

Guidelines for 2009 Provost Initiative Maymester Abroad and Summer Session Abroad Proposals

The University of Texas at Austin

The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost is providing one-for-one matching funding for colleges and their faculties to offer three- or four-credit hour undergraduate study abroad courses during the Maymester or first summer session 2008. Colleges can propose courses at a study abroad location that will be taught either by UT faculty, who will receive summer salary, or by approved local faculty. At this point, we plan to support about 10 -15 programs.

Proposals must be endorsed by both the faculty member's Department Chair and Dean and are due to Vice Provost Terri Givens (Main 201, G1000) by **Friday, February 15, 2008**.

Provost Initiative Maymester and Summer Session Abroad Programs

Maymester Abroad courses are four-week, three- or four-credit hour international study courses taught by UT faculty members at international locations. They begin prior to the start of first summer session; they conclude before second summer session begins. Students enroll for Maymester Abroad courses during pre-registration for the spring semester, and then they take the course during the Maymester time period.

All Maymester courses have a required component on campus during the spring semester to prepare students for the intensive course experience abroad. Faculty leaders, in cooperation with study abroad staff, will meet with students for a series of four orientation meetings.

Summer Session Abroad programs supported by this initiative should be innovative, span six weeks, and offer six hours of course credit. Students will register for summer programs during the ordinary summer registration period.

Guidelines and Other Information Participating UT faculty members will be paid a stipend equivalent to that of a normal six-week summer session course for teaching either a Maymester Abroad or a Summer Session Abroad program. The costs of their travel, accommodations (not meals and incidentals), and other program activities will be covered. UT's Study Abroad staff, in collaboration with on-site coordinators, will manage all logistics, including student services, for the Maymester and Summer Session Abroad programs associated with this initiative.

To ensure that Maymester Abroad and Summer Session Abroad programs further the international education goals of the colleges, course proposals must be endorsed by the Dean of a college/school in consultation with the department or program area chair. Deans and Chairs will assign a "back-up" for the proposing faculty member, should an emergency before or during the program make it impossible for her/him to carry out her/his duties.

Completed and endorsed proposals must be submitted to Vice Provost Terri Givens (Main 201, G1000). A cross-college committee will review the proposals and make recommendations to the Vice Provost, who will make the final selections. Questions central to the review process include the following:

- (1) Can the program be implemented safely and successfully?
- (2) Can the course attain a minimum enrollment of 15-20 students?
- (3) Are the content and delivery of the course(s) enhanced by the international location?

(4) How does the course fit with college and/or cross-college goals in international education?

(5) Has the faculty member successfully taught the proposed course(s) or (a) similar one(s) at either UT Austin or an international course location?

(6) Will the course contribute to a balanced set of offerings, including opportunities for different fields of study and students of different classifications?

Maymester Abroad and Summer Session Abroad courses for 2009 may be offered at any of the locations on the corresponding **Destinations List**. The list represents locations where UT can provide adequate support given the lead-time and the nature of each program type. Additional destinations **may** be possible for faculty members who are beginning to plan for 2010 or later, or, for Maymasters, for those programs that have departmental and college support to run more than once. Faculty interested in exploring broader options should contact a **Program Team Member** to discuss possibilities.

More specific information on both the Maymester Abroad and Summer Session Abroad initiatives accompanies the individual proposal forms. For **Maymasters** please visit <http://www.utexas.edu/provost/policies/international/maymester.html>, and for **summer** please go to <http://www.utexas.edu/provost/policies/international/summer.html>.