Program Overview

The 2017 Asian Field Study (AFS) is a six-credit program (BUS 477 or BUS 677) designed for students with an interest in international business (IB). It consists of preparatory classes; the onsite trip to Tokyo, Kyoto, Shanghai and Ho Chi Minh City; and post-trip classes. The course may count toward one or two of the following: IB elective, IB major elective, entrepreneurship major elective, upper division elective, or management elective for BBA students, entrepreneurship certificate for graduate students, and PAMI international management certificate (consult with your academic advisor).

Program Objective

The objective of the program is to enhance student preparation for management in a global business environment. The goal is for students to develop an awareness of the interconnected components of the global economy and be sensitive and be able to adapt to each of the unique cultures and business practices.

This is accomplished by exposing students to diverse and relevant Asian business environments, utilizing academic theory and business models as a framework for real world experiences, consisting of site visits, case studies, and country level, industry level, and firm level assessments. Diversity is accomplished by mixing economies at varying stages of development, as well as specific site visits from a variety of industries and firm types. Pre-trip learning is accomplished through a combination of lectures, web-based video lectures, on-line discussions, cases and/or readings. The emphasis is placed on real-time source materials, interviews with experienced executives and experts, and the application of personal observation.

Target Participants and Prerequisites

The size of the group has been targeted at 20 students. The 2017 AFS is expected to be comprised of DL-EMBA, PT-MBA, MACC and BBA majors. Selection will be based on criteria contained in the application and meeting the prerequisites.

- UHM business students (should have full 1st year business core completed)
- UH System-wide Undergraduate and Graduate Students from any discipline (should have full 1st year major core completed.)
- Overall 3.0 GPA, major 3.0 GPA
- Medical clearance to travel abroad
- Successful completion of the preparatory pre-trip course in order to participate in the onsite trip

Timeframes (Posted on shidler.hawaii.edu/pami)

- Posting of Course Outline & Application (late Dec.)
- Posting of Draft Course Details (Late Feb)
- Deadline for Application/Scholarship (March 17)
- Acceptance Notification (March 24)
- Payment Due and Passports Collected (April 14)

Contact:

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Pre-Trip (3 hour sessions) – Select Tuesdays 6PM-9:30PM and Saturdays 9AM-4PM during Summer Session I. Usually mid May to mid June, below are tentative dates.

| Pre-Trip #1 May 16 (Tues) | Introduction, Program Overview, Group Formation |
| Pre-Trip #2 & #3 May 27 (Sat) | Japan Overview |
| Pre-Trip #4 May 30 (Tues) | China Overview |
| Pre-Trip #5 June 6 (Tues) | Vietnam Overview |
| Pre-Trip #6 June 13 (Tues) | Group Country Presentations |
| Pre-Trip #7 & #8 June 17 (Sat) * | Individual Project Presentations |
| Pre-Trip #9 June 20 (Tues) | If necessary |

Onsite Trip (Sample site visits from prior programs. Usually 18-20 days from mid June to early July, below are tentative dates.

| Depart HNL - June 23 (Fri) | Tokyo, Japan – June 24 (Sat) to June 27 (Tues) |
|Depart HNL - June 23 (Fri) | Fujitsu, Merck, Rakuten, US Commercial Service, and Nissan. Cultural Tour (Tsukiji Fish Market, Sumida River Cruise, Imperial Palace, Asakusa Kannon Temple). |
| Kyoto, Japan – June 28 (Wed) to June 30 (Fri) (note Tokyo/Kyoto order may be changed) | Tokyo to Kyoto via Shinkansen, possible site visit to Toyota in Nagoya (Aichi). Kyoto - US Commercial Service and 1000-year businesses. Cultural Tour (Kiyomizu Temple, Kinkaku-ji Temple, Fushimi Inari Shrine, and Nijo Castle). |
| Shanghai, P.R.C. – July 1 (Sat) to July 5 (Wed) | Alibaba, Foxconn, Fudan University Medical Center, American Consulate, Dow Chemical. Cultural Visits (Hangzhou West Lake and Lingyin Temple. Shanghai Yuyuan Gardens and the Bund). |
| Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – July 6 (Thurs) to July 10 (Mon) Return to HNL July 11 AM | Intel Vietnam, Bodynits (clothing manufacturer), BriskHeat (industrial pipe manufacturer), Sandhill Scientific (medical device manufacturer). Cultural Visits (Mekong River Tour, HCMC City Tour). |

Post-Trip (3 hour sessions) - One evening and one Saturday during SS II. Usually mid July, 7-10 days following return from the onsite trip, below are tentative dates.

| Post-Trip #1 July 18 (Tues) | Structured Trip Reflection |
| Post-Trip #2 & #3 July 22 (Sat) * | Individual Project Presentations |

Classes to be held online via Blackboard Collaborate (BBC), a PC-based application requiring high speed internet connection. * One pre-trip Saturday class will be held onsite in BusAd A301 or G102.  

- 5-15 Scholarships covering between $1,500 and the estimated trip cost of $5,000 have been generously donated from the following sources. Complete the applicable questions in the online application to be eligible for these scholarships.
  - Freeman Foundation
  - Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd.
  - David T. Pietsch
  - Ulrike and Toufiq Siddiqi

- Estimated trip cost is $5,000
- Trip cost excludes tuition. Trip costs include airfare (Honolulu origin, neighbor islands and other origin cities are extra); ground, lodging based on double occupancy in four-star hotels and breakfast while onsite in Asia.
- Dates, locations, site visits, and cultural visits are subject to change.
- Plan for at least 2 hours of homework for each hour of class.