



# Charting a New Course in International Education

The Scholar Ship is a semester-long academic program aboard a dedicated passenger ship that traverses the globe as an oceangoing campus. Students and staff from around the world together form a transnational learning community designed to develop their intercultural competencies and leadership skills.

## What's New

- Personal Leadership Model to be Implemented Aboard The Scholar Ship**  
 Commencing with our inaugural voyage in September 2007, we will be incorporating a program known as Personal Leadership into our learning model. Personal Leadership provides individuals a way to stay connected to inspiration and creativity in the face of the new and unfamiliar, or even the offensive. It also provides a way to turn the theory of intercultural communication and knowledge about cultural differences into intercultural competence. Through this model, students will be encouraged to make meaning out of the intercultural experiences they encounter throughout the voyage.  
[Learn more about life onboard The Scholar Ship >>](#)
- STA Travel to Give Away 10 Round-trip Airline Tickets to/from The Scholar Ship**  
 Students who submit their application online on or before 31 December 2006 are eligible to receive round-trip airline tickets to/from The Scholar Ship for the September 2007 voyage.  
[Learn how to apply >>](#)
- Student Interest in The Scholar Ship on the Rise**  
 Interest in The Scholar Ship program continues to grow as 2007 nears. More than 9,000 students from over 175 countries have requested our application for admission. If you are considering applying to The Scholar Ship, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. While gaining admittance to our program is competitive, early applicants are given priority, assuming they meet our admission requirements.  
[Interested in applying to The Scholar Ship? >>](#)

## Port Spotlight: Guayaquil, Ecuador



Guayaquil, founded by Spaniards in 1537 and known as the "Pacific pearl", is Ecuador's largest city and its most important seaport. With an ethnically diverse population of over two million people and the geographical advantage of an extensive coastline where the Babahoyo and Daule rivers converge, Guayaquil has developed into a pivotal commercial

## Featured Learning Circle

### Sustainable Development (Undergraduate)

As economies around the world develop and expand, a critical issue is the sustainability of that development, both economically and environmentally. In this learning circle, students and academic teaching staff explore sustainability from the perspectives of such disciplines as geography, economics, sociology, anthropology, law, and environmental studies. Furthermore, our academically-oriented port program provides an invaluable learning experience for students to reflect on sustainable development outside the classroom, in a context that resonates long after their voyage concludes.  
[Learn more >>](#)

### TSS in the News

We continue to garner great media coverage throughout the world. The Scholar Ship program has now been featured in over 100 articles in media across the globe. Some of the media featuring

center for the country and region's economic growth. As the largest trading port on the South American Pacific coast and a gateway to the Amazon basin, Guayaquil provides The Scholar Ship's students ample occasions to engage in and analyze critical commercial, environmental and political issues within Ecuador and its neighboring countries.

Some of the media featuring The Scholar Ship are:

- **Miami Herald** (USA)
- **International Herald Tribune** (UK)
- **The Star** (Malaysia)

### **Academic Field Program: *International Business (Postgraduate)***

The Scholar Ship Port Program staff will work closely with professors at Espiritu Santo University and local and national government officials to lead an exceptional academic field program for students in the International Business learning circle, exploring the economic, political, and sociocultural dimensions of globalization. Through lectures, workshops, and site visits, students will observe how the municipality of Guayaquil is promoting and supporting the creation of microbusinesses among some of the city's poorest citizens.

Reacting to the influx of high-quality, low-cost products coming from larger countries with more modernized economies, the government of Guayaquil hopes the microbusinesses will revive the local economy. Students will have the chance to meet with the head organizers of the program at the Municipal Palace, including the Mayor of Guayaquil, city council members, World Bank liaisons, and representatives of the 70+ NGOs that help implement the project locally. Afterwards, students will visit the actual sites where the pilot microbusinesses are functioning in various stages of growth and success, and will assess the benefits and challenges of the program. In small groups, students will create an inventory of all of the resources and infrastructure that the municipality has developed for the program and will meet to evaluate its impact, brainstorm improvements, and develop a detailed recommendation plan for the city.

In addition to exploring themes in microfinance, students will have the chance to engage in first-hand discussions on the decision to switch the domestic currency to the U.S. currency and its impact on businesses and consumers; Ecuador's dependency on the service sector (providing 80% of job openings in the country); the impact of tourism on the economy; the influence of imports from Asia (providing 70% of the countries' industrialized products); the mechanisms behind Ecuador's flower exports; and other linkages between local, regional, and global economic forces.

Back on the ship, the students will participate in a conference with other members of the International Business learning circle and academic teaching staff, sharing their experiences as well as their evaluations and recommendations for the microbusiness programs in Ecuador. By comparing and contrasting their findings to models in other ports of call, The Scholar Ship offers students unparalleled hands-on experience and insight into real-life international business issues around the world, in addition to their academic coursework at sea.

[Learn more >>](#)

If you are planning on submitting an application for admission, please be aware that we are instituting an application fee of USD50 on 1 January 2007. All applications submitted through 31 December 2006 will continue to be exempt from this fee.

[Learn how to apply >>](#)

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