



AUMNIBUS

Chronicling the Campus Community and Beyond Since 1971

January 2015

Warhawk Issue - 19

Study Abroad: China – A Unique Opportunity

Jacob Saylor

Have you ever wanted to get a taste of the world outside of the United States? Do you want to get college credit while doing so? You may want to look ahead at the upcoming Study Abroad trip to China. Shortly after the end of the Spring semester, AUM students will leave for China on May 26, 2015. The trip will last until June 10. All students are welcome to join in on the trip and can acquire three credit hours. If interested, you'll have to prepare for the trip with a weeklong orientation class. There's also a week of classes required by the program for students to take after they arrive back in the United States. The estimated cost of the course is about \$2,600, a rather small price to pay for this kind of trip. I spoke with Ling Chen Kelley, who is a visiting professor of Chinese at Auburn Montgomery. "An ancient Chinese proverb depicts that: 'It is better to see something once than to hear about it a hundred times,'" Ling says. "Instead of learning from media, books and classical literature, the study abroad program allows students to experience China first-hand by being immersed in the country, its customs, culture, language, sights, sounds, viands and historical sites for two weeks."



Ling Chen Kelley poses for a picture on top of the Great Wall of China.

Photo courtesy of Ling Chen Kelley

Ling feels that this learning experience is invaluable as it gives students the chance to see another way of life firsthand. Those who embark on this experience will see a number of historically significant places over the two-week trip. "During our stay, we will visit the ancient city of Wuhan, the provincial capital of Hubei province and take a train ride to Beijing for the second week," Ling says. "Some of the highlights in Hubei include ancient battlefields from the Warring States Period and Late Han Dynasty, the Three Gorges, the Hubei Provincial Museum." Students will also get the opportunity to see the Great Wall of China in Beijing.

Ling notes that the program is geared towards those involved in either International Business

or Chinese studies. The credits acquired in this course can be used to fill an accredited course in your major or as an elective. "Depending on students' interests, this study abroad program can also be listed under an additional accreditation classification, such as Chinese studies, religious studies or international business," Ling says. The Confucius Institute has been instrumental in making this Study Abroad trip possible. The Institute, in conjunction with the Hubei University of Economics in China, has taken care of all expenses apart from students' plane tickets, tourist visas and food.

"If you've ever wanted to visit China - this is a golden opportunity," Ling explains. "Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions." You can reach Ling at lkelly8@aum.edu.

AUM Offers New Minor

Jessica Klinner

Picking a minor can be tricky, especially when you're still not sure what you want to do in your future career. Though not every major requires a minor, it is a great chance for students to explore areas of interest outside of their field of study; plus, it looks great on resumes. AUM offers many minors in a variety of subjects, and the College of Business is now adding to that list a minor for non-business majors.

As the only school in the Montgomery area to receive accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the AUM College of Business has earned respect in the state and beyond. In fact, the accreditation puts the college in the top one percent of business schools internationally.

On a quiet, Friday morning, Dr. Rhea Ingram, Dean of the College of Business, speaks to me eagerly about the introduction of the new minor in her office in Clement Hall.

"There's a lot of programs we feel could benefit [from] a foundation of business program,"

Ingram says. "So what the faculty have done here in the college is created a series of six classes in Business that together would create a business minor for non-business majors."

All of the majors offered at AUM can benefit from the new minor in some way. It is the perfect option for anyone who wants to manage or run his or her own business. After taking the classes required for the minor, students will have a better understanding of the business world, and the skills they learn in the program will help them succeed after graduation. Ingram and the College of Business hope that the new minor will open the door to more campus involvement with the college. The six classes offered will allow students to dive into the business world and learn from some of the most qualified professors.

"They don't get into the depth of business knowledge, but it gives them a broad introductory spectrum of how the business model looks," Ingram says.

The minor is modeled after the General Business major the college offers to students. Classes for the minor include accounting, finance, marketing, management, information systems and economics.

"We're trying to decide right now when each class should be offered," Ingram says. "We haven't really set it up to that detail, but I think they'll see the full model be exposed fall of 2015."

The College of Business is working to make sure the schedule of classes for the minor is flexible in order to accommodate the most



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Photo courtesy of business.aum.edu

MINOR IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

College of Business announces new minor for non-business majors

Interested in running your own business? Considering earning an MBA?

Minor in Business Administration!

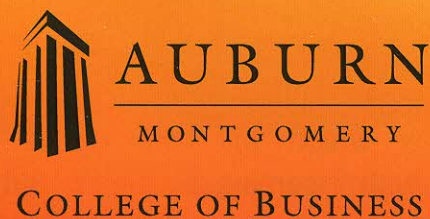
Business Administration Minor* consists of 6 classes**:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ECON 2000 | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCT 2000 |
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Changes to the Office of Orientation and Transitions

Darya Farsinejad

The orientation and transitions office is undergoing many changes as the new year approaches, which includes renovations to the campus office, new ideas and the implementation of new systems for the upcoming orientations for the new school year.



SWOT team members hold up different colored wristbands that will be distributed to new students and will distinguish the different groups at orientation.

Photo courtesy of Darya Farsinejad



Serena McCovery and Joel Hughes in the Office of Orientation and Transitions during construction.

Photo courtesy of Darya Farsinejad

The new space will help aid in better organizing the office and its affairs. "Being organized is going to allow us to better the areas we are setting up for the office, i.e. AUM family connections, SWOT team (Successful War hawk Orientations and Transitions Team), and TSA (Transfer Student Association)," Associate Director Joel Hughes says. This new office is becoming a bigger part of AUM. The construction is going help with the expansion of these organizations on campus. "Things will happen more fluidly..." Hughes continues. "It's just going to allow us to continue and grow and produce more of what we've been wanting to do."

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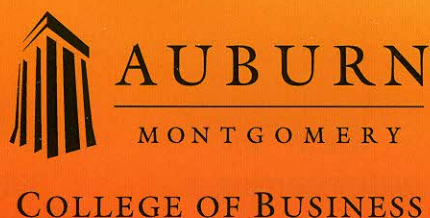
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While the office itself is undergoing a makeover, the upcoming orientations are going to be smaller which will help create better connections with incoming students. "With the way the schedule has been reconstructed and the amount of students we have, we are going to

have more availability to get to know each other more one-on-one instead of you and forty other students or more,” says Carley Bonds, a SWOT team member. “So that’s going to make a better impact on incoming students, so when they come to campus they will recognize more faces.”

The orientation team is preparing for the upcoming orientations in the new year. “I believe that with training our SWOT team earlier and getting a team that really works well together it’s going to strengthen [orientation] in all facets,” says Serena McCovery, Program/Project manager “As far as for advisors, making their job easier, we are partnering with the cafeteria this year, and getting the students on board early so they know all the changes that are coming SWOT team wise. This will help the new students so everything flows a lot smoother.”

These orientations will give incoming students a better feel for AUM life. “You come to orientation, you get a taste of what AUM is like so hopefully we aren’t having those students go from classroom to parking lot they are actually staying engaged on campus and in their Univ. 1000 class and ultimately that will help with retention,” McCovery adds. With these new changes, it will help the campus better welcome its incoming Warhawks.



The Office of Orientation and Transitions undergoes construction.

Photo courtesy of Darya Farsinejad

AUM Alumni—Where Are They Now

Nikki Headley

I talked to former AUM student Mia Frost about her thoughts on picking acting as a career field. She majored in Elementary Education, but was involved with the Theatre AUM. Mia, who is my cousin and a dear friend, will inspire anyone to follow their dreams.

While at AUM, she played Amelia in “The House of Bernarda Alba,” which was performed in the 1996-1997 season. “There was a great cast, director and interesting material. It’s not a play that’s done very often,” Mia said. She also got a small part in “The Best of Me,” which came out in October 2014, and is one of the most recent Nicholas Sparks movies to be released. When I asked Mia about her favorite part of working on a movie set, she gleefully said, “I was able to get paid for what I love to do. Everyone on set was really laid back and the director was very supportive.”

Mia’s true calling is acting. “It chose me. Ever since I was a kid, I’ve done it. Even if I was just pretending in my room,” she said. “I can act like a bunch of different people and not be considered insane. I give the characters I portray a voice.” She seemed almost starry eyed with her answer. Mia gave advice about acting to theatre majors or people perusing that field. She stiffened a bit when I asked her this. “If it’s absolutely at the core of your being, do it without apologizing.” She sounded empowered by her statement. “If it is not at the core of your being then maybe you would enjoy it as a hobby. It’s rewarding, but if you don’t have a true calling, it isn’t for you.”

Mia has done a few other gigs with some of the agencies she has been involved with. She spent some time at the New World School in Miami, worked with experimental theater, and with a sketch comedy group that was in Montgomery called Brain Freeze. Now, she is working with



AUM alumna Mia Frost works in professional theatre in New Orleans, La.

Photo courtesy of Lee McElvaine

Southern Rep Theatre and American Theatre Project, which are places in New Orleans, La., where various plays are performed.

About some of her experience at AUM, she says, the theatre was “brilliant,” and the History and English teachers were “thought provoking.” Mia grew up around Montgomery. When asked her thoughts on Montgomery compared to New Orleans, she said, “I love living in a city where art is appreciated by a good number of people.” There are also more acting opportunities in New Orleans compared to Montgomery. She enjoyed her time at AUM and in this city, but sometimes people are called to do bigger things. Mia has done a quite a few small parts, and she is living her dream of being a full-time actress.



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Warhawk Squawk

Jacob Saylor

What is your New Year's resolution, if you have one?



Elliot Jacobson

Sophomore

Information Systems

“To come up with a New Year's resolution.”



Savannah Flaherty

Junior

Economics

“I'm going to dedicate myself to becoming a better musician.”



Samuel Hoffmaster

Junior

Biology

"To be better than the year before."



Marco Mays

Senior

Communication

"I think for the year 2015 I will give more back to the community. I don't think giving back is something that should just be done for Thanksgiving or Christmas, I think it should be something that should be done continually."



Lisa Ranieri

Senior

Communication

"I do not believe in New Year's resolutions because people make these resolutions, and they don't really follow up on it and go with mainstream – 'Well, I'm gunna do this' – and don't really follow up on it."



AUM Campus Squirrel

Freshman

Extreme Nut-Harvesting

"My New Year's resolution is to steal mad nuts, yo."

KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT GRAPHIC DESIGN? AUMNIBUS NEEDS YOU!



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Do you want to advertise your business with the AUMnibus?

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Interested in Contributing to the AUMnibus?

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