



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

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Press Release

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March 20, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY MEMBERS INVITED TO TRAVEL ABROAD WITH MCCC STUDENTS

MONROE, Mich. – Area residents interested in traveling to Spain and Portugal with Monroe County Community College’s Study Abroad program can attend one of four orientation meetings scheduled this spring.

Three college professors are taking a group of students and anyone else interested in traveling abroad on an 18-day trip to eight cities in May 2013.

“Spain is a great country for combining learning with travel,” Assistant Professor of Humanities and Journalism Dan Shaw said. “It has amazing history, culture and art, as well as exciting cities and dramatic landscapes. We’re expecting a great travel experience.”

Besides Shaw, who is leading the trip and teaching a Photojournalism course, Professor of Political Science Dr. Joanna Sabo is teaching a Comparative Politics course and Associate Professor of Art Gary Wilson is teaching an Art Appreciation course.

Students can take one, two or all three of the 3-credit courses. Community members also are encouraged to join the tour, whether they take the courses or not. The cost is estimated at about \$4,200 without course tuition.

(more)

The trip will include two days in Lisbon and Evora, Portugal, followed by eight days swinging through Cordoba, Granada, Seville, Toledo and Madrid, Spain. The last eight days will be spent in Barcelona.

“We think it’s important that students spend several days in one place, so they can get past the usual tourist spots and really experience a foreign culture,” Shaw said. “Barcelona is one of the world’s great cities, and we’re really looking forward to our extended stay there.”

This will be MCCC’s fourth Study Abroad trip. Sabo and Wilson took students to Western Europe, Southeast Asia and Central Europe in 2007, 2009 and 2011. Shaw joined them for the trip last May to Austria, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic.

Studying abroad is more than an enriching experience, according to Sabo, who has led the college’s previous trips. It’s a necessity for today’s students.

“Several universities across the country like Harvard and Wharton now require a study abroad experience for many of their programs,” Sabo said. “Competition for jobs is fierce and more worldly students will have the edge with employers. I have students from previous trips exploring very competitive positions with the U.S. State Department.”

Sabo also noted that college students have some advantages when it comes to financing a trip abroad. “Going while in college allows the opportunity to finance the trip in an affordable manner with student loans and sometimes other forms of financial aid,” she said.

The four informational meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, at 4 p.m., La-Z-Boy Center, Room Z260; 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, Whitman Center, Room 3; 7 p.m.; Thursday, April 5, 12:30 p.m., La-Z-Boy Center; and Tuesday, April 10, La-Z-Boy Center, Room Z259.

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