Course Name: Making the Connection: Environmental Comparisons in North and South America
Course Number: BIO 597/697
Credit Hours: 3 undergraduate/graduate

Course Objectives
This course is designed to increase awareness of global connections, specifically between North and South America. Students will be exposed to different cultures and will discover threads of commonality, from food to resource consumption. Travel to Belem will allow students to:
• Experience both worlds and see connections firsthand
• See birds that live in both places and hear about specific neotropical migrants that are found here in Missouri and in Brazil
• Observe water quality indicators and monitor water chemistry in both Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere watersheds

While the main focus of the course is the environmental connection, students will also experience the customs and beliefs of the Brazilian society.

Program Fee: $3,330
Program Fee Includes: Round trip airfare, ground transportation in Brazil, lodging, guides, most meals, program activities, tour of Belem, Belem airport exit fee, Study Away student fee, basic medical insurance; separated costs not available.
Program Fee Excludes: Passport, visa, some meals, incidentals/misc personal expenses, and souvenirs. $612/750 MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate/graduate credit. Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the Missouri resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

Online applications are due by January 30, 2015. A nonrefundable deposit of $500 will be billed to your student account. To apply, please:
• Visit the Study Away website at international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/
• Choose Apply Now
• Search for a Program (under Apply for a Study Away Program)
• Choose Simple Search
• Type Brazil under Program Name
• Choose Making the Connection: Environmental Comparisons in North and South America
• Choose Apply Now

Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid
Students may apply for the College of Natural and Applied Sciences Study Away scholarship. Applications are due to the Study Away office by April 10, 2015. Please see the scholarship page on the Study Away website. Additionally, students who receive financial aid may apply aid to this program. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at 836-5262 for more information.

Interested in going?
Contact the Program Director,
Dr. Janice S. Greene
Professor, Department of Biology
JaniceGreene@MissouriState.edu
(417) 836-5306
Course Outline & Schedule

By combining pre-travel field work in Missouri with research in Brazil, participants in this program will understand many of the ways that North and South America are connected:

- Students will be able to describe the importance of both the equatorial tropics and temperate North America to neotropical migrant birds
- Students will be able to describe the relationship of rainforest to global climate

Students also will describe a watershed and how it affects water quality:

- Students will be able to define a watershed and how changes in the watershed affect run-off
- Students will be able to describe how a watershed influences water quality
- Students will compare key chemical and ecological indicators of water quality in North America (Bull Shoals Lake) and South America

PRE-TRAVEL CLASS MEETINGS

TBA Biology: bird studies; neotropical migrants.

STUDY TOUR

Itinerary subject to change.

May 19, 2015 Depart for Belem.
May 20, 2015 Arrive in Belem; orientation to Belem and City tour.
May 21, 2015 Boat to Marajo; evening river tour.
May 22, 2015 Marajo Island; water buffalo riding; bird/ primate tour.
May 23, 2015 Marajo Island; water monitoring; class discussion.
May 24, 2015 Marajo Island (am); Return to Belem.
May 25, 2015 Water quality sampling and analysis at CESUPA; Museum Emilio Goeldi - collections.
May 26, 2015 Mangal de Garcas zoological park; service activity.
May 27, 2015 Market tours CESUPA/ riverine community project.
May 28, 2015 Fly from Belem to Springfield.

POST-TRAVEL CLASS MEETINGS

TBA Research paper due.

Course Credit & Requirements

Biology majors/minors and other interested students (with permission of instructor) will enroll in BIO 597: Special Topics in Biology and receive 3 hours of undergraduate credit. Biology graduate students and accelerated master’s students will enroll in BIO 697: Special Topics in Biology and receive 3 hours of graduate credit. These students will write a formal 6-page report on a related topic, such as watershed management in North and South America, neotropical migrant conservation, food connections of North and South America, etc.

Evaluation of 597-level students:

- Journal of cultural observations and experiences - 22%
- Lab book of collected data - 22%
- Quizzes over reading assignments, lectures, and field trips - 22%
- Group participation/dynamics - 22%
- Attendance at presentations - 12%

Evaluation of 697-level students:

- Journal of cultural observations and experiences - 20%
- Lab book of collected data - 20%
- Quizzes over reading assignments, lectures, and field trips - 20%
- Group participation/dynamics - 20%
- Short Research paper and presentation (topics will vary according to whether the student enrolls in biology or chemistry) - 20%

Required Text: None required. Students will receive a packet of materials from the program directors to read and discuss before and during travel.

Application & Payment Procedures

Missouri State University students and others who are approved by the Program Director may apply.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of $500 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Jan. 30, 2015). You will receive a second billing on March 6, 2015 and a final billing on April 3, 2015, for the balance of the program fee ($2,830). MSU course tuition ($612/750) will be billed to your University account separately and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $500 must be paid through the Study Away Storefront on or before Jan. 30, 2015. The balance of the program fee ($2,830) must be paid through the Study Away Storefront by April 10, 2015. MSU course tuition ($612/750) is also due by April 10, 2015 and must be paid at the bursar’s office or on-line through my.missouristate.edu.

In order to ensure participation in this Study Away program, each student must pay the entire program fee by April 27, 2015. Alternatively, a student may show proof of the financial aid that will pay for the fee. If a student does not pay the program fee, or does not show proof of financial aid that is sufficient to cover the fee, the student will be withdrawn from the Study Away program, dropped from the course, and his/her airline reservation will be canceled. Visiting students must also fully pay the tuition amount by April 27, 2015 in order to stay enrolled in the program. Estimated program fees are based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change. Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% if rates increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies

- Students who withdraw prior to April 6, 2015 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $500 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student must withdraw after April 6, 2015 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $500 deposit and non-refundable expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after April 6, 2015 will receive no refund.
- When the program begins, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and the Director of Study Away Programs at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. Non-payment of fees does not guarantee withdrawal.