Macao, Special Administrative Region-China

Institute for Tourism Studies

USC’s exchange program in Macao is designed to expose Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management students to Chinese life and culture. While in Macao, students will attend the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT). Macao, located 40 miles west of Hong Kong, is a special administrative region of China. The region was under Portuguese rule from the 1600s to 1999, but was officially returned to the People’s Republic of China on December 20, 1999. Macao’s total population is 469,800, of which 95% are Chinese, the remainder being Portuguese and other Westerners. The city consists of a variety of both Oriental and Western cultural and historical places of interest. A mixture of European baroque and traditional Chinese architecture can be found throughout the city. The blend of people, culture, and history influences nearly every aspect of life in Macao.

The program at the Institute for Tourism Studies offers a variety of course options related to hotel, restaurant, and tourism management. Mandarin language courses are also available for students. Students take classes, taught in English by local professors, with Chinese and other international students.

As a prerequisite, students must have attained at least sophomore standing prior to attending the Institute for Tourism Studies. A major, minor, or cognate in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management is required to apply, as well as a minimum 3.0 GPA. No foreign language background is required.

Courses and Credits
Students typically earn 15 credit hours per semester, many of which can be applied toward their major or minor. Listed below are a few examples of courses offered. A full list of courses can be found at http://www.ift.edu.mo/En/Programmes/bachelor_course.aspx.

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<th>Course Titles</th>
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<td>Tourism Planning and Development</td>
<td>Food and Beverage Management</td>
<td>Cultural Tourism</td>
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<td>Introduction to Food and Beverage</td>
<td>Event Management</td>
<td>Catering</td>
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<td>Tourism and Hospitality Marketing</td>
<td>Club Management</td>
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<td>Tourism and Hospitality Legislation</td>
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**Living Arrangements**
Students have a choice of living in the Student Hostel (similar to a dormitory) or apartments, though the Student Hostel option is strongly recommended. Limited assistance is provided for students choosing the apartment option. More information about the Student Hostel can be found at [http://www.ift.edu.mo/hostel/index.asp](http://www.ift.edu.mo/hostel/index.asp).

**Budgeting**
Students living in the Student Hostel should expect to pay roughly MOP950 a month, which does not include utilities. Students choosing to rent an apartment off-campus should expect to pay between MOP3,000 – 6,000 a month for a 2-3 bedroom apartment in the city. All costs are estimates and may fluctuate based on the exchange rate. More information on budgeting can be found in the IFT Exchange Student Guide: [http://www.ift.edu.mo/En/programmes/doc/InfoGuide2009-11.pdf](http://www.ift.edu.mo/En/programmes/doc/InfoGuide2009-11.pdf).

**Master Calendar**
The fall semester at IFT runs from early-September through mid-January. The spring semester runs from early-February through mid-June. USC students can attend IFT during the spring semester or academic year. For a detailed academic calendar, visit [http://www.ift.edu.mo/En/Programmes/bachelor_calendar.aspx](http://www.ift.edu.mo/En/Programmes/bachelor_calendar.aspx).

**Insurance**
Per university policy, all USC students will be charged emergency medical, evacuation and repatriation insurance for their time abroad. If you have questions, please contact the Study Abroad Office.

**Orientation**
A week-long orientation will take place before the beginning of classes. During orientation week, students can participate in Cantonese classes, learn to cook traditional Macanese dishes, and go on day tours of the city.

**Excursions**
The program does not offer organized excursions. Students do have the opportunity for individual travel.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**
There are a number of cinemas, theatres, karaoke bars, libraries and discos around Macao. Recreational facilities, public beaches and pools are also available. The IFT Student Union also plans many events throughout the year. To learn more about the Student Union, visit [http://www.ift.edu.mo/su/index.htm](http://www.ift.edu.mo/su/index.htm).

**Entry Visa**
Entry visas are not required for students studying in Macao. Once you arrive on campus, IFT will assist all students in obtaining a temporary resident permit.

**Footnotes**


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