

## Study Abroad Application

To apply for the Study Abroad Program, please complete this form and sign below.

Program Information
Australia 2010
Applicant Information
<b>Legal Name:</b> _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; width: 100%;"> <span>Last</span> <span>First</span> <span>Middle</span> </div>
<b>Sam ID:</b> _____ <b>Gender:</b> _____
<b>Date of Birth:</b> _____ <b>Month</b> _____ <b>Day</b> _____ <b>Year</b> _____ <b>Email:</b> _____ <b>Cell phone number:</b> _____
<b>Local Street/Apt:</b> _____ <b>Local Phone number:</b> _____ <b>City/State/Zip:</b> _____
<b>Local Information Valid Until:</b> _____ <b>Home Street/Apt:</b> _____ <b>Home Phone number:</b> _____ <b>City/State/Zip:</b> _____
Academic Information
<b>Major:</b> _____ <b>Minor:</b> _____ <b>GPA (Cumulative):</b> _____ <b>Classification:</b> _____ <b>Expected Graduation Date:</b> _____
Financial Aid/Down Payment Information
<b>I am on financial aid:</b> _____ yes _____ no (If eligible, your aid will apply to this program).

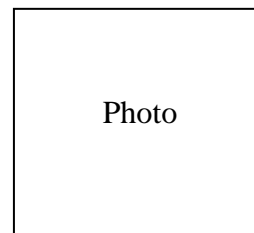
*I grant SHSU the authority to charge my account for the non-academic cost of this program.*

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM BIO-SHEET

<b>Program Information</b>	
Australia 2010	
<b>Applicant Information</b>	
<b>Legal Name:</b> _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 80%; margin-left: 20px;"> <span>Last</span> <span>First</span> <span>Middle</span> </div> <b>Nickname:</b> _____ <b>Passport Number (if available):</b> _____ <b>Local Street/Apt</b> _____ <b>Local Phone number:</b> _____ <b>City/State/Zip:</b> _____ <b>Home Phone number:</b> _____ <b>Cell Phone:</b> _____ <b>Email</b> _____ <b>Best way to contact you:</b> _____	
<b>Emergency Contact Information</b>	
<b>Person 1 Name</b> _____ <b>Relation:</b> _____ <b>Address</b> _____ <b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____ <b>Daytime Phone:</b> _____ <b>Night Phone:</b> _____ <b>Email:</b> _____  <b>Person 2 Name:</b> _____ <b>Relation:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ <b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____ <b>Daytime Phone:</b> _____ <b>Night Phone:</b> _____ <b>Email:</b> _____	
<b>Academic Information</b>	
<b>Major:</b> _____ <b>Minor:</b> _____ <b>GPA (Cumulative)</b> _____ <b>Classification:</b> _____ <b>Expected Graduation Date</b> _____ <b>Academic Advisor:</b> _____	

Please also attach a headshot photo: You can get one free at BearkatOneCard Office, Estill Building, Suite 230



## **Sam Houston State University Assumption of Risk and Release Form**

Study Abroad provides unique opportunities for academic achievement and personal growth. Study Abroad also entails special risks. Please discuss both aspects of your prospective study abroad experience with a study abroad and academic advisor. This release form specifies certain areas of risk that you should know about before you decide to participate in a study abroad program.

I hereby agree as follows:

1. **RISKS OF STUDY ABROAD:** I understand that participation in the Sam Houston State University Study Abroad Program specified above ("the Program") may involve risks not found in study on campus at Sam Houston State University. These risks include, but are not limited to those risks involved in traveling to and within, and returning from, one or more foreign countries; foreign political, legal, social, and economic conditions; different standards of design, safety and maintenance of buildings, public, places and conveyances; local medical and weather conditions; and other matters described on a separate Program Risk form which I have received, reviewed, and initiated, and which is incorporated by reference in this Release Form. I have made my own investigation, and am willing to accept these risks.
2. **INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS:** I understand that the University does not represent or act as an agent for, and cannot control the acts or omissions of, any host institution, host family, transportation carrier, hotel, tour organizer or other provider of goods or services involved in the Program.
3. **LIMITS OF UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITY:** I understand that the University cannot:
  - a) Guarantee the safety of participants or eliminate risk from the study abroad environment.
  - b) Monitor or control all the daily personal decisions, choices, and activities of individual participants.
  - c) Prevent participants from engaging in illegal, dangerous or unwise activities.
  - d) Assure that US standards of due process apply or provide or pay for legal representation for participants.
  - e) Assume responsibility for the actions of persons not employed or otherwise engaged by the University, for events that are beyond the control of the University and its subcontractors, or for situations which arise from the failure of a participant to disclose pertinent information.
  - f) Assure that home-country cultural values will apply on the program when these differ from those of the host country.
  - g) Be responsible for any injury or loss suffered when traveling independently or otherwise

separated or absent from any University-supervised activities.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY:

a) I have consulted with a medical doctor or Christian Science practitioner and program coordinator with regard to my personal medical needs. There are no health-related reasons or problems that preclude my participation in this Program.

b) I understand that I am required to maintain comprehensive insurance coverage that covers me overseas during my entire study abroad program. If I fail to maintain the required coverage, I recognize that the University is not obligated to attend to any of my medical or medication needs, and I assume all risks and responsibility therefore. If I require medical treatment or hospital care, in a foreign country or in the United States, during the Program, the University is not responsible for the cost or quality of such treatment or care. I agree to promptly express any health or safety concerns to the program staff or other appropriate individuals.

c) The University may (but is not obligated to) take any actions it considers to be warranted under the circumstances regarding my health and safety. I agree to pay all expenses relating thereto and release the University from any liability for any actions.

5. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT:

a) I understand that each foreign country has its own laws and standards of acceptable conduct, including dress, manners, morals, politics, drug use and behavior. I recognize that behavior which violates those laws or standards could harm the University's relations with those countries and the institutions therein, as well as my own health and safety. I will become informed of, and will abide by, all such laws and standards for each country to or through which I will travel during the Program.

b) I also will comply with the University's and the Program's rules, standards and instructions for student behavior.

c) I agree that the University has the right to enforce the standards of conduct described above, in its sole judgment, and that it will impose sanctions, up to and including termination from the Program, for violating these standards or for any behavior detrimental to or incompatible with the interest, harmony, and welfare of the University, the Program, or other participants. I recognize that due to the circumstances of foreign study programs, procedures for notice, hearing and appeal applicable to student disciplinary proceedings at the University do not apply. If I am terminated from the Program, I consent to being sent home at my own expense with no refund of fees or program costs.

d) I will attend to any legal problems I encounter with any foreign nationals or government of the host country. The University is not responsible for providing any assistance under such circumstances.



6. **PROGRAM CHANGES:** The University has the right to make cancellations, substitutions or changes in case of emergency or changed conditions or in the interest of the Program. I understand that the University's fees and program charges are based on current airfares, lodging rates and travel costs, which are subject to change. If I leave or am terminated from the Program for any reason, there will be no refund of fees already paid. I accept all responsibility for loss or additional expenses due to delays or other changes in the means of transportation, other services, or sickness, weather, strikes, or other unforeseen causes. If I become detached from the Program group, fail to meet a departure bus, airplane, or train, or become sick or injured, I will at my own expense seek out, contact, and reach the Program group at its next available destination.
  
7. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS:** Knowing the risks described above, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in the Program, I agree, on behalf of my family, heirs, and personal representative(s), to assume all the risks and responsibilities surrounding my participation in the Program. I hereby agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify The Regents of the Sam Houston State University, a public corporation, its officers, employees, and agents, and the individual members of the Board of Regents, from and against any present or future claim, loss or liability for injury to person or property which I may suffer, or for which I may be liable to any other person, during my participation in the Program (including period in transit to or from any country where the Program is being conducted).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Contract Agreement

**Student Conduct:** Because you will be a foreign guest, and because you will represent not only SHSU but also your country, you will have to be conscious of your manner of conduct. That includes attention to some of your behaviors: being polite, open-minded and understanding, etc. You may be shocked to learn that, as Americans, we tend to be stereotyped as "obnoxious," "loud" (in the hotels, in the streets and restaurants), and "demanding service" just because we are "paying for it." Do all you can not to perpetuate this stereotype.

**Laws of the Host Country:** Wherever you are, you are under strict obligation to obey all laws of the host country--particularly including laws concerning the purchase, possession, use, or distribution of "illicit or controlled substances." Neither SHSU, nor the United States will tolerate "behavior that is illegal, obnoxious, or embarrassing" to our study abroad group. This applies to big offenses as well as to such "minor" offenses as removing objects from restaurants or hotels and can be grounds for termination from the program.

**Safe & Proper Conduct:** Your proper behavior will include being on guard with strangers. If you can't help projecting an inviting attitude, absolutely do not bring your new acquaintances to your room. You will share rooms with other Program participants and you are NOT to offend their sensibilities and right to privacy. Trespasses of this sort will not be tolerated. Conversely, do not go to your new acquaintances' rooms in hotels at any time--you are potentially putting yourself in grave danger and there is nothing that you professor or your fellow-travelers can do to help you (should you need help).

**Respect:** Since you will be a part of a group, remember that moods may change and tempers may fly. What do you normally do to deflect a "heavy" situation? As you know, the actions of one can affect the moods of many, so it is important to project a respectful attitude towards each other (not to mention towards our hosts).

**Dismissal from the Program:** Unacceptable or illegal conduct on the part of any participant will not be tolerated and will result in immediate and unconditional dismissal, with no refund of fees or tuition. If your behavior jeopardizes the SHSU Australia 2010 Study Abroad Trip or its participants, you will be sent home immediately without recourse.

**Attendance at Program Functions:** Field trip and course attendance is required. There is some built-in flexibility in the Program and some free time. Allow for enough time in the morning, so you can arrive to the sessions on time, alert, and ready. You must also be ready to leave your accommodations or arrive at the designated place on time. Promptness is particularly important on field-days and departure days: the group will not wait for stragglers. Be aware that for some day trips we might have to leave relatively early in the morning and that we may not return until late at night.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **International Program Payment Schedule, Cancellation and Reimbursement Policy**

**I understand, and will comply with the following payment schedule and terms of withdrawal from my student account:**

### **Minimum Payment Schedule:**

Down Payment:	\$ 600.00 (non-refundable and needed to secure a spot)
*December 15 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 600.00 (\$1200 total paid to account)
*February 15 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 800.00 (\$2000.00 total paid to account)
April 15 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ Remainder of Program Fees must be paid (approximately \$4800 total paid)

\*I understand if my application is accepted for the program after December 15<sup>th</sup>, it is my responsibility to ensure funds sufficient to meet the **down payment, and any missed prior minimum payment**, will be placed in my student account by the business day immediately following my acceptance notification.

(If you wish to make additional, unscheduled payments, are on financial aid, or have obtained a scholarship, please discuss with program instructors on an individual basis).

### **Reimbursement Policy for withdrawal:**

The SHSU Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Department makes financial commitments with a series of entities to provide for airline and ground transportation, lodging and food for participants and professors. Morally, we are committed to obtaining the highest quality program at the lowest feasible price. If a participant decides to back out of the program, for whatever reason, our reimbursement policy is as follows:

A. If you withdraw after the application is submitted and any time up to January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, there will be a cancellation charge of the \$600 non-refundable deposit. *For example, Robert submits a competed application and \$600 deposit on October 1<sup>st</sup>. He decides on January 2<sup>nd</sup> to withdraw from the trip and notifies the program instructors. Robert will be eligible to receive the \$600 that he paid into the trip on December 15<sup>th</sup> back, but will not be eligible to receive his \$600 non-refundable deposit back..*

B. If you withdraw after the application is submitted and between January 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, there will be a cancellation charge of \$600 non-refundable deposit. In addition, you will be responsible for any costs that have been paid on your behalf that are unrecoverable by SHSU Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Department. This may include transportation costs, housing costs as well as any other incurred expenditures. *For example, Robert submits a competed application and \$600 deposit on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Plane tickets are purchased on February 20<sup>th</sup> for \$1400. Robert decides March 3<sup>rd</sup> to withdraw and notifies the program instructors. Robert is not eligible to receive any refund as his deposit is non-refundable and the plane ticket equaled his previous payments.*

C. If you withdraw after April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, your airline ticket will be given to you and no refund will be possible.

D. Withdrawal after departure: In those rare cases where you feel you must return from overseas, check with your program leader for procedures. No refund is available.

If you receive funds from the SHSU Study Abroad Scholarship Fee program, or from the Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Study Abroad Scholarship program, please bear in mind your commitments to them: if you drop courses or do not comply with these commitments, those funds must be returned.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Scholarship Opportunities and Application

Scholarship Opportunities are only available to currently enrolled Sam Houston State University students.

### **Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Department:**

If you are an Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Department student participating in the Australia Study Abroad Trip, you may apply for an Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Study Abroad Scholarship. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2010. Recipients will be selected after that date.

Scholarship amounts are normally \$250, however the amount may vary in some instances.

### **SHSU Study Abroad Scholarship Opportunities:**

If you are current student, and meet academic requirements, you may apply for an SHSU Study Abroad Scholarship. Information and applications can be found at [http://www.shsu.edu/~int\\_www/abroad/](http://www.shsu.edu/~int_www/abroad/). Applications for programs taking place in the Summer 2010 Semester will typically be due in March 2010. The Office of International Programs is responsible for administering this scholarship program, so please check their website often for application, qualifications and deadlines.

### **Other Scholarship Information and Opportunities:**

Agribusiness Beyond the Borders Scholarship: [www.agcareers.com/scholarship\\_form.cfm](http://www.agcareers.com/scholarship_form.cfm)

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship:

[www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman\\_Awards/Home8/Home.htm](http://www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman_Awards/Home8/Home.htm)

University of Minnesota Scholarships and Funding: [www.umabroad.umn.edu/financial/scholarships/](http://www.umabroad.umn.edu/financial/scholarships/)

Financial Resources for Multicultural Students Studying Abroad:

[studyabroad.msu.edu/people/studentsofcolor/scholarships.html](http://studyabroad.msu.edu/people/studentsofcolor/scholarships.html)

Sites through NAFSA – Association of International Educators:

[www.nafsa.org/students.sec/u.s.\\_study\\_abroad\\_scholarships](http://www.nafsa.org/students.sec/u.s._study_abroad_scholarships)

Scholarships to study abroad in Australia:

[www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/Sia/en/StudyCosts/Scholarships.htm](http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/Sia/en/StudyCosts/Scholarships.htm)

**Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Study Abroad Scholarship Application**

Student Information	
Name: _____	Sam ID: _____
Email: _____	Telephone number: _____
Street/Apt: _____	Cell Phone number: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	
Academic Information	
Major: _____	Minor: _____
GPA (Cumulative): _____	Classification: _____
Expected Graduation Date: _____	
Other	
Hours worked per week during on campus or off campus employment: _____	
Extracurricular activities: _____	
_____	
_____	
Have you ever traveled out of the U.S.? If so, where? _____	
Have you ever studied abroad before? If so, where? _____	

**Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Scholarship Essay Topic:** Explain how this study abroad program meets your academic and personal goals as well as any special circumstances that indicate why you should be considered for an Agricultural and Industrial Sciences Study Abroad Scholarship.

(This essay should be no more than two pages in length, typed, and attached to this application on separate sheets of paper. Make sure your Sam ID and your major are listed in the upper right hand corner of the page.)

Scholarship decisions will be based on financial need, merit and quality of the submitted essay.

**Student Signature** – I affirm that the information given in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and I grant permission to the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Sciences to access my academic record and financial aid information.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Course Registration and Other Requirements for Australia 2010 Study Abroad

Please read and keep this page for your information

1. First choice for the Australia 2010 Study Abroad program will be given to Agricultural and Industrial Sciences students in good standing, admitted to Sam Houston State University and enrolled in the six credit hours that are the basis of the trip. Second choice will be given to current students, former students and community members that submit a completed application to program faculty. Program seats are limited and will be allocated based on date completed application was received, and meeting the program requirements. For students seeking course credit, a completed application contains acceptance of the non-refundable \$600 trip down payment.
2. Tuition is a separate payment and will depend on your residency status, and your degree status (undergraduate versus graduate student). Typical tuition and fees for Texas residents pursuing an undergraduate degree and taking six hours is about \$1500.00.
3. Any currently enrolled student registering for the program will be required to sign up for six credit hours in SI.10. Undergraduate students will be required to enroll in AGR 464: International Agricultural, and AGR 469: Australian Agriculture. Graduate students will be required to enroll in AGR 569: International Agricultural and AGR 569: Australian Agriculture. Enrollment procedures will be explained before advance registration begins in spring 2010.
4. Expenses that you should consider that are not included in the package include tuition, approximately six evening meals not included in the plan, any individual sightseeing trips, personal expenses, and gifts. Other personal expenses may arise, although not listed here.
5. A **passport** is required by the United States government in order to travel to Australia. If you do not have a passport, or have a passport that will have expired at the time of the trip, you will need to get one. **A passport may take up to six months to receive, so please apply early if you do not have one.**

You may download an application for a passport at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/get\\_840.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/get_840.html)

The instructions will guide you to fill out an application and take it, a photo i.d., two passport-size photos, and proof of U.S. citizenship to a passport agency or acceptance facility. ***DO NOT*** sign your application until you are in front of a passport agent. Proof of Citizenship may include a certified birth certificate issued by the city, county, or state (not a hospital record of birth).

In Huntsville, take your documents to the new post office, 3190 Hwy 30 W, telephone: (936) – 295-7741. In Houston, and many other cities, you can go to almost any post office to apply.