UMBC International Field Research Program

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 1  Applications and $200 deposit due to ADMIN 222. The full deposit will only be refunded to students not selected.
Dec 11 Applicants will be notified of selection
March 21 Remaining program fee of $1750 due
June 20 Arrive in Kandersteg, Switzerland by noon for IFR program
June 26 Depart Kandersteg and return to the US, or extend your stay in Europe

Program fee $1,950 includes: **
- Six nights in a 3 star Swiss hotel
- 6 breakfasts, 5 dinners
- Academic program in Switzerland
- Local Alpine guide and lift passes
- Medex insurance

**Air transportation (approximately $1,200) and rail pass (approximately $325) not included in the program fee.

$1000 Fellowships Available

Meet your faculty

Dr. Mary Stuart, Professor in UMBC’s Health Administration and Policy Program, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Dr. Michael Weinrich, Physician and scientist
Ms. Janet McGlynn, Director of Communications, UMBC Office of Undergraduate Education

For more information and a printable application visit ifr.umbc.edu or contact Mary Stuart, stuart@umbc.edu

Switzerland 2016

UMBC

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Introduction to International Field Research

Switzerland, a country of stunning mountain vistas, truly lies at the crossroads of Europe. It is among the top-rated countries in the world with regard to health care, environmental policy, public transportation, infrastructure, live-able cities, and healthy lifestyles. This experiential learning program applies an ecological framework to better understand how culture, policy, and practice interact to achieve a sustainable and healthy society.

UMBC’s Swiss field research program is based in Kandersteg, nestled in the Swiss Alps, and rated “One of the top 1000 places to see” in the world! From this base, students travel to nearby cities to complete their field research. Highlights can include day trips to Geneva, Zurich, and Bern, as well as hikes to glaciers and historic alpine settings.

During spring semester students study a variety of research methods, complete background research, and write a research paper as part of a weekly seminar class. They are assigned to a research team based on their topic, and select related field research exercises to complete in Switzerland.

For undergraduate and graduate students considering careers in health, aging, public policy, information systems, education, computer science, media, business, science, engineering, research, museum studies, global studies, and cultural resource management.

Spring 2016

Apply by December 1

Class Spring semester at UMBC

HAPP/SOCY 403/663
Wednesdays, 4:30pm-7pm

Travel to Switzerland

June 20 - June 26, 2016

Credit 3 credit Culture GEP/GFR

Extend your stay in Europe

You may wish to extend your stay in Europe. Students will have an opportunity during the spring semester to discuss possibilities for extended travel and research.

A lifespan approach to health and happiness
How do public policy, clinical practice, and personal choices interact to help individuals of all ages maintain healthy lifestyles? How does stress management affect health and quality of life? How can we be more sensitive to the complexity, interactivity, and cultural diversity of communities, both urban and rural?

Cultural heritage, politics, and national identity
Switzerland is comprised of four geographic regions with different languages. Governance is decentralized and the economy is one of the strongest in the world. The Swiss are reported to be one of the happiest of populations. How do they do it? What are key factors in their success?

Environmental sustainability, climate change, and technology
Switzerland is one of the top rated countries for environmental policy. Climate change has far reaching implications for the environment, including accelerating glacial melt, water supply, disaster preparation, infrastructure investment, and the economy, making Switzerland a microcosm for studying the environmental sustainability.

Disaster aid and international relief
Switzerland has long been a leader, internationally, in supporting organizations dedicated to humanitarian aid and relief work. The World Health Organization, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the Conference on Disarmament are headquartered in Geneva, as well as the International Red Cross/Red Crescent.

Science and medicine: revolution and societal change
Switzerland has a history of scientific innovation including the Large Hadron Collider, a world class transportation system, pharmaceutical research, and famous historical figures such as Einstein, Paracelsus, and Carl Jung. This team studies the context and consequences of major changes in science, medicine, and technology.

Arts and the humanities
The arts and humanities challenge us to understand what it means to be human. Visit Roman ruins, retrace the footsteps of famous authors, visit castles and cathedrals, or research community music and art. Use your Swiss Pass for access to numerous museums and cultural opportunities!