



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

- **TSS Research Institute to Launch Oceanography Research Program on Inaugural Voyage**

The Scholar Ship Research Institute is launching an innovative program during the inaugural voyage in September that will provide students with hands-on research experience. The Oceanography Research Program will provide researchers worldwide data to improve their understanding of regional seas within a global ocean context, and increase their awareness of environmental sustainability and stewardship issues. The data will also contribute to the Global Ocean Observing System and to the Global Climate Observing System. Participating students will take comprehensive measurements of the ocean and air-sea interface and deploy an array of profiling floats to measure temperature and salinity throughout the voyage. In addition, students will help deploy surface drifters to map ocean surface currents. Through sampling seawater and plankton, students will undertake biochemical analysis, and airborne pollution analysis through sampling of aerosols. The program will be complemented by major outreach that encompasses the shipboard community, the port communities along the voyage, and secondary schools via RSS and XML feeds.

[Learn more about The Scholar Ship Research Institute >>](#)

- **Academic Field Programs, Shore Excursions now Published on TSS Website**

[Academic Field Programs](#) offered during the inaugural voyage in September are now available on our website. AFPs during port calls enable groups of students to explore overlapping social, political, environmental, and business issues inherent in a range of cultures and countries. AFPs are fully integrated into the academic curriculum and are guided by local networks of academic, business, and community organizations to enrich the experience with real-world perspectives. All students participate in an Academic Field Program in the first port of the voyage and are also required to participate in two additional AFPs over the course of the voyage. [Shore Excursions](#),

Conflict Studies (Undergraduate)

Conflicts are generic to the human condition and the management of disputes is a sign of human civilization. In this learning circle, students and academic teaching staff explore the causes of, solutions for and management of conflicts such as cross-border conflicts (international relations); intra-state conflicts (comparative politics); conflicts between groups (sociology); and conflicts between individuals (alternatives to litigation).

If you currently study or are interested in the following fields of study, the Conflict Studies Learning Circle is one you should consider:

- Ethics
- History

designed especially for TSS students, are available at each port of call to explore the unique opportunities of the local culture. The extensive array of options is diverse in duration, cost and content.

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

- **The Scholar Ship Addresses United Nations World Tourism Organization Conference**

Dr. Ravinder Bhatia, Director of The Scholar Ship Research Institute, addressed delegates at the 46th Annual Meeting for the United Nations World Tourism Organization Commission for Europe. The conference, held between the 23rd and 25th of May, took place in the mountain city of Bled, Slovenia. Ministers of Tourism from over 40 European countries attended, as well as tourism educators and leaders throughout the tourism industry. This year's theme was "Innovation in Tourism: Adapting to Change." As such, the conference's goal was to present ways in which tourism is taking on new business models and to forge contacts between governments and business. The Scholar Ship was invited to share its innovative model with a most enthusiastic and influential audience.

[Learn more about The Scholar Ship's innovative model >>](#)

- Intercultural Studies
- International Relations
- International Studies
- Political Science
- Peace Studies
- War Studies

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

Port Spotlight: Macau



The name Macau is thought to be derived from the Templo de A-Mãj, a homage to Matsu, goddess of seafarers and fishermen, originally built in 1448 and still standing today. Several hundred years later, natives referred to the peninsula as Amagao, after the temple, which was later abbreviated to Macau.

In the 16th century, Portuguese traders settled in Macau. Macau was administered by Portugal until administrative power was transferred to China in 1999. Until then, Macau was the oldest European colony in China.

The mixing of Chinese and Portuguese cultures and religious traditions for more than four centuries has left Macau, located southwest of Hong Kong, with an eclectic collection of holidays, festivals and events, including the Chinese Lunar New Year; the Procession of the Passion of our Lord; and the A-Mãj Festival. Visitors from all over the world flock to these celebrations each year, contributing in part to Macau's booming tourism/hospitality industry, which counts for over 50% of Macau's GDP.

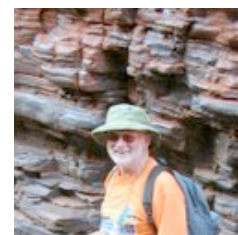
Although Macau is an optional destination (via ferry from Hong Kong) on The Scholar Ship's September 2007 voyage, students will have the chance to participate in several shore excursions that will take them to the heart of the port's cultural and historical roots.

Macau Shore Excursions

On the **Macau Heritage Tour**, students board a ferry at China (HK) Ferry Terminal, bound for an exploration of historical, spiritual, and entertainment sites on the island. The tour begins at Penha Hill, then onward to A-Ma Temple, the oldest in Macau. Students will also visit Lilau Square; St. Joseph Seminary Church; Macau Museum; and the Church of Carmel.

The **Macau Overnight Excursion** begins with a traditional Portuguese dinner by the water. Students will thereafter explore Fisherman's Wharf, the first theme park in Macau. In the

Onboard Staff Profile



Leo West
Executive Officer
Inaugural Voyage
September 2007

As Executive Officer for the inaugural voyage in September, Leo West is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the academic and onboard program, as well as the port program at each port of call.

After completing a Ph.D. in Education, Dr. West became a research professor in improving higher education. He also served as visiting research fellow or visiting professor at Cornell University, the University of Maine (both in the USA), the University of Leicester (UK), Khon Kaen University (Thailand), Gothenburg University (Sweden), and UHA-the Higher Education Board (Sweden).

morning, students will travel to the island of Taipa, where they will explore colonial mansions, a museum, the bustling Taipa Village, the Yek Long Firecracker Factory, and the ancient temples on nearby Coloane Island. Day two brings students to the Macau border and onward to Zhuhai, a modern city famous for its abundance of blue water and beautiful sand beaches. After a swim, students visit the New Yuan Ming Palace, a sprawling complex of pavilions, temples, halls, gardens, and lakes, then drive along Lover's Lane, a long waterfront esplanade overlooking all of Macau, and finally enjoy a stop at the Paradise Hill Garden.

[Learn more about our Shore Excursions >>](#)

In 1990, Dr. West became part of the Senior Management team at Monash University (Australia) as Pro-Vice Chancellor with responsibility for international operations and residence halls. His role included "internationalizing" the university. Dr. West also served as Deputy Vice Chancellor at Central Queensland University, and as a consultant on higher education reforms in Thailand.

Dr. West is an inveterate traveler. He has his sights set on traversing Bali to Beijing over land and sea.

The number of visas required to study aboard The Scholar Ship will vary according to a student's country of citizenship. Considering that each student will be recognized by issuing authorities as part of a large educational group on a short-term visit, obtaining visas is unlikely to be an obstacle to a student's enrollment in The Scholar Ship program. The number of visas required to study aboard The Scholar Ship will vary according to a student's country of citizenship. Information on specific procedures will be included in each student's enrollment package to assist them in obtaining necessary visas. For specific questions regarding visas, please [contact us](#).

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