

Vietnam Term Abroad 2012

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Other questions can also be directed to Union's International Studies Office or the Center for Global Education at Hobart & William Smith Colleges. Contact info for them can be found online.

- The length of time is a semester. Tentatively it runs from late August until the first week in December or very end of November. It is 15 weeks.
- There are 4 courses for which you receive 4 credits.
- The courses are **Vietnamese Language, Life and Culture of Vietnam**, an **Internship or Independent Study** [independent study must be arranged well ahead – spring term before you depart - of time with a supervising professor from your home campus]
- The Director's Course – which this year is given by a member of HWSC Sociology Department: ***Vietnam – Conflict, Contradiction & Change***

The program is based in Hanoi [in the North], but starts for the first 3 weeks in Ho Chi Minh City [Saigon] in the south. After HCMC the program continues for 10 weeks in Hanoi. Internships are done in Hanoi.

There are many and varied field trips and excursions, including a week long trip through central Vietnam; a 3 day/2 night excursion to the Mekong Delta with a home-stay; trip to the Northwest region to Sapa and Bach Ha; Halong Bay and possible other trips.

There are weekly speakers and numerous museum, pagoda, and historical site visits that are part of the the Vietnam Life and Culture seminar.

In Saigon you reside in a government guest-house [dorm-like] and in Hanoi you reside in Hanoi University dorm.

In both Hanoi and Saigon you will have "buddies" assigned to you. A buddy is a Vietnamese student who you have a resource for information and practical things like help in acquiring a cell phone, help learning the bus systems, etc.

The experiences in Vietnam are amazingly diverse, where every day poses unexpected adventures and modest challenges. It is an exciting term with much more varied and interesting experiences than you have on our home campuses or in the United States in general. All students speak to the experience as being very positive and life changing

Check these websites out:

A Student's Guide to Study Abroad in Hanoi, Vietnam

http://www.hws.edu/academics/global/pdf/forms/handbooks/vietnam_fall10.pdf

Hobart & William Smith College website about the Vietnam term

<http://www.hws.edu/academics/global/vietnam.aspx>