

IAMFC - International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors

A division of the American Counseling Association

IAMFC Study-abroad Consortium

Overview

As the largest international association representing counseling professionals with an interest in couples and families, IAMFC offers quality continuing education and professional development opportunities to counselors, educators, and students. Over the past decade, IAMFC has established relationships with a number of universities and professional organizations throughout the United States and abroad who share the association's interest in couples and family counseling, education, and research. Past programs have included the 2005 **IAMFC World Conference** in New Orleans, and the **IAMFC Northampton Summer Institute**, which has been held intermittently in the United Kingdom since 1996. In planning for future programs, IAMFC is developing a study-abroad consortium which will allow participant universities to offer graduate credit courses in conjunction with IAMFC sponsored study-abroad programs.

The consortium concept

The **IAMFC study-abroad consortium** is a partnership between IAMFC and a participant university. The partnership role of IAMFC is to develop, market, and administer study-abroad programs of interest to graduate students, practicing professionals, and counselor educators. At present, IAMFC sponsors a short term study-abroad program in the United Kingdom (June 2010), with plans for a similar program in the Yucatan region of Mexico (November 2010 – Thanksgiving break). In addition to plans to continue offering annual programs in the United Kingdom and Mexico, IAMFC has been in communication with colleagues abroad and is exploring the development of future study-abroad programs in other countries. Possible venues for future programs include several European and South American countries, as well as Australia, China, Cyprus, and Rwanda. Each program will be unique and structured around a cultural immersion experience in the host country. In addition to NBCC - approved continuing education credit offered through IAMFC, consortium programs will offer graduate credit courses to participants under the aegis of participant universities.

The partnership role of a participant university is to offer a university credit course to program participants in one of three instructional formats. In previous programs, the most popular format has been a "hybrid" course in which some instructional content is provided online and some instructional content is provided on site during program dates. Alternatively, a course may be offered as a traditional course - taught entirely in the host country during program dates utilizing an intensive lecture format. A third instructional option is to offer a course in a 100% online instructional format - utilizing the host country cultural immersion experience as a course field assignment. An IAMFC sponsored study-abroad program will offer a number of courses – without duplication - from several different universities. If a student has not been

previously enrolled in the participant university's degree program, the student would typically be admitted and enrolled into the offered course as a "non degree" student. Upon completion of the course, the participant university will issue a transcript to the student which may in turn be transferred as credit to the student's home institution – subject to the course transfer policy of the student's home institution.

The IAMFC study-abroad consortium provides a true partnership between IAMFC and each participant university. IAMFC coordinates program marketing, collection of the program fee, and directing all in-country program activities. The participant university is only responsible for course instruction, coordinating student admission, class enrollment, and collect of tuition and fee – separate from the IAMFC program fee.

The IAMFC study-abroad consortium invites CACREP-accredited programs and individual counselor educators who are IAMFC members to contact the association to discuss possible participation in future IAMFC study-abroad programs. The IAMFC study-abroad consortium contact person is **Dr. Brian Canfield**. Brian may be reached via email at DrBSC@aol.com or on his cell phone 985-974-8405.

(See interest form below)

IAMFC Study-abroad Consortium Interest Form

Name _____

Email _____ Contact telephone _____

University affiliation _____ Your Job title _____

Is your program CACREP accredited? _____ Are you a member of IAMFC? _____

Would you serve as the program liaison between your university and the IAMFC study-abroad consortium?

What course(s) would your university have an interest in offering as part of a future IAMFC study-abroad program? (In past programs, CACREP “core” courses have been the most popular)

What would be the instructional format of the proposed course? (i.e. – traditional lecture, lecture/online “hybrid,” 100% online)

What is the estimated cost (tuition and fees) a student would be required to pay for a 3-credit hour graduate course? (Will your university exempt IAMFC program students from “out-of-state” tuition and fees?)

Would you serve as the “instructor of record” for the proposed course? _____

Please rank your countries of interest:

_____ England (June 2010 and annually)

_____ Yucatan, Mexico (November 2010 and annually)

_____ Australia

_____ China

_____ Cyprus

_____ Rwanda

_____ Other (please provide details) _____

Please email this completed form to DrBSC@aol.com or via conventional mail to:

Dr. Brian Canfield, P.O. Box 2008, Magnolia, AR 71754, USA