
Office of International Education

Susan Steen, Director
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The Office of International Education coordinates programs and services that extend the university to our local and global communities. The office provides intensive English language instruction; administers the university's extensive study-abroad programs; and coordinates international admissions and student services for international students and scholars.

The office is operationally divided into the English Language Institute; International Programs; and International Student and Scholar Services.

English Language Institute

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The English Language Institute (ELI) delivers intensive academic English instruction for international students as well as for local residents for whom English is a second language. Full-time study is 25 hours a week. Part-time enrollment is also possible. Terms are eight weeks in duration. The program, which accommodates students from beginning to advanced language proficiency, is attended by students from every major continent.

The ELI fosters cross-cultural awareness within the university and the community by offering ELI students opportunities for interaction with native English speakers, both on-and off-campus.

Founded in 1947, the ELI is among the oldest language institutes in the United States. The program is a member of the University and College Intensive English Programs consortium (UCIEP).

International Programs

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International Programs administers a variety of programs providing Southern Miss students with long-term and short-term opportunities to study abroad for academic credit. Short-term programs include the following:

The **British Studies Program**, a summer term in London in which Southern Miss functions as the academic and logistical linchpin for a consortium comprising the University of Memphis, Hinds Community College, Texas A&M University – Commerce, the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Southeastern Louisiana University, Henderson State University, Cameron University, the College of Charleston, Mercer University, Lamar University, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, The University of Texas, Tyler and Jacksonville State University.

Music in Vienna, Austria
Business/Spanish in Costa Rica
Canadian Service Learning
The Caribbean Studies Program in Jamaica
Creative Writers Studio in France
The Honduran Field Studies Program in Geography
Marine Mammal Studies in the Galapagos Islands
Opera in Italy
Religion in India
The Spanish Language Program in Puebla, Mexico
The Spanish Language Program in Madrid, Spain
The Vietnam Studies Program

Long-term academic study-abroad programs coordinated by this office include:

The Abbey of Pontlevoy: A semester-abroad program in France designed especially for freshmen and sophomores. Southern Miss leads a consortium of eleven U.S. universities for The Abbey program.

The Granada Semester in Spain: A semester-abroad program in southern Spain designed especially for sophomores and juniors, offering credit in Spanish and other fields.

Semester and year-abroad exchanges:

Ecole Supérieure du Commerce Extérieur, France
Exeter University, England
Universite de Perpignan, France
Keele University, Stoke-on-Trent, England
Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia
University of Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain
University of Jaen, Spain
University of Bonn, Germany
University of Victoria, Canada
University of Wales, Swansea
University of the Yucatán, Merida, Mexico
University of Orleans, France
The Hague University, The Hague, The Netherlands

In addition, a **student practice teaching program** in England is offered in the fall and spring semesters for education majors.

International Student and Scholar Services

Barbara Jackson, Administrator

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International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) coordinates all facets of international admissions and student/scholar services. ISSS provides counsel on immigration regulations, personal matters, and culture shock and adjustment, as well as some academic counseling in conjunction with various departments. The office processes all international applications, evaluates foreign academic credentials, and issues the appropriate immigration documents for the nonimmigrant foreign student. Intercultural programming for international students and the community is also coordinated by ISSS.

The ISSS office disseminates Southern Miss information to foreign schools, U.S. embassies and consulates abroad, and nonprofit international organizations such as the Institute for International Education.

ISSS also provides information to, and immigration documents for, research scholars invited by various Southern Miss departments to participate in limited research opportunities.