



Summer 2010 International Sports Program

Dates: June 23 – July 28, 2010

PRICE: \$4082 – 2009 (2010 fees TBD)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The International Sports Program is organized in conjunction with Michigan State University Office of Study Abroad and offers a unique educational opportunity for college students who consider themselves athletes or sports enthusiasts. In cooperation with the NCAA guidelines, student-athletes no longer have to sacrifice study abroad to keep pace with their athletic pursuits regardless of their athletic ability. The program defines “college athlete” as anyone who currently participates on any sanctioned university intramural sports team, any varsity student-athlete (scholarship/walk-on) or anyone who competed in sports at the high school level. This summer the program offers training for sports enthusiasts interested in swimming, soccer, golf, track and field, triathlon, tennis, rugby, lacrosse, field hockey (women only), basketball (women only), weight training and crew. More sports may be available upon request.

The academic portion of the program will run from week one through five. Students will be required to enroll in two courses for a minimum of six (6) credits and complete a range of assessment tasks and a final examination in each class. Students must take the “core course” titled ‘Australian Perspectives’, which is a survey of Australian History. Participants then choose one additional course from two elective courses in Kinesiology and Geography. Field trips related to each course will also be offered.

Transcripts will be issued by Michigan State University and classes will be taught by professors from both Michigan State University and University of Notre Dame – Sydney.

The program is based on the east coast of Australia utilizing two main locations in Sydney and Cairns with additional excursions to other areas of the country. During the first week, students will gain an insight into the elite coaching methods of the New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) and will undergo a series of individual testing and training methods. The NSWIS will help develop a training program for students to follow for the remainder of the five weeks or will assist with an existing training program.

Weeks 1 – 4 are in Sydney and the courses will be held at the University of Notre Dame – Sydney campus. Skills and physical training will take place in the afternoons three times per week after academic classes have been completed. These sessions will be under the guidance of a head coach like John Morrison who has coached at two universities and is currently coaching the NSW State Squad. Morrison is also an ABC national commentator for rugby broadcasts of the Australian National Team, the Wallabies, and the New South Wales pro team in the Super 14. He has coached at two

~~universities and is currently the coach of representative NSW State Squad.~~ Students will train at a variety of venues including some facilities utilized for the Sydney 2000 Olympics. Students will have access to a health club located near the apartments for individualized training. Students will also have ample time to undertake their own individual training or relax and explore the city. As students will be housed in downtown Sydney, all of the city’s attractions are at their doorstep.

During their time in Sydney, students will undertake two short excursions out of the city, one to Jervis Bay and the other to the Blue Mountains. The Blue Mountains excursion will allow students to visit this World Heritage-listed Australian wilderness. Large sandstone cliffs border majestic valleys filled with gum trees and waterfalls. Hiking and sightseeing along with some lectures will allow students to truly experience the national park.

The final days of the program will be in the tropical north in Cairns, a bustling city made famous by its proximity to the Great Barrier Reef and ancient rainforests. Students will spend one day on a high-speed boat to the Great Barrier Reef. Snorkeling and diving instruction will be provided as well as a glass-bottom boat ride to view the thousands of tropical fish and corals.

COMPREHENSIVE FEE INCLUDES: The program fee includes deposit, pre-departure orientation, accommodations, some meals, program-related ground transportation in Australia, fees paid to Australian institutions and for use of training and sports facilities, accident and sickness insurance and field trips. According to MSU, varsity athletes accommodation and tuition fees may be covered by their athletic grants-in-aid. Students should check with their athletic department.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: All academic majors, from US colleges and universities, are welcome to apply. Students must be in good academic standing, with a grade point average of at least 2.5 at the time of acceptance. Meeting this minimum grade point average does not, however, guarantee admission.

Students must be college athletes (e.g., varsity athletes or club sport athletes) or be sports enthusiasts with a background in one of the sports being offered. Students must also provide a personal statement that addresses their goals for the program and their relevant sports experience, as well as provide two letters of reference – one academic and one from a coach. Non-MSU students must submit a complete set of their most recent transcripts with their application.

Applicants’ participation may be denied or their participation approval may be revoked if their conduct before departure raises doubts as to their suitability for program participation.

GRADING: Letter grade.

APPLICATION: For further details on the application process, visit <http://www.study-australia.com/?id=684>. Applications are assessed on a rolling basis until all spots are filled. Michigan State University’s official deadline date is March 31, 2010. However, late applicants will be considered until April 15th.



Rules and Procedures

Study Australia/The Education Abroad Network is the premier full-service study-abroad program for students wishing to acquire a unique academic and cultural experience by living and studying in the South Pacific or Asia. Ten years of running programs with our partner universities has given Study Australia/The Education Abroad Network extensive experience in the design, delivery, and servicing of educational opportunities.

Michigan State University and its Office of Study Abroad is dedicated to providing all MSU students with high quality international academic opportunities that allow them to develop knowledge and skills needed to become productive and successful members of the global community. In partnership with MSU colleges, departments, support units, faculty, and staff, we seek to increase awareness of education abroad opportunities, to promote intercultural learning, and to advocate for diversity in participants and programs.

For the 2010 Summer term, Study Australia/The Education Abroad Network and Michigan State University have entered into a partnership to offer study abroad courses in Australia. As part of this partnership, Michigan State University will serve as a College of Record for course offerings approved by the Curriculum Council. All academic transcripts will be issued by Michigan State University.

APPLICATION DEADLINE – Applications are assessed on a rolling basis until all spots are filled. We suggest interested students apply by March 31st to avoid disappointment. For further details please visit www.study-australia.com. Late applications may be accepted after March 31st.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS – Students should be currently enrolled at an approved degree-granting institution of higher education, and must be in good academic standing, with a grade point average of at least 2.5 at the time of acceptance. Meeting this minimum grade point average does not, however, guarantee admission. All academic majors, from US colleges and universities, are welcome to apply by the program deadline. Students must be college athletes (e.g., varsity athletes or club sport athletes) or be sports enthusiasts with a background in one of the sports being offered.

GRADING – All grades are letter grades.

PASSPORTS, VISA AND IMMUNIZATIONS – All students must possess a valid passport in order to participate on the program. **Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the return date.** For more information on applying for a passport, please visit the following link: <http://www.usps.com/passport/>. For more information on renewing an expired passport, please visit the following link: http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/renew/renew_833.html.

For United States citizens, a student visa is not required for your time abroad on the short term programs. Students will only require an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) or “Tourist Visa,” as they will be in the country for less than three months.

Students are not required to undergo any immunizations for their period of study in Australia. For details regarding any recommended immunizations, please visit the Center for Disease Control’s web site at www.cdc.gov/travel/.

COMPREHENSIVE FEE INCLUSIONS – Accommodation; Excursion costs; Airport shuttle services; Orientation program(s); some Meals; Program-related ground transportation in Australia; Fees paid to Australian institutions and for use of training and sports facilities; Accident and sickness insurance; and Field trips.

COMPREHENSIVE FEE EXCLUSIONS – All other meals (surpassing those included); Passport fees; Personal expenses; Tuition (students must also pay MSU tuition); Travel insurance; all Airfares; MSU application fee; and all other items not specifically mentioned in the Comprehensive Fee Inclusions.

PAYMENT OF FINAL FEES – For students wishing to utilize financial aid to finance their term abroad, we urge you to contact your home university financial aid office as soon as possible if you will, or think you may, need to apply for financial assistance. In addition, for those intending to apply for additional loans, please note that the application process may take several months. As such, please plan accordingly.

WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

1. No cancellation fee for students withdrawing prior to submission of the program deposit and full program fees.
2. For students withdrawing after submission of the program deposit, the deposit is fully refundable less a \$75 administrative fee if withdrawn **before April 15th**.
3. **After April 15th**, the \$500 program deposit is no longer refundable.
4. For students withdrawing after submission of the full program fees, a refund is based upon recoverable costs. **FULL PROGRAM FEES** may be forfeited.
5. **If a student withdraws 30 days or less prior to departure for the program, the program fees are not refundable.** For students with pre-existing medical conditions, we encourage the purchase of Trip Cancellation Insurance. This insurance may be purchased via the travel agent or other travel service providers, such as STA Travel (www.statravel.com).
6. In the event that the program fees increase by more than 10% (due to general inflation), a student may cancel without penalty.
7. No refund will be given to students who wish to omit portions of the program.
8. **Notice of withdrawal from the program must be submitted via the official “withdrawal form” available via the Study Australia web site (www.study-australia.com).**

STUDY AUSTRALIA/THE EDUCATION ABROAD NETWORK

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