Course Name: **Gender and Political Relations in Greater Los Angeles w/ Integrated Service-Learning**

Course Numbers: **IDS 297** (Three credit hour integrated service-learning study away course for undergraduate students).

Credit Hours: **3** undergraduate

**Course Overview & Objectives:**

This course provides students the opportunity to apply theories of group political and social behavior through the guise of executing a series of programs sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Human Relations Commission (City HRC) and the Commission on the Study of Women (CSW). The work will be supervised by Dr. Brian Calfano in the Department of Political Science, and will focus on two main themes: the psychological impacts of poverty on vulnerable populations in the city, and the overlapping effects of gender stereotypes in developing workplace skills. As an integrated service-learning study away course, students will conduct a series of survey experiments and interviews at sites located throughout Los Angeles. Students accepted to the program will be expected to bring insights from relevant major and elective courses to their efforts, and opportunities for the development of published research articles will be provided. Program participants will also benefit from visits and group interviews with prominent local political, policy, and community leaders. Ample time for local sightseeing will be provided.

**Program Fee:** $990

**Program Fee Includes:** Round-trip airfare, lodging, ground transportation for program-related events, daily breakfast and lunch, 2 dinners, and Study Away fee. Separated costs not available.

**Program Fee Excludes:** Remaining meals, incidentals/misc personal expenses, and souvenirs. MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate credit. Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the MO resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

**Online applications are due by December 15, 2014. A nonrefundable deposit of $150 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 Los Angeles under Program Name
- Choose Gender and Political Relations in Greater Los Angeles with Integrated Service-Learning
- Choose Apply Now

**Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid**

Students may apply for the College of Humanities and Public Affairs Study Away scholarship. Applications are due to the Study Away office by November 15, 2014. 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.
Course Schedule & Itinerary

PRE-TRAVEL MEETINGS
Dates and activities subject to change.

February 13, 2015: Program intro. Modern day Los Angeles and course readings.

February 27, 2015: Challenges for Los Angeles minorities and course readings. Prep for program trip departure.

STUDY TOUR
Dates and activities subject to change.

March 7, 2015: Fly from SGF to LAX.

March 8, 2015: Briefings with City HRC personnel, LA City Hall.

March 9, 2015: Immigration policy project, Day 1 (Watts).

March 10, 2015: Immigration policy project, Day 2 (Newton).

March 11, 2015: Briefings with LA City Housing Department personnel; Immigration and CSW policy project (Venice).

March 12, 2015: Briefings with LA City Housing Department personnel.

March 13, 2015: Immigration policy project, Day 3 (Venice)

March 14, 2015: Debrief and preliminary data consultation with City HRC.

March 15, 2015: Fly from LAX to SGF.

Course Credit & Requirements
Each student will submit a portfolio addressing points 1 - 3 which will be assessed by the MSU faculty member leading the study away experience:

1. Student demonstrates and articulates an increased understanding of and respect for multiple cultural perspectives; submit a minimum of 4 observations;
2. Student articulates how the experience shaped his/her perspective about own and host culture;
3. Grammar reflects an educated person.

Required text: Students will be required to read approximately 22 selected journal articles on the issues of inter-group relations, political minorities, the political history and group dynamics of Los Angeles, and modern US immigration policy (program director will provide list). These readings will be assigned and completed prior to the pre-travel research orientation.

Assessment of learning: Students will receive a letter grade based upon their participation in all facets of the course.

Application & Payment Procedures
Missouri State University students and others who are approved by the Program Director may apply. Please provide proof of medical insurance.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of $150 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Dec. 15, 2014). You will receive a second billing on Jan. 16, 2015 and a final billing on Feb. 6, 2015, for the balance of the program fee ($840). MSU course tuition ($612) will be billed to your University account separately and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $150 must be paid through the Study Away Storefront on or before Dec. 15, 2014. The balance of the program fee ($840) must be paid through the Study Away Storefront by Feb. 6, 2015. MSU course tuition ($612) is due by Feb. 13, 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 February 20, 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 February 20, 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 Jan. 16, 2015 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $150 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
• If a student must withdraw after Jan. 16, 2015 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $150 deposit and non-refundable expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
• Students withdrawing voluntarily after Jan. 16, 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.