**Study Abroad Capstone Project—Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Michele Price, Director  
Study Abroad and International Exchanges, APSC 501  
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I will send you all correspondence—important dates, information, and announcements—by email. *It is your responsibility to see that my office has the email address you wish to use.*

**Course Prefix, Number, Title, and Credits:**

INTL 399      Study Abroad Capstone Project      1 credit      A-F

**Course Description:**

Required final project for study abroad experience.

**Course Objectives:**

To offer students studying abroad three opportunities:

- Learn about their destination
- Enhance their cultural observation skills
- Reflect on the impact of their study abroad experience

**Instructional Format:**

Individual project.

**Course Requirements:**

**BEFORE YOU DEPART**

- Take the on-line survey.  
<http://www.wou.edu/provost/studyabroad/studyabroadcapstone.php>
- Complete and submit the Essentials to Know handout—typed, please. You can download a Word copy of the document at the website above.
- Attend pre-departure orientation.
- Complete and submit all required pre-departure paperwork and documents.

**WHILE YOU'RE ABROAD**

- Keep a journal. I will provide you with a journal that contains instructions and examples. You may find this a different kind of journaling than you have done in the past, but you'll discover that it is an interesting and creative way to record your experiences abroad. Though you are encouraged to use your journal daily, you are only required to write four entries a week. Please remember that this is a journal assignment for an academic class and not a personal diary.

**WHEN YOU RETURN**

- Retake the on-line survey.  
<http://www.wou.edu/provost/studyabroad/studyabroadcapstone.php>
- Attend re-entry session. At this session, submit your journal and your completed re-entry handouts, which you will receive via email before the session. It is important to remember to bring all of these materials with you as I will not accept them after the session.
- Write a five (5) to seven (7) page essay. The essay is not intended to be a travelogue or a “what I did last term” essay, but rather a reflective essay about the study abroad

experience. Refer to the above course objectives and to the attached grading rubric for guidance in writing your paper.

- Write your paper then take it to the Writing Center and ask a tutor to read the paper and to give you feedback. The Writing Center also can help you if you have difficulty getting started with your paper.
- Polish your paper and submit to me via email attachment: [pricemv@wou.edu](mailto:pricemv@wou.edu). Submit your writing center slip to me.
- Prepare and give an oral (7-10 minute) PowerPoint presentation. Submit to me on a CD. The PowerPoint should include a brief introduction about yourself and where you studied. With photos and text, relate your educational and social experiences abroad, your general experiences (positive and/or negative) and any recommendations you have about studying abroad. The following are possible events (locations and times to be announced) where you can give your presentation, and my office will send you information about these when you return.
  - a. Campus information table
  - b. Panel discussions
  - c. Study abroad orientations
  - d. Classroom visit
  - e. New Student Week

- **Your paper and presentation are due:**  
Summer students—5 pm Monday of fall term finals week.  
Fall and fall/winter intersession students—5 pm Monday of winter term finals week.  
Winter students—5 pm Monday of spring term finals week.  
Spring, winter/spring, and year-long students—5 pm last Monday in October since many students do not return to campus for summer term.  
Submit your paper as a Word document via email attachment [pricemv@wou.edu](mailto:pricemv@wou.edu).  
Submit your presentation on a CD along with a completed presentation form signed by the person for whom you gave the presentation.

**Note for graduating seniors or for students who will not return to the Western Oregon University campus:** Write a seven (7) to nine (9) page essay following the guidelines above, and email to me at [pricemv@wou.edu](mailto:pricemv@wou.edu). Submit your journal, PowerPoint presentation, any other handouts, and the alternative re-entry assignment that I will provide to you by the timelines noted below. You may mail your work to Michele Price, Director, Study Abroad and International Exchanges, Western Oregon University, APSC 501, Monmouth, OR 97361.

### **Evaluation and Grading:**

The course is graded on an A-F basis. You will receive an Incomplete (I) on your transcript until you have completed all of the requirements. *If you don't complete the requirements by the deadlines above, you will receive a letter grade based on the work you have completed by that date. Please be aware that not completing all requirements may result in a failing grade. If you need an extension for a verifiable, legitimate reason, make arrangements prior to the deadline.*

Pre-survey	25	Capstone Paper	100
Essentials to Know handout	25	Re-entry session & handouts	75
Capstone Journal	50	Post-survey	<u>25</u>
Powerpoint presentation	100	Total possible points	400

A	400-360 points	C	319-280 points	F	239 and below
B	359-320 points	D	279-240 points		