

survey title:

Fall 2007 Study Abroad Evaluation

current report: **Default Report**

Displaying 105 of 127 respondents

Response Type: Normal Response

Collector: Fall 2007 Study Abroad Survey (Web Link)

Custom Value: empty

IP Address: 66.41.165.57

Response Started: Mon, 1/28/08 12:42:55 AM

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1. What is your name?

EB

2. What is your gender?

Male

3. What is/are your major(s)?

Economics

German Studies

4. What academic major or majors did you PRIMARILY pursue abroad?

Major 1

German Studies

Major 2

German Studies

5. What academic minor OR concentration, if any, did you pursue abroad?

None

6. What is the name of the program provider or (if you enrolled directly) host university where you studied?

Other (please specify) - Austria Illinois Exchange Program

7. In what country and city did you PRIMARILY study?

Country/Countries - Austria

City/Cities - Vienna

8. If your program had a specific name or theme (such as Ecology & Conservation or Culture & Development), please provide it here.

None

9. Did you go on a Macalester recommended list program? (Check out the website to make sure! <http://www.macalester.edu/internationalcenter/studyabroad/recprog.html>)

No, I went on a program not on the Recommended List

10. What were your housing arrangements?

Dormitory with international students

11. How did your housing affect your overall study abroad experience?

The people were great, but I didn't get to speak any German since most people spoke English only.

12. How many students were in your program? (This question will apply mainly to self-contained programs such as CIEE and SIT).

20

13. Did your program or university provide you an orientation? If so, in what ways was it helpful to you (or not)?

Yes. We had a language review and an introduction to the culture, as well as help getting settled into the university (ID cards, train pass, etc.)

14. Why did you choose this program?

It was in the fall and offered a wide variety of courses including business courses taught in English.

15. Below is a list of some common goals of off-campus study. Which of these (if any) were the three most important to you BEFORE you began your program?

Language acquisition

Living in another culture

Developing intercultural competence

16. How well were these goals met? Please explain your answer.

Language acquisition: Not fluent, but speak and interact much more comfortably. Living in another culture: Perfectly met. We were completely immersed in Austrian culture and also got to learn a lot from other students living in the dorms. Intercultural Competency: I feel much more comfortable traveling abroad and interacting with people whose language I do not speak.

17. What were the strongest aspects of this program?

No Response

18. What were the weakest aspects of this program?

No Response

19. If you had it to do over again, would you choose this program? Please explain.

No Response

20. Would you recommend this program to other Macalester students? Please explain.

Yes. The program leader Professor Murray really cares about his students and will do whatever he can to make you feel comfortable and succeed. Since the program was so small, he encouraged weekly one-on-one sessions, although it may be different in the spring since the

size increased 200 percent. We went on a lot of field trips, including a hike in the mountains, a wine tasting, opera, theater, and a variety of concerts and museums. The people on the program were great as well. It was a well-run program that made it very easy to live and study in Austria, and the program courses were on par with Macalester's German courses (200 level).

21. What is the name (or names) of the university where you took classes?

Wirtschaftsuniversitaet Wien, Universitaet Wien, University of Illinois Program Courses

22. What courses did you take?

Course - Financial Intergration in an Enlarged European Union

Course - Literatur and Politics in the Weimar Republic

Course - German for Business

23. In general, how would you rate the quality of instruction you received?

	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Satisfactory (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	N/A (0)
Instructors' knowledge of subject and preparation					X	
Curriculum and readings				X		
Fairness & clarity of grading system				X		
Other students' level of preparation and interest				X		

Comments: The WU courses were tougher than expected, and the instructor gave little instruction. Some of the readings we got were outdated and irrelevant. At the University of Vienna, the instructor spoke with a heavy dialect and was hard to understand. However, the made an exception for me and gave me an oral exam on two books of my choice, which worked out quite nicely.

24. Are there any classes and/or professors you particularly recommend? If so, please list and explain.

No Response

25. Are there any classes and/or professors that future students should avoid? If so, please list and explain.

No Response

26. What courses did you take?

Course - German Literature of the 20th Century

Course - Austrian History and Culture

27. In general, how would you rate the quality of instruction you received?

	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Satisfactory (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	N/A (0)
Instructors' knowledge of subject and preparation					X	
Curriculum and readings				X		
Fairness & clarity of grading system		X				
Other students' level of preparation and interest						

Comments: The instructor was quite knowledgeable and assigned relevant and not too tough readings. Class discussions were lacking at times and he never stated a grading system.

28. What was the topic of your Independent Study?

No Response

29. Who (if anyone) was your academic advisor on the project? And please evaluate how helpful he or she was to you.

No Response

30. Did you have enough time and sufficient resources to do the project well? Please explain.

No Response

31. What is the name of the organization or organizations with which you worked?

No Response

32. What did you do and how much time per week did you spend? Please describe.

No Response

33. Was your time well spent? How could the experience have been better? Please evaluate your internship experience.

No Response

34. What language did you study?

German

35. In general, how would you rate the quality of instruction you received?

	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Satisfactory (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	N/A (0)
Instructors' knowledge of subject and preparation					X	
Curriculum and readings					X	
Fairness & clarity of grading system			X			
Other students' level of preparation and interest			X			

Comments: The 2 program courses were well organized and helped improve my German by combining grammar with the subject matter. The grading system was never really explained and student's discussions were lacking at times.

36. How would you rate your improvement in language skills gained from your language study?

	No improvement (1)	Slight improvement (2)	Moderate improvement (3)	Great improvement (4)
Understanding spoken language			X	
Reading			X	
Writing			X	
Speaking			X	

Comments: Viennese German is completely different from what I have been studying the past 8 years, and I would have benefited more studying in Berlin or elsewhere in northern/central Germany.

37. What language did you study and live in?

German

38. How would you rate your improvement in language skills gained from living and studying in that language?				
	No improvement (1)	Slight improvement (2)	Moderate improvement (3)	Great improvement (4)
Understanding spoken language			X	
Reading			X	
Writing			X	
Speaking			X	
<i>Comments:</i>				

39. What do you wish you had known (but did not know) before you chose this program and/or location?
No Response

40. What could people at Macalester have done to prepare you better for your study-abroad experience?
No Response

41. Did you experience anything like culture shock? If so, please describe it and what (if anything) you did about it.
No Response

42. Did issues of crime or security affect your study abroad experience? If so, please explain.
No Response

43. Did the work of on-site staff (resident director, for example, or international student office personnel) affect your study abroad experience? If so, please describe.
No Response

44. Will you be willing to meet with (as part of their pre-departure orientation) Macalester students planning to study abroad?
No Response