



Experience a World of Difference

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 come together to form a transnational learning community designed to develop their intercultural competence and leadership skills.

Featured
Learning Circle

What's New

- **The Scholar Ship Announces Lease of Ocean Liner**

The Scholar Ship recently announced the lease of a 29,000-ton ocean liner that will become the first oceangoing education program developed specifically for an international student body. The 660-foot (201 meters) ocean liner, which will be renamed The Scholar Ship, will be transformed to accommodate 600 undergraduate and graduate students in a multicultural academic and living environment. It has 389 staterooms that can accommodate 778 students and faculty, as well as 416 crew members. "Finding a vessel we could transform into an oceangoing campus was a unique challenge," said Michael Bonner, chief operating officer of The Scholar Ship. "We wanted a ship with ample public space, expansive outdoor deck areas, comfortable staterooms, and appropriately sized rooms to conduct classes. After nearly a year of evaluating dozens of alternatives, we found a classic ocean liner that is ideally suited for our program, a ship designed specifically for longer global voyages."

[Learn more about our oceangoing campus >>](#)

- **The Scholar Ship Partners with Personal Leadership Seminars**

The Scholar Ship has recently partnered with Personal Leadership Seminars in an effort to help enrich students' learning aboard the ship. To assist students in integrating their experiences and deriving meaning from them, The Scholar Ship teaches students the two principles and six practices known as Personal Leadership (PL). PL is a simple but powerful methodology woven throughout the onboard life program. It helps students stay connected to inspiration throughout times when they are faced with the new and unfamiliar. IRCs practice PL themselves, and coach students in using PL to bring forth their highest levels of learning and creativity. Engaging in PL helps students open up to the possibilities that inherently exist when they find themselves in situations that do not easily fit with their expectations and past experiences. In this way, students learn to transform the ideas of intercultural theory into applied intercultural competence.

Worlds of Art and Culture (Undergraduate)

As the world becomes ever more interconnected, increases in cultural interactions are influencing the cultural landscape everywhere. In this increasingly global society, understanding the unique contributions of various cultural traditions to our common heritage and cultural interactions and influences upon each other is an important factor in becoming a global citizen.

If you currently study or are interested in the following fields of study, the Worlds of Art and Culture Learning Circle is one you should consider:

- Art History
- Fine Arts
- Humanities

[Learn more about Onboard Life >>](#)

- **Priority Deadline for Applications Approaching March 1st**

More than 1,000 students from over 80 countries have submitted their applications for admission to The Scholar Ship. Some 600 students worldwide will be accepted to the program, which launches its maiden voyage in September 2007. If you have already requested an application and you haven't yet applied, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. A priority application deadline of 1 March 2007 has been set for the inaugural voyage in September 2007. This priority deadline provides students who are seriously considering applying to the program the chance to declare their intentions.

[Learn how to apply >>](#)

- Intercultural Studies
- Literature
- Performing Arts

[Learn more about this and other Learning Circles >>](#)

Port Spotlight: Papeete, Tahiti



After voyaging on The Scholar Ship for an academic and action-packed two months, with intense exploration and Academic Field Programs in Portugal, Panama, and Ecuador, students will be ready to wind down in the tropical paradise of Tahiti, the first “break port” of the inaugural September voyage.

Tahiti is the largest island of French Polynesia (Polynesie Francaise), located in the archipelago of Society Islands in the southern Pacific Ocean. The island has a population of nearly 250,000 inhabitants, making it the most populated island of French Polynesia, representing 70% of the total population. The Scholar Ship will berth in Papeete, the relaxed capital city located on the northwest coast of the main island. On that late October morning, students may want to wake up early to see the sun rise over the towering emerald cliffs as they approach one of the most enchanting places on the planet.

While nobody is totally sure of the timing and manner of the first human contact with these wondrous shores, Tahiti is estimated to have been settled by Polynesians between AD 300 and 800, coming from Tonga and Samoa. Modern Tahitians are French citizens with full civil and political rights, although French Polynesia is officially a semi-autonomous territory with its own assembly, President, budget and laws. These are islands where oral histories and colorful legends of gods, warriors, and tribal kings mix with tales of Captain Cook and contemporary surfing championships. The Tahitian language and the French language are both in use, and English is used on many of the tourist hotspots around the island.

The chance to learn some traditional music and dancing will be just one of the many Shore Excursion options specially designed and priced for our students. Traditional musical instruments such as the pahu, the toere drums, and the unique nose flute known as the vivo can be heard and learned around the island. The blowing of conch shells blends with guitars and ukuleles, leading to original music forms which take some rhythms from country and western music but have a distinctive South Pacific island groove.

Students will delight in exploring the world-reknown white sand beaches and turquoise waters of Tahiti, as well as the coastlines of nearby Bora Bora and Moorea. Students can snorkel or scuba along the island's crystal clear waters and coral reefs, hike through the majestic Mateoro Valley, explore the famed Three Coconut Trail and nearby waterfalls, visit a local vanilla or pineapple plantation, swim with dolphins, lead their own tour through lagoons in a traditional outrigger canoe, or just lounge in the sand under the sun.

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 The Scholar Ship are:

- **Atlanta Journal-Constitution** (USA)
- **The Telegraph** (UK)
- **The Star** (Malaysia)

To read these and other select articles in full, visit [TSS in the News. >>](#)

However a student chooses to spend their leisure time on French Polynesia's largest and most famous island, it will be an experience they will never forget. Tahiti marks the perfect place to rest and reflect for a few days as you continue your once-in-a-lifetime semester abroad with The Scholar Ship.

[Learn more about our Port Program >>](#)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Enrollment of U.S. passport holders will be capped to ensure the student population is culturally diverse. Applications will continue to be considered for the September 2007 voyage until 30 April, though a priority deadline of 1 March has been set.

[Learn how to apply >>](#)

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