

“ A GLIMPSE INTO THE SOUL OF VIETNAM ”

Get to know
Vietnam in a
whole new way

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Culture - History >
Music and more >

WELCOME TO VIETNAM!



A land with scenes of natural beauty and a culturally-complex population, ranging from dynamic megacities to hill-tribe villages, Vietnam is both exotic and familiar. The traditional image of lush rice paddies and conical hats is here, but so are high-rise office buildings and ultra-modern shopping malls. Vietnam is a country bursting with energy and forward motion. You'll feel this in the activity on the streets, from the food vendors selling local delights such traditional "pho" to fruit smoothies, and the internationally renowned sandwich – a "banh mi". You'll see it in the gracious charm of the Vietnamese people as they welcome you to their homes and invite you to share their food and experience their culture.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The study program **“A GLIMPSE INTO THE SOUL OF VIETNAM: CULTURE, HISTORY, ARTS, MUSIC AND MORE”** (GSVN program) is hosted by Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City (VNUHCM) as an effort to introduce the beauty of Vietnamese culture, arts, music, and history to international students. The program is operated by International Education Institute (IEI-VNUHCM), an affiliated unit of VNUHCM.

Students participating in this program will be... offered the unique opportunity to discover Vietnam by spending 14 days diving into Vietnam’s vivid history and culture, exploring the livable city life in Ho Chi Minh City through its perspectives of arts, music, cuisine, and attractive sites; learning about the Vietnamese wet rice culture through a two-day field trip to the Mekong Delta.

The GSVN program is uniquely designed and led by educational experts at Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City, offering a diverse assortment of lectures mixed with carefully designed field trips guided by academic experts, and fascinating hands-on activities/workshops. The practical/theoretical integrated design of the program ensures that students will have a panoramic view of the thousands of years of Vietnamese culture in a short period while having fun at the same time.

At the end of each day, students are asked to write a 300-word reflective journal entry to enrich their learning experiences. On Day 13, students are expected to share their journal entries with their lecturers and coursemates in forms of presentations/roundtable discussions. Overall, this two-week study program is designed to spark students’ deepest curiosity on the rich and beautiful culture of Vietnam.

Additionally, having an optional evaluation component, the program can be taken to fulfill a three-credit course. If students want to transfer their credits back to their home institutions, they are required to fulfil the program's evaluation scheme.

Saigon Notre-Dame Basilica





PROGRAM DATES:

The program will be held two times in 2020:

- > **Summer Program: May 31 – June 14, 2020**
- > **Application deadline: March 31, 2020**
- > **Winter Program: November 1 – November 14, 2020**
- > **Application deadline: September 1, 2020**

Eligibility:

All college students who desire to explore the world and are interested in learning about Vietnam and its culture, arts, music, cuisine and history are eligible.

The GSVN program is designed as a three-credit course. Students who wish to transfer the course credit back to their home university shall complete all evaluation components of the course, which are specified in the Evaluation and Grading section. Official transcripts will be provided to the students upon request in two weeks from the last day of the program.



PROGRAM CONVENOR: NGUYEN, THO N.

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Cultural Studies, Universi-
ty of Social Sciences and
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PROGRAM COST: \$2500/STUDENT



INCLUDED

- ✓ In-country transportation
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Meals as specified in the itinerary
- ✓ Lecture fees
- ✓ Hands-on workshops/activities
- ✓ Field trip fees
- Administration fees for IEI-VNUHCM

NOT INCLUDED

- ✗ International airfare
- ✗ Vietnam visa fees
- ✗ Travel Insurance
- ✗ Meals that are unspecified in the itinerary
- ✗ Personal expenses such as laundry, communication, snacks, and souvenirs



ACCOMODATION

During their two weeks in Ho Chi Minh City, students will call T78 Guest House their home, sharing twin rooms. With the standards of a 3,5-star hotel, T78 Guest House is located in the center of the city, District 3. It is located 3,5 km from Tan Son Nhat International Airport and 3,0 km from Ben Thanh Market and shopping centers.

The field trip to the Mekong Delta is a two-day, one -night field trip, includes a stay in a 3-star hotel located in the central district of Can Tho city.





TRAVEL LOGISTICS

From academics to hotels, meals (as specified), and sightseeing, IEI-VNUHCM takes care of every detail, allowing students to relax and concentrate on learning, while making the most of their time in Vietnam. IEI-VNUHCM's comprehensive planning and years of experience with organizing youth travel means that both students and parents can rest easy knowing they will be in good hands while abroad.



Accommodation



INVESTMENT IN

TRAVEL is an

INVESTMENT IN

YOURSELF



A dedicated IEI-VNUHCM staff member will stay with the group 24/7, handling travel and safety logistics, while also providing cultural insights and guidance for students. Additionally, IEI-VNUHCM students will be recruited to be “travel buddies” who will accompany international friends in some activities. The number of IEI-VNUHCM staff and students can vary depending on specific activities.

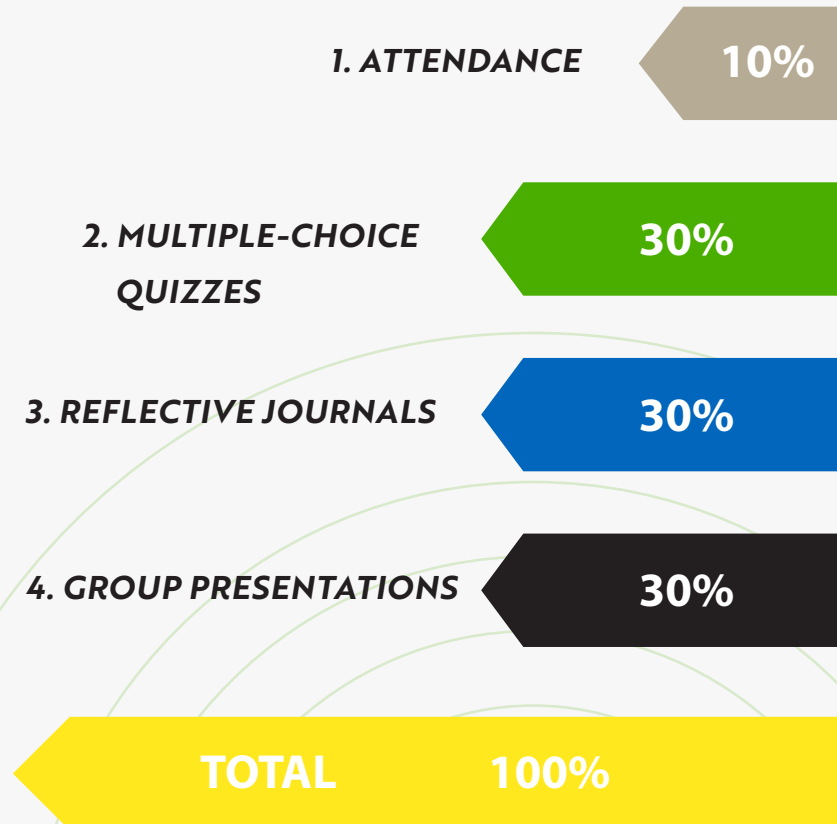
EVALUATION & GRADING

The GSVN program can be taken to fulfill a three-credit course. Students who wish to transfer the course credits back to their home university must complete course quizzes and assignments.

Evaluation can be as follows:



EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE WEIGHTED AS PERCENTAGES OF THE TOTAL GRADE



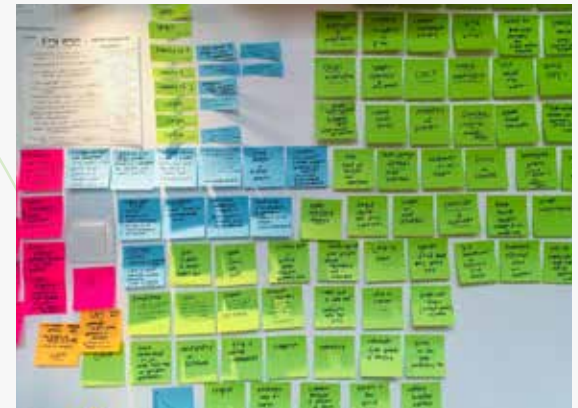
Quiz Time



1/. ATTENDANCE:

Students must attend all lectures and field trips to earn full credit.

Quiz Time



2/. MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUIZZES:

Throughout the GSVN program, students will take five 30-minute multiple-choice quizzes about topics covered in the lectures. Quizzes will be given at the end of lecture sessions and will be announced in advance. Each quiz is worth 6 percent of your total grade.



Quiz	Topics	Quiz Dates
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnamese for Communication • Customs and Communicative Culture of Vietnamese People • Saigon: a Glimpse into its Past and present 	Day 3 morning
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religions and beliefs in Vietnam • Vietnam through the lens of its heroic history 	Day 5 morning
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Vietnamese music and culture 	Day 6 morning
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Vietnamese Fine Arts has evolved over time? 	Day 6 morning
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Vietnam's Economy 	Day 11 morning

Presentation time



3/. REFLECTIVE JOURNALS:

Students are expected to write 300-word reflective journals entries every day, starting from Day 2 to Day 12 (11 entries). These journal entries need to be sent to the course instructor by 11:59 pm every evening in order to be credited. Students are allowed to miss one entry for the full credit. The journal entries will also be shared among the group on Day 13 during the Reflection session.

The students from Stephen F. Austin State University enjoyed riding on the sampans during their Mekong Delta trip.



4/. GROUP PRESENTATIONS:

For this project, students are randomly assigned to groups of four to five at the beginning of the course. Throughout the course, the groups will discuss within the groups will decide the topics upon which the group would like to do more research they would want to do more research on. By Day 6, the groups need to announce their topics. No topic can be chosen by more than one group (first come, first served basis). The groups will work together to create 15-minute Power-Point presentations, followed by 5-minute Q&As, to present the class on Day 13.

Presentation time



GRADING SCALE

A = 90% – 100%	C = 70% – 79%
B = 80% – 89%	D = 60% – 69%
E = 59% or less	

DETAILED ITINERARY:

The following itinerary is carefully designed to enable students participating in the GSVN program to enjoy the best learning experiences. However, IEI-VNUHCM is willing to work with its partners to customize the two-week program to best meet individual partners' needs.



CONTACT

Visit www.iei.edu.vn/-study-programs for more information.

For inquiries, email Ha Phan at ha.phan@iei.edu.vn

ABOUT VIET NAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY HO CHI MINH CITY

Vietnam National Univeristy HCMC



Vietnam National Univeristy HCMC



About Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City (VNUHCM):

VNUHCM is proud to be the home of the most talented team of scientists, researchers, and scholars of the nation. In total, there are more than 300 professors and associate professors and 1.300 Ph.D. holders working as full-time faculty for the University.

VNUHCM currently has more than 60.000 undergraduate students studying 138 programs/groups of programs related to technology, science, social sciences and humanities, economics, medical science. In terms of postgraduate education, VNUHCM offers 125 master programs and 89 doctoral programs.

Learn more about VNUHCM at <https://vnuhcm.edu.vn/>

Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City (VNUHCM) was founded in 1995 according to the Government’s Decree No. 16/CP on the basis of the merger of nine universities in Ho Chi Minh City. Being a multidisciplinary, highly qualified and advanced center for post-secondary education and science - technology research activities and owing to a unique operational regulation, VNUHCM has played a key role in the national higher education system.

VNUHCM’s headquarters are located in Linh Trung Ward, Thủ Đức District, Ho Chi Minh City. It currently has eight member

units: University of Technology; University of Science; University of Social Sciences and Humanities; International University; University of Information Technology; University of Economics and Law; An Giang University; and Institute for Environment and Resources. VNUHCM also consists of 27 affiliated units that are responsible for facilitating academic and professional training, research, and technology transfer activity within VNUHCM. Close cooperation among the member and affiliated units generates a systematic power for VNUHCM accomplishing its mission to become one of the top higher education organizations in Asia.



ABOUT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE (IEI – VNUHCM):

International Education Institute - IEI



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE was established as an affiliated unit of VNUHCM in 2012 by merging three centers: International Training Center (established in 2001), Foreign Language Center (established in 1997) and Human Resource Development Center (established in 2000).

In order to achieve its mission to facilitate internationalization process of VNUHCM, IEI-VNUHCM has implemented a wide range of activities, including:

01 Delivering joint programs at undergraduate and graduate levels in collaboration with foreign international partner universities of VNUHCM;

Organizing study-abroad programs for local and international high school students, college and university students;

02

03 Acting as the recruiting agent for VNUHCM's international academic partners;

Providing professional training for local organizations and corporations.

04



(*) The show key features:

- Vietnam's contrasting portrait of peaceful country life versus the noise and irony of urbanization
- Vietnamese bamboo circus
- A delicate touch of humor
- 121-year-old opera house

Other show options:

Teh Dar; or The Mist

WEEK DAY TIME	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
7:00 - 8:30	Arrival at Tan Son Nhat International Airport, Ho Chi Minh City (airport pickup provided)	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Mekong Delta Program - A program to learn about the Viet people's wet rice cultivation Lunch included	
8:30 - 9:15		- 8.30-9.30: Orientation Session	Lecture: Customs & Communicative Culture of Vietnamese	1-day field program to the Cao Dai Holy See (Tay Ninh) and Cu Chi Tunnel (lunch included)	Lecture: Vietnam through the Lens of its Heroic History	Workshop: Introduction to Vietnamese Music & Culture at Artiste School. Discovery of Vietnam through traditional music		
9.30-11.30		9:30 - 11:30 - Lecture: Vietnamese for Communication	Lunch included		Lunch included	Lunch included		Lunch included
12:00 - 14:00		- 13.30-14.30: Lecture: Saigon: Revealing Its Past and a Look at the Present	- Lecture: Religions and Beliefs in Vietnam		Field program: - Vietnamese History Museum	Field program: - Ao Dai Museum - the Vietnamese traditional cloth;		
14:00 - 16:00		- 14.30-17.30: HCMC City Program: Visit to Independence Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, HCMC Central Post Office	- Field program: Visit Ngoc Hoang Temple		- 17.00: Water Puppet Show: Golden Dragon Water Puppet Theater	- A visit to Ben Thanh Market - a wonderful opportunity to practice your Vietnamese		
16:00 - 17:00								
18:00-19:00	Dinner on Your Own	Welcome Dinner Reflective Journal (300 words)	Dinner on Your Own Reflective Journal (300 words)		Dinner Included Reflective Journal (300 words)	Dinner on Your Own Reflective Journal (300 words)	Dinner included: - Light dinner at 17:00 -18.00: A O show at Saigon Opera House(*) Reflective Journal (300 words)	Dinner included Reflective Journal (300 words)

WEEK DAY TIME	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14
7:00 - 8:30	<p>Mekong Delta Program - A program to learn about the Viet people's wet rice cultivation Lunch included</p>	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	Breakfast at Hotel	<p>Memorable Last Day at Ben Xua Ecological Tourist Park: - 9:00 -12:00: Discussion Reflection - 12:00 - 13:00: Lunch (included) - 13:00 - 17:00: Team building activities - 17: 00: Farewell gala dinner</p> <p>Departure (self-arranged transportation to the airport)</p>
8:30 - 9:15		<p>Lecture: How has Vietnamese Fine Arts has Evolved Over Time?</p>	<p>Field program: Bien Hoa Ceramic Workshop at Dong Nai College of Decorative arts in Bien Hoa (lunch included)</p>	<p>Lecture: Overview of Vietnam's Economy</p>	<p>Workshop: Hands-on cooking class - Unleash the secrets of Vietnamese Cuisine!</p>		
9.30-11.30						Lunch included	
12:00 - 14:00		<p>Lecture: Vietnam ASEAN and International Relation; or Environment & Environmental Ethics in Vietnam; or Vietnam Press Seeks to Contribute more Toward Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Free Time - Fun Time: Explore HCMC on your town, but activities will be recommended (No transportation arranged)</p>				
14:00 - 16:00				<p>Field program: - HCM Fine Arts Museum _ Visit the antique street - Le Cong Kieu street</p>			
16:00 - 17:00							
18:00-19:00	<p>Dinner on Your Own Reflective Journal (300 words)</p>	<p>Saigon River Cruising - Dinner included Reflective Journal (300 words)</p>	<p>Dinner on Your Own Reflective Journal (300 words)</p>	<p>Street food program 5.30pm - 9.00pm Reflective Journal (300 words)</p>	<p>Dinner on Your Own Reflective Journal (300 words)</p>		