

»FSU Chat - International Programs«

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Chatzy

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 59 minutes ago:

Hi everyone, we will get started in just a few minutes here! My name is Zoya and I am one of the graduate assistants in New Student & Family Programs. Welcome!

Char joined the chat 53 minutes ago

Victoria entered for the first time 51 minutes ago

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 51 minutes ago:

Welcome, Char. Today we have with us Lauren from International Programs. I'll give Lauren the opportunity to introduce herself

IP_Lauren: Hi, my name is Lauren Schoenberger and I am the Marketing Director for FSU International Programs. We have over 60 years of experience in international education and provide study abroad opportunities year round, in more than 20 locations around the world including our year-round centers in Florence, London, Panama and Valencia. FSU students can study or intern abroad with us anytime and with most majors. International.fsu.edu

IP_Lauren: I am available for any questions about studying abroad

IP_Lauren: <https://international.fsu.edu/>

Char: My daughter is going to Florence in the summer. We booked the airfare and she'll be traveling with another student. They just take a taxi upon arrival?

IP_Lauren: HI Char and Victoria!

Char: What is their daily/weekly schedule like? Free time? Thanks!

IP_Lauren: Hi Char, Yes, taxi service is the best way to get to the housing

Char: I know they will have an orientation, but I'm asking more as the parent.. 😊

IP_Lauren: They can find the taxi stand at the airport and will be emailed housing address a week or so prior to departure

IP_Lauren: We sent your student their social cultural calendar with events

IP_Lauren: once the students register for class in mid-March then they will know their class schedule

IP_Lauren: Hi Victoria, do you have any questions about studying abroad or how to study abroad?

Victoria: During freshman orientation studying abroad was highly touted & encouraged. It was stated that there is a lot of money/scholarships etc to help subsidize. My daughter is enrolled for this summer; however, it seems there really is not as much financial help as we were led to believe. She has applied for what she can to no avail.

IP_Lauren: Victoria, I am sorry to hear this, summer is our most popular time to study abroad

IP_Lauren: Did she try looking for scholarships outside of our office?

IP_Lauren: Also, we have a financial aid advisor in our office, Rod Mack, who can help!

Victoria: Not sure, I will have to check with her. I think most of what she completed was through the study abroad office.

Char: On that same note, we have FI Prepaid and Academic Bright Futures so I completed the Deferment form. Is that pretty much a given typically?

Victoria: Thank you- I will write that name down

IP_Lauren: Victoria- here is his phone number 850.644.7822

IP_Lauren: studyabroad.com has scholarship listings and fastweb.com

IP_Lauren: on average, it takes close to 10 applications to receive 1 scholarship so she will need to keep applying.

IP_Lauren: Char, Yes, Florida Prepaid and Bright Futures can be used and will be applied based on credit hours your students take

Victoria: Okay... as you obviously know they are all time consuming

Victoria: I will have her keep applying

IP_Lauren: I understand they are time consuming but hopefully she can use the same essay.

Char: I'm sure it's somewhere in the forms, but are any meals covered in the cost and how much basic necessity \$ should they take? (not counting fun money)

IP_Lauren: For Florence : Meal vouchers per week while school is in session, each worth approximately 5 Euros (10 in fall/spring; 7 in each 5 or 6 week summer session)

Victoria: It seems there are quite a few trips scheduled within the session (which is great) do they really have any other time to travel on their own or would that just basically be if they go before hand or after the session ends?

IP_Lauren: It is hard to know exactly how much to suggest- Based on past participants' feedback, a 15- to 16- week semester budget of \$3,000 - \$6,000 is needed for meals, incidental expenses in Florence, and personal travel. This \$3,000 amount is only for those who plan to live on a shoestring budget. The average estimate of student spending during the spring semester was \$4,000. The average estimate of student spending during a summer 6-week term is \$2,500. Many students spend more, depending especially on how much independent travel they do and how frequently they dine out. In general, you can buy a lunch for about \$8 and dinner in an inexpensive restaurant for around \$15 in Florence. • A good way to estimate what you might need in Florence is to assume that whatever you spend here in the U.S. (in dollars), you will spend the same (numerical) amount in euros. Take that dollar amount and convert to euros using the current exchange rate. • If you are planning to travel around Europe, you should expect to spend at least \$70 per day

IP_Lauren: Victoria- what session is your student on?

IP_Lauren: Char: all information can be found here:<https://international.fsu.edu/Documents/...>

Victoria: Second session- end of June start

IP_Lauren: Florence as well?

Victoria: Yes

Victoria: The communications one

Char: Will there be or is there a parents Facebook page to communicate with each other?

IP_Lauren: There will be free time in addition to planned events

Char: My daughter is in the same program.

Victoria: What's your daughters name Char?

Char: Sofia and yours?

Victoria: Grace

Char: Great. They will meet I'm sure at the orientation meeting. I'll tell her to lookout for her.

Victoria: Likewise

Char: Thank you. I'm signing off and will wait for her to register etc. Sounds like a great experience! Wish I could have done that!

IP_Lauren: The facebook page is for the students only.

IP_Lauren: I am glad you two connected 😊

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 31 minutes ago:

Thank you for joining us Char!

Char: Oh OK. I thought maybe parents could also have one to share info with each other and feedback while they are there.

Victoria: Signing off as well-thank you for the feedback Lauren & Zoya

IP_Lauren: Thanks Char. We are glad your daughter is joining us

Char: Thank you all! Bye.

IP_Lauren: My pleasure Victoria!

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 30 minutes ago:

Thank you for joining us as well, Victoria!

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 26 minutes ago:

I'll wait a couple more minutes here to see if others join the chat, otherwise I will close the chat early if that is okay with you Lauren?

thinkingaboutit entered for the first time 25 minutes ago

IP_Lauren: Hi thinking about it

thinkingaboutit: good, I will read thru everything that has been said and see if I have any other questions.

IP_Lauren: ok- let me know

thinkingaboutit: On average, how many freshman enroll in the FYA program?

IP_Lauren: we have around 100 total split between the 4 locations- Spain is most popular. We also have around 60 freshman who do their first semester

IP_Lauren: Is your student considering FYA for this year?

IP_Lauren: We can close early if you would like Zoya- it seems thinking about it left

Adena (thinkingaboutit) joined the chat 12 minutes ago

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 12 minutes ago:

Sounds good. Thank you so so much Lauren for joining us!!!

IP_Lauren: Hi Adena

Adena: my daughter is considering FYA

IP_Lauren: Wonderful!

IP_Lauren: Are you from out of state?

Adena: yes

IP_Lauren: I can answer any questions about the program

IP_Lauren: Great- so then you know after she completes the program, she would receive in-state tuition

IP_Lauren: Do you have a location in mind? What is your daughter major?

Adena: We dont

IP_Lauren: Ok, what is her major

Adena: My daughter wants to major in nursing

Adena: We are visiting FSU in March, who is the best person to sell her on this program :-)

IP_Lauren: Florence is the only location that would not work

IP_Lauren: I am the FYA coordinator and would love to meet with you and your daughter in March

IP_Lauren: Valencia, London or Panama would work for Nursing majors

IP_Lauren: Will she be bringing in credits?

Adena: maybe...depends how AP testing goes this spring. We are flying in and out on March 5th. I believe I registered for the Study abroad meeting

IP_Lauren: Ok, great! Our past FYA students will give the presentation and she can ask them questions.

IP_Lauren: I am actually not in the office that day but Michelle Campbell will be and she would love to talk to you and your daughter 😊

Adena: Perfect! Thank you!

IP_Lauren: Please email her at mrcampbel@fsu.edu to set up an appointment

IP_Lauren: Do you have any other questions I can help you with today.

Adena: No, thank you for the help

IP_Lauren: We strongly believe the FYA program is a unique opportunity for the student who realizes the benefit of studying abroad

IP_Lauren: My pleasure

FSU Staff_Zoya left this message 2 minutes ago:

Awesome! Well since it is about 1pm I am going to go ahead and close the chat. Thank you everyone for joining, especially Lauren! Have a lovely afternoon!

IP_Lauren: Thank you!

IP_Lauren: Go Study Abroad Noles!