

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

October 13, 2014

Study abroad experiences challenge students and increase self-confidence. They can increase your appreciation of others and allow you to develop new perspectives regarding your home culture. Through international experiences you can increase your ability to interact effectively with people of other nationalities. International experiences can strengthen your resume, broaden your horizons, enrich your life, and open doors to future opportunities. Study abroad opportunities available at JMU are described on the Office of International Programs website. [More information](#)

Many faculty leading short-term study abroad experiences during Summer 2015 welcome students with appropriate background and interests to apply to participate in their programs, regardless of their graduate program. The deadline for applying to participate in most summer programs is November 1. Several of the programs that welcome graduate students to inquire or apply listed below. Follow the links for additional information.

Education in Costa Rica: Literacy and Curriculum in a Global Community. Students will strengthen their skills working with English Language Learners. Students will experience teaching and learning with local Costa Rican students. Host families will provide a rich cultural experience as students live and share meals with local families. [More information](#)

Special Topics in Art, Summer Photography Festival, Street Photography in Prague, Czech Republic. This excursion-based course, explores still photography as a means of communication and expression. Students will record photographic images and generate a cohesive body of work with a self-directed theme and unique presentation tailored to the student's individual goals. [More information](#)

JMU's German Opera Experience. Students will be selected by audition to come to Germany and perform as soloists, repetiteurs, conductors, understudies and chorus. Opportunities are also available for student instrumentalists and students interested in theater administration and technical production. JMU's partners at the Technical University at Freiberg would be happy to also consider hosting graduate students interested in **engineering, alternative energy and international business.** [More information](#)

Earth & Environmental Science in Ireland. This is a field-based experience in Earth Science and Biology where students will examine first-hand the geology, flora, and fauna of Connemara, as well as the interactions of these elements with each other and the relative impacts of humans. [More information](#)

Rome Intercultural Practicum. Participants will live in a working community of Rome, interact with local Romans and visitors from around the world, and visit sites from ancient and modern Rome. Students enrolled in professional programs that can practice in schools are welcome to apply. [More information](#)

Visual Communication and Cultural Diversity in Spain. This program is designed to develop competencies in visual literacy and intercultural human resource development. After participating in this study abroad course, you will be able to design and develop aesthetically pleasing and effective visual communication pieces that illustrate your understanding of intercultural human resource development, Spanish culture, and the European Union. [More information](#)

Frasure-Kruzel-Drew Memorial Fellowship for Humanitarian Demining. Every year the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery offers a fellowship to a JMU senior, graduate student or recent graduate. This is a paid position with the U.S. Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (DoS/PM/WRA). Applications are due November 7. [More information](#)

P.E.O. Scholar Awards are one-time, competitive, merit-based awards for women who are pursuing a doctoral level degree. These awards provide partial support for study and research for women who will make significant contributions in their fields. The current maximum award is \$15,000. Applications are due November 20. Learn more [online](#), and if interested contact Melinda Adams (adams2mj@jmu.edu) .

Graduate Student Symposium. Celebrating 60 years of graduate education at JMU, GSA and TGS will be sponsoring a day-long event on April 2, 2015 in the Highlands Room. During this event, students will be invited to showcase their work. Students, faculty, administrators, local dignitaries, and alumni will be invited to participate. Please save the date and watch for additional information.

TGS Travel Grants. The Graduate School reviewed requests submitted by September 22, and awarded \$5500 in travel funds to 22 students who will make presentations at 10 conferences. Congratulations grant recipients! A list of recipients is available [online](#). We continue to accept applications. The next deadline is December 1. [More information including application instructions](#)

Alternative Spring Break Lottery. Check out the [available alternative spring break trips](#) and sign up for the lottery. The lottery is open October 29 at 8:30 pm and closes November 5 at midnight. After you sign up online for an Alternative Spring Break Driving Trip, make sure to come to Placement Night to see if you get placed on a trip! Placement night is November 6, from 8-11 PM in the Festival Ballroom. [More information](#)

The TGS Thesis and Dissertation Format Manual has been changed to simplify. Some general rules remain such as the content and format of the title page, some overall page-format rules, and the inclusion of a few specific sections (such as a table of contents, abstract, and reference list). However, the format of the body of the thesis or dissertation is now expected to be in the style of the student's discipline. The new manual is available [online](#).

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Creativity, Consciousness and the Future of Education: Jazz as Change in the 21st Century Academy** is the title of the Visiting Scholars Presentation by Ed Sarath, Professor of Music and Director of the program in Creativity and Consciousness Studies at the University of Michigan. October 13, 7 PM, Harrison Hall Room 2105. [More information](#)
- **"Grandma's Lesson and Other Studies of Crises, Disaster, and Resilience"** is the title of the CHBS Madison Scholar presentation by Dr. Lennie Echterling from the Department of Graduate Psychology. October 15, 3 - 4:30 PM in Taylor 305.
- **Icons, Bridges and Milestones: Rethinking Africana Studies.** Join scholars from across the globe at the 6th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference, October 16-17. [More information](#)
- **"Bill of Rights in the 21st Century"** is the title of the Madison Vision Series lecture by Mr. Jeffrey Rosen, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Constitution Center. October 16, 3 PM, Forbes Center Concert Hall. [More information](#)
- **GSA Social Hour.** Join graduate students to celebrate the half-way mark of the semester at the next GSA Social Hour. [Ruby's Lounge](#), Friday, October 17, 5 PM.
- **Rebecca Kamen Exhibit.** Rebecca Kamen's work explores the nexus of art and science. Her work has been informed by research into chemistry, cosmology, spirituality and philosophy. Attend the artist lecture and opening reception in Duke Hall Gallery on October 20, 5 PM. The exhibit will continue through December 5. [More information](#)
- **"Bleeding Love: Pop Music, Advertising, and the Normalization of Dating Violence"** is the title of the presentation by sex educator, Melissa Fabello, October 22, 7 -9 PM in the Festival Ballroom [More information](#)
- **"Anything Can Be: The Power of Storytelling in Abuse and Trauma Recovery"** is the title of the next Cohen Center presentation by Barbara Couden Hernandez, Director of Physician Vitality and Professor, School of Medicine, at Loma Linda, October 23, 4 -5:30 PM. Storytelling has been used by the founder of every world religion to create a framework of meaning. Narrative interventions have subsequently been established in medicine, nursing, psychology, and the social sciences. The stories we construct about who we are often predictive of what we do with our lives. Nowhere is this truer than with individuals who are recovering from abuse and violence. Through storytelling, Dr. Hernandez will explain how to assist individuals in their attempts to move beyond unfortunate life experiences. [More information](#)
- **"Designing for Impact: A Strategic Approach to Storytelling"** is the title of the presentation by Caty Borum Chattoo, professor of public communication and executive in residence, School of Communication, American University. October 23, 7 – 9 PM, Harrison Hall, Room 2105. [More information](#)

- **“Infant Mental Health: Insurance for our Future”** is the title of the Visiting Scholars presentation by Alice Honig, professor emerita, Syracuse University. October 27, 3 – 5 PM, Memorial Hall Auditorium. [More information](#)
- **“She is Music: A Thousand Years of Vocal Music by Women Composers.”** Women have been writing music for the voice for over 1000 years in Western culture. This delightful evening, presented in the style of a 19th Century *Salon*, will feature some of the most beautiful vocal music ever written – and all of it by women. October 28, 6:30 – 8 PM, Memorial Hall Auditorium. [More information](#)
- **“Stress vulnerability and stress reliance; why people differ in their responses to traumatic events: Insights from psycho-neurological studies of Special Forces”** is the title of the Visiting Scholars presentation by Charles Morgan, research psychiatrist/associate clinical professor of psychiatry at Yale University. October 30, 7 – 9 PM, Harrison Hall, Room 1261. [More information](#)
- **GSA 5K Run and Tailgate.** Join graduate students to celebrate JMU Homecoming with a 5K run and tailgate at the home football game. November 1. For more information contact GSA (gsa@jmu.edu).
- **“The Making and Meaning of ‘Las maestras de la Republica.’”** Is the title of the Visiting Scholars presentation by Pilar Perez Solano, documentary filmmaker. November 4, 6 – 8 PM in Harrison Hall, Room 2105. [More information](#)

For additional events of possible interest, regularly check <http://www.jmu.edu/events> .

Keep up with Graduate Student Association (GSA) Events. The GSA is a student-led and student-run organization that provides professional and social opportunities to all JMU graduate students and alumni. [Like them on Facebook.](#) [Find them on Twitter.](#) (gsa@jmu.edu; 568-7088) [More information.](#)

Need a Job? The JMU [Office of Student Employment](#) has links to positions now available on and off campus. For example, there are currently 15 positions available for students posted on JMU’s [Joblink](#).

Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

Graduate Policies. You are responsible to read and follow the graduate policies set forth in the [Graduate Catalog](#). Important information regarding degree progress, including rules for successful progression and continuous enrollment are also on the [Graduate School website](#).

Monitor your Dukes E-Mail account! Official information is sent to each student’s official [Dukes e-mail account](#). Check your @dukes.jmu.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.

Monitor MyMadison! The *Student Center* in [MyMadison](#) is where you will find advising information, register for classes, and where you can view “*To Do Items*” that will keep you on track towards graduation. Use the Student Center to update your mailing address and cell phone number. It is **your responsibility** to maintain accurate contact information. Check your account regularly. Don’t miss important information!

Essential Links:

- [Graduate School Website](#)
- [Graduate Policies](#)
- [JMU Student Handbook](#)
- [Forms for Graduate Students](#)
- [Thesis Guidelines](#)
- [Financial Aid Policies](#)

Have Questions? Please contact the following person if you have questions regarding:

Assistantships/Scholarships/Thesis/Dissertations	Laura Ryman (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszdj@jmu.edu)
Continuous Enrollment	Tracie Esmaili (esmailtb@jmu.edu)
General Questions	Bess Rowden (grad@jmu.edu)

We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to grad@jmu.edu.

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