Sail through Halong Bay on a junk, exploring the limestone caves and night fishing off the deck. Experience the religious traditions of South-east Asia through visits to the ancient temples and pagodas of Tay Ninh, Hue, and Angkor Thom. From the magic of the Mekong River to the awe-inspiring temples of Angkor Wat to the bustling Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and Cambodia have much to offer.

USC’s Capstone Abroad program in Vietnam and Cambodia is designed to provide students with first-hand knowledge of the religious and natural characteristics of Southeast Asia, as well as the historic foundations of modern Vietnamese and Cambodian culture and society. Students will depart in May 2010 on a two-week study abroad program which will begin in the city of Hanoi and journey onward to other cities and sites such as Hoi An, several days in Ho Chi Minh City, a boat trip up the Mekong River to see the floating markets, and ending the program at Angkor Wat, the 7th World Heritage site and the largest temple complex in the world.*

USC Capstone Scholars with a minimum 3.0 GPA are given priority to participate in this program. Students will travel with other Capstone Scholars, as well as a USC faculty member and program assistant. Program leaders will accompany students and be available for assistance throughout the duration of the program. There is no language pre-requisite for this program.

*Please note: Specific itinerary items are subject to change.

Courses and Credits
Students will earn 3-credits for COLA 298 (suffix M) Explorations of Southeast Asia. Check with your academic advisor to see if credit earned may be used to fulfill general education, major or minor requirements. The class will include some pre-departure coursework, typically a series of four two- to three-hour sessions to be held in Spring 2010.

Course Description
This course will appeal to the adventurous, who wish to engage in a culture which is vastly different from their own, to meet people whose values have been informed by Buddhism and other traditions, but who have also experienced tragic epochs, such as Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia. The course will explore the complexities of these nations’ histories, the survival stories of their people in recent years, and their long-standing religious traditions. Students will also investigate the points of intersection between the United States and these two countries during the last half century.
Living Arrangements
Students will be housed in shared, double or triple occupancy hotel rooms throughout the program.

Travel Dates
May 10 – 25, 2010*

*Subject to change based on flight availability

Costs
The travel fee for this program is $3350* and includes: round trip airfare from Charlotte, NC; hotel accommodations (double/triple occupancy); local transportation per itinerary; guides for tours and transfers; entrances per itinerary; breakfasts; and group lunches and dinners per itinerary.

*Subject to change based on enrollment and currency fluctuations. Contact the Study Abroad Office for additional information on the program fee.

Travel Fee Does Not Include
USC tuition for three credits and technology fees; some meals; personal expenses; gratuities; visa fees; ISIC Card; or optional excursions. USC tuition and technology fees are equivalent to $1281.*

*Tuition and technology fees are accurate as of 8/17/09.

Applications
To apply for the Capstone Abroad program, complete the list of application materials found on-line at http://www.sa.sc.edu/sa/forms-globalclass.shtm

EXTENDED APPLICATION DEADLINE:
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

For more information or to apply for the Capstone Abroad Program in Vietnam and Cambodia, contact:
Study Abroad Office
Legare College, Suite 321
Ph: 803-777-7557
Fax: 803-777-7559
E-mail: saabroad@mailbox.sc.edu
Web: www.sa.sc.edu/sa

Dr. Hal French
Department of Religion
frenchh@mailbox.sc.edu

Footnotes
For more information about Vietnam and Cambodia and the sites you can visit, go to the countries respective National Tourism websites at http://www.vietnamtourism.com/ and http://www.tourismcambodia.com/