We developed a two week “Maymester” course for students.
a Two Week Study Abroad Program in Chemistry and Textiles

students to experience

The Course:
stry:

White²

The Louvre
We developed a two week “Maymester” course for students to appreciate cultures outside of the United States, to appreciate the cultures function, and to interact with peoples of other cultures.

I. The purposes of this course
   a. to discuss scientific discoveries in their geographic and historical context
   b. to describe the historical times in which the science was done
   c. to show how their work affects us today

II. Planning the course
   We built the course around Nobel prize winning scientific work. We focused on cities where scientific discoveries were made, then designed the course around these locations, choosing the places and activities to emphasize the contexts of the scientific discoveries.
students to experience the way in which these other cultures.

Scientists worked

scientists and their discoveries were made and choosing cities of

The Course:

First stop: Rothenburg ob der Tauber
Topics:
1) The 30 Years War and its Effects
2) The Turn to Scientific Thought
3) Alchemy: The Break from Classical to Better Living Through Chemistry

Second Stop: Würzburg
Topics:
4) Emil Fischer and Sugars: Triumph of the Early Years Career.
5) Wilhelm Röntgen: Discovery of X-rays and Medical Breakthroughs
6) Werner Heisenberg: When Experimentation and Moral Lines
Effect on European Scientism
Brought Through the Enlightenment
Charlatanism to the Quest for
Chemistry (Cagliostro and Paracelsus)

Triumph and Tragedy in a Brilliant
Discovery of X-Rays: from Shoe Shopping to
Exciting Science Crosses Ethical
then designed the course around these locations, choosing locations in close proximity.

III. Advertising the course
For the Spring 2007 trip, we started advertising in SCCC by giving short presentations to selected classes in Chemistry and Consumer Sciences, b) distributing flyers concentrating on chemistry students, c) putting the advertisement as part of a Word document, distributing posters throughout the Chemistry Building and Consumer Sciences buildings.

IV. Setting Prices
We chose Millennium Tours of Houston who provided travel for students for a) airfare to Frankfurt and back from Paris,
choosing cities of

In Spring 2006 by a) Chemistry and Family

concerning the course to a Web Page, and d) Building and Family and

vided a cost to the Paris, b) all hotels

and Moral Lines

### Third Stop: Köln

**Topics:**
- 7) The Discovery of Cologne: ...•
- 8) Kurt Alder: A Simple Way to

### Fourth Stop: Heidelberg

**Topics**
- 9) August Kekulé: How Dream...
- 10) Wilhelm Bunsen: A Burning...
- 11) Fritz Haber: From Nitrogen t...
- 12) Adolph von Bäyer: A New C...

### Fifth Stop: Freiburg

**Topics**
- 13) Hermann Staudinger: Studies...
You Smell Good!

to Make Difficult Molecules

ams Led to the Structure of Benzene

mg Desire to Learn

n to Nitrates: An Ugly Mixture of

r.

by Chemical Industry

lies on Cellulose: Building Blocks of
students for a) airfare to Frankfurt and back from Paris (including breakfasts), and c) all train travel through France. There were no hidden costs associated with it.

V. Before Departure Preparations

We had four class meetings prior to departure. In these meetings, we discussed appropriate behavior, proper (and improper) differences in culture, packing (emphasizing that one had to carry their bags up and down stairs in train stations), and the need for other housekeeping tasks to be carried out, such as:

- letting students choose their roommates for the trip
- giving them instructions on where to obtain passports
- making copies of their passports (in case of emergency)
Paris, b) all hotels through Germany and with this course trip.

In these classes, we (proper) clothing, different had to carry their own need for fitness.

Such as the trip, passports, emergencies), and

### Grade Distribution

Attendance (35%) and participation: (35 A 10-page research paper on one aspect during the course due at the end of th
lies on Cellulose: Building Blocks of

Cholesterol and Histidine: Clogged Arteries

Inches

French Sericulture

Invention of Artificial Silk

(35%)

Fact of the course that piqued their interest: the first Summer session: (30%)
making copies of their passports (in case of emergency)
providing them with itineraries complete with hotel numbers for each hotel where students can be reached in case of emergency.

Rothenburg ob der Tauber: first class day and a good place to start
emergencies), and
with hotels and phone
ached in case of emer-

Acknowledgements to the Gibbs family
which is gratefully acknowledged

2005 Group in Rothenburg
of the first Summer session: (30%)
family of Huntsville for partial support

Catching the Train in Köln