



Semester at Sea®

A PROGRAM OF THE NON-PROFIT INSTITUTE FOR SHIPBOARD EDUCATION

MEDIA KIT

Established in 1963, Semester at Sea is the only study abroad program of its kind in the world. Using a ship as a traveling campus, undergraduates, lifelong learners, faculty, and lecturers live and learn together while examining a major region of the globe.

- 55,000 STUDENTS
- 1,500 INSTITUTIONS
- 60 COUNTRIES
- EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

49-YEAR HISTORY

Tracing its roots to 1963, Semester at Sea is the nation's premier shipboard program for study abroad.

PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Transferable academic credit is awarded by the University of Virginia (U.Va.), a "U.S. News & World Report" Top 25 School.

FOCUS ON EDUCATION, NOT PROFIT

Operated by a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing a traditional academic experience with a global perspective.

ONE-OF-A-KIND SHIPBOARD CAMPUS

The MV Explorer, one of the world's safest passenger ships, has been specially outfitted as the program's floating university.

INSTITUTE FOR SHIPBOARD EDUCATION

SEMESTER AT SEA

P.O. BOX 400885

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22904



TIMELINE OF MILESTONES

1963

FIRST SAS VOYAGE; 275 STUDENTS BOARD THE MS SEVEN SEAS AND VISIT 22 PORTS IN 16 COUNTRIES



1966

THE MS SEVEN SEAS IS REPLACED BY THE SS RYNDAM



1971

THE SS RYNDAM IS REPLACED BY THE SS UNIVERSE



1975

SAS HAS TAKEN MORE THAN 10,000 STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD

1979

SAS TAKES 500 STUDENTS TO MAINLAND CHINA

1982

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI GREETES SAS STUDENTS ABOARD THE SHIP

1988

SAS STUDENTS VISIT PRESIDENTS M. GORBACHEV (USSR) AND C. AQUINO (PHILIPPINES)

MISSION

To educate individuals with the global understanding necessary to address the challenges of our interdependent world.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Semester at Sea's rigorous academic program integrates coursework from more than 20 disciplines with relevant field study in up to a dozen countries, providing a comparative study abroad experience that is truly global. Students from across the United States and around the world participate in Semester at Sea and course credit, from the University of Virginia, is transferable to their home college or university.

COURSES

- Courses are open to all majors
- 20-25 disciplines of study
- 75+ course offerings on fall and spring voyages
- 30+ course offerings on short-term and summer voyages
- Field labs offer intensive engagement between faculty and students and hands-on application of course knowledge in country
- Courses are accredited by U.Va. and are fully transferable

EXEMPLARY FACULTY AND CURRICULUM

- Professors on SAS represent acclaimed institutions around the world
- Curriculum is enhanced by distinguished experts, visits with world leaders, and cross-cultural fieldwork
- SAS participants have met with world leaders including: Fidel Castro, Anwar Sadat, Indira Gandhi, Mikhail Gorbachev, Corazon Aquino, Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

[Semester at Sea] brings together the people who will be responsible for solving problems with opportunities to actually see examples of these problems in countries where they are the most oppressing and actively felt."

GARRICK LOUIS

Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
University of Virginia

The Spring 2012 Voyage features faculty from Columbia, MIT, Princeton, and Stanford and includes internationally recognized experts on social movements and social media, endangered species, and world cinema—not to mention a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and two Carnegie Foundation Professors of the Year.



1992 SAS STUDENTS MEET NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT MOTHER TERESA	1994 SAS STUDENTS MEET NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT NELSON MANDELA	1999 SAS VISITS HAVANA, CUBA	1996 THE SS UNIVERSE IS REPLACED BY THE SS UNIVERSE EXPLORER		2004 THE SS UNIVERSE EXPLORER IS REPLACED BY THE MV EXPLORER		2007 ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU SAILS AS DISTINGUISHED LECTURER IN RESIDENCE DURING THE ENTIRE SPRING VOYAGE	2009 SAS LAUNCHES THE SEMESTER AT SEA C.Y. TUNG PROGRAM IN SINO-U.S. RELATIONS; SAS CELEBRATES 100TH VOYAGE	2010 ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU SAILS ON FALL 2010 VOYAGE; SAS LAUNCHES SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE AND FORUM ON GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT	2011 2,024 STUDENTS, 199 LIFELONG LEARNERS, 137 FACULTY, AND 134 STAFF SAILED ON SAS
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LEARNING OUTCOMES

Semester at Sea Evaluative Research: The Alumni Survey

This independent research project was conducted by social scientist Robert C. Weigl, Ph.D., director of the Franklin Center in Alexandria, Va. with Carol Baker, Ph.D., former director of the Office of Measurement and Evaluation at the University of Pittsburgh. The 2009 report summarizes findings from an online survey of 342 Semester at Sea alumni who sailed between 1980 and 2008.

Alumni Survey Results:

- **90%** report they were substantially influenced by the program.
- **97%** report Semester at Sea as their most important college semester.
- **73%** report the Semester at Sea influence on their lives has not diminished with time; 38% report that the impact has continued to grow over time since their voyage.
- **42%** report they have been sojourners overseas—spending extended time living and studying in other countries.
- **22%** report they work or have worked outside the United States.
- **39%** report they have traveled to revisit and learn more about countries they visited on their SAS voyage.

SHIPBOARD CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

The *MV Explorer* is 590 feet long, 24,300 tons, ISO Green Certified, and is the fastest passenger ship of its kind in the world. The floating campus features nine classrooms, a 9,000-volume library, Wi-Fi Internet, a computer lab, and medical clinic. Recreational areas for include: 7 decks, two dining rooms, an outdoor pool, fitness center, sports court, wellness center, and hair salon.

Each voyage includes “Lifelong Learners”, non-student adults who enjoy travel that includes educational content. Lifelong Learner participants attend classes, travel on faculty-directed field trips, and often help students understand the cultures of the various countries.

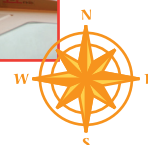
Three Academic Voyages Each Year:

Fall and Spring voyages circumnavigate the globe or explore a world region, visiting up to 14 international destinations in approx. 108 days (12-15 credits)

Summer voyages explore a world region, visiting up to eight international destinations in approx. 70 days (9-12 credits)

Tuition/Financial Aid:

ISE awards up to 4 million of financial aid and scholarships each year. 40 percent of participants apply for and receive ISE financial assistance.





SEMESTER AT SEA ALUMNI

Prominent SAS student alumni include:

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Spring 2007 (Nobel Laureate)
- Jessica Jackley, Spring 1999 (co-founder, Kiva.org)
- Gary Foster, Spring 1982 (producer, Sony Pictures)
- Andrew Briggs, Spring 2002 (president, Freedom in Creation)
- Stephen Gaghan, Fall 1986 (screen writer)
- Joan Lunden, Fall 1967 (TV host)
- Bob McKnight, Fall 1973 (CEO, Quiksilver, Inc.)
- Jonathan Murray, Spring 1999 (MTV producer, Road Rules)
- Scott Seamans, Fall 1978 (Co-founder, Crocs, Inc. Shoes)
- Arthur C. Clarke, Fall 1980 (*2001: A Space Odyssey*)

Semester at Sea changed my life. It is the reason I'm sitting here in this chair today as a State Department Foreign Services Officer."

KELLY ADAMS-SMITH
Fall 1988 Voyage
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C.

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