

## MAY TERM 2027 COURSE OFFERINGS

**Course Offering:** **ASC 106: May Term in Asia (Vietnam)**  
**Instructor(s):** Derek Buckaloo & David Nordmann  
**Travel Component:** International travel required  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$3,500 - 3,800; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** Learn more about present-day Vietnam and its wartime experiences during about three weeks of travel in Asia. The focus is on Vietnamese culture, the effects of the American war on the place it was fought, and the fast-changing country that has grown up, especially in terms of economic development, since the guns went silent in 1975. Locations to be visited typically include Ho Chi Minh City/Saigon, the imperial capital of Hue, Halong Bay, and Hanoi, where time will be spent in the language classrooms and with the students of the Vietnam National University.

**Course Offering:** **BIO 462/463: Advanced Biology Laboratory I and II**  
**Instructor(s):** Paul Storer  
**Travel Component:** No travel  
**Prerequisites:** BIO-235/235L  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$0; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** Advanced Biology Lab offers students an opportunity to learn important laboratory skills in preparation for applications for graduate school or employment in biotechnology. Students will be able to work with various techniques and instrumentation in the department. This course is a great way to obtain experience especially if a summer research position is not possible.

**Course Offering:** **HSS 494: Health Professions Externship**  
**Instructor(s):** Karla Keyes  
**Travel Component:** Other (Please explain below).  
**Prerequisites:** Junior or Senior standing with appropriate GPA for Graduate and Professional Programs and specifically Science GPA for some  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$1-999; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** A capstone experience offering an intense exploration for qualified juniors and seniors with one or more professionals involving fields of Human or Animal Healthcare, Allied Health Fields, Auxiliary fields within the Healthcare system, or in the Natural Sciences within and outside our immediate community with one or more professionals in those fields. Students will be exposed to the daily activities, opportunities, and difficulties that are present in that particular profession. Students observe/work approximately 40 hours per week (a minimum of 140 hours on-site experience) under one or more supervisors who are experienced practitioners in their field. Externships are available in such fields as, but not limited to, medicine (with a multitude of clinical and non-clinical specialties), physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, veterinary medicine, dentistry, medical technology, public health, pathology, auxiliary areas within Healthcare systems, or in a non-clinical laboratory science such as medical chemistry, or toxicology.

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**Course Offering:** **INT 494: May Term Nursing Internship**  
**Instructor(s):** Kelly Siems  
**Travel Component:** No travel  
**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of the nursing program's junior year courses  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$1-999; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** This course will be advertised in the nursing department only, a marketing flier from St. Luke's is provided to the nursing students during the NUR 355 course (junior level).

**Course Offering:** **MUA 157: Introduction to Jazz History**  
**Instructor(s):** Bill Carson  
**Travel Component:** Domestic/U.S. travel required  
**Prerequisites:** No prerequisites  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$1,200 - 1,500; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** Learn about the history of jazz and blues by combining an on-campus experience with visits to Memphis, New Orleans, and Nashville. The visit to New Orleans, the birthplace of JAZZ, will introduce students to the early history of one of America's greatest contributions to the world of music. You will experience live music in classic New Orleans settings, and witness the geographical, political, and societal influences that shaped the early history of Jazz. Hearing live jazz and blues on Beale Street in Memphis and visiting the National Museum of African American Music in Nashville will contribute to an understanding of the music that preceded and followed New Orleans jazz.

**Course Offering:** **PSY 200: The Role of Hedonism in Well-being: The Dutch Example**  
**Instructor(s):** Ellen Lee & a co-instructor TBD  
**Travel Component:** International travel required.  
**Prerequisites:** No prerequisites  
**Credit offered:** 1.0 course credit  
**Anticipated cost:** \$4,000 - 4,999; May Term fees  
**Course Description:** What does it really mean to live a good life, and is pleasure the key to getting there? This immersive May Term invites students from all majors to explore hedonism not as excess, but as a meaningful lens for understanding happiness, well-being, and human motivation. Through a blend of discussion, reflection, and hands-on experiences- from food and art to relaxation and adventure- you'll examine how everyday pleasures shape our lives. Along the way, you'll engage big questions: Can pleasure lead to lasting happiness? Where is the line between enjoyment and overindulgence? And how do our values guide what we seek? Set entirely in the Netherlands, this course uses travel as the classroom, allowing you to experience firsthand how another culture integrates pleasure into daily life in thoughtful, sustainable ways. From world-class museums and cafés to bike-friendly cities and the concept of gezelligheid- a uniquely Dutch sense of shared comfort and joy- you'll explore how policies, environments, and cultural norms can support well-being. Whether you're interested in psychology, philosophy, public policy, or simply living better, this course offers a rare opportunity to reflect on what brings joy and how to pursue it with intention.

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<b>Course Offering:</b>	<b>SOC 108: The Past and Future in Kosovo</b>
<b>Instructor(s):</b>	Alissa Boguslaw & Joe Demarest
<b>Travel Component:</b>	International travel required
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None
<b>Credit offered:</b>	1.0 course credit
<b>Anticipated cost:</b>	\$3,000 - 3,999; May Term fees
<b>Course Description:</b>	<p>How do you build a democracy from the ground up? This experiential course takes students to Kosovo—Europe’s youngest country—just over 25 years after the conflict that led to its independence. Kosovo declared independence in 2008, becoming the seventh and last successor state of the former Yugoslavia. Known for its stunning mountain landscapes and vibrant café culture, today, the legacies of the past remain visible in everyday life. We will explore how Kosovo’s citizens are actively shaping their country’s future through civic participation and the construction of national identity and collective memory. We will visit museums, memorials, and cultural landmarks, and connect directly with political leaders, journalists, artists, activists, and local college students. Students will also have a unique opportunity to participate in citizen diplomacy. Thanks to Iowa’s longstanding state partnership with Kosovo—including a consulate in Des Moines—this course offers rare access and deeper engagement with a country that most travelers never encounter.</p>