

AGBU

Study Abroad Program in Armenia

in collaboration with the American University of Armenia (AUA)



Summer 2009 Application Packet

www.agbu.org/summer2009



2009 Study Abroad Program in Armenia

55 East 59th Street, 7th Floor

Tel: 1.212.319.6383

New York, NY 10022, USA

Em: sap@agbu.org

AGBU Mission Statement

Established in 1906, the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) is the world's largest non-profit Armenian organization. Headquartered in New York City, AGBU (www.agbu.org) preserves and promotes the Armenian identity and heritage through educational, cultural and humanitarian programs, annually serving some 400,000 Armenians around the world.

AGBU Study Abroad Program in Armenia

June 29, 2009 - July 24, 2009 (4 week session)

Study Abroad Program in Armenia Description

The AGBU Study Abroad Program (SAP) in Armenia, in collaboration with the American University of Armenia (AUA), an affiliate of the University of California, is a unique four-week summer program which allows students to take up to two 4-credit courses offered by top universities in Armenia. These English-instructed courses are designed to offer juniors and seniors in good academic standing an in-depth knowledge of topics in a variety of academic disciplines placed in a regional context that helps participants gain a new perspective on the Caucasus.

Academic credit is granted through AUA, which is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), one of seven regional bodies recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Faculty for the 2009 semester consist of top experts in their fields from both the Diaspora and Armenia, and hold degrees from the United States, United Kingdom, and Armenia.

Collaborating universities include Yerevan State University, the State Engineering University of Armenia, and the Yerevan State Medical University.

While in Armenia students live in an AGBU residence along with participants of the AGBU Yerevan Summer Intern Program (YSIP). Together, they partake in a cultural enrichment program and a variety of social and recreational activities.

During the program, students must:

- ♦ Attend at least one (1) 3-hour course daily;
- ♦ Participate in all supplemental educational, cultural, and social activities (3-4 times a week);
- ♦ Adhere to all AGBU and AUA policies regarding academic performance and personal conduct;
- ♦ Complete the 4-week program successfully.

Study Abroad Program in Armenia Fees*

- ♦ \$50 USD application fee (non-refundable)
- ♦ \$3,500 USD tuition for up to two (2) 4-credit courses

- ♦ \$1,450 USD participation fee, which includes:
 - Visa entrance fee
 - 4-Week Dormitory Accommodations
 - Cultural Enrichment Program, including
 - ♦ Welcome Dinner
 - ♦ Armenian Language Courses
 - ♦ Armenian History Lectures
 - ♦ Armenian Dance Classes
 - ♦ Social Programs
 - ♦ Meetings with Government Officials
 - ♦ Tour of AGBU Projects in Armenia
 - ♦ Sightseeing in Yerevan
 - ♦ Trip to Nagorno-Karabakh (includes transportation, accommodations, & meals)
 - ♦ Trip to Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin
 - ♦ Trip to Gyumri
 - ♦ Trip to Sevan and Dilijan
 - ♦ Trip to Garni and Geghard
 - ♦ Farewell Dinner

**Students are responsible for all other expenses, such as travel, food, and personal expenses.*

Study Abroad Program in Armenia Scholarships

AGBU is awarding scholarships to 15 eligible applicants of Armenian descent. The AGBU program will comprise of enrollment in AUA courses supplemented with a cultural enrichment program. The scholarship will cover half of the tuition fee (\$1,750 USD) plus free housing at an AGBU facility. Recipients of the scholarship will be responsible for the remaining tuition cost (\$1,750 USD), plus travel, food, and personal expenses. Participation in all of the scheduled supplemental activities is mandatory for AGBU Scholarship recipients.

Interested applicants must submit a completed *Application for Financial Assistance* (see last page of AGBU SAP packet).

Study Abroad Program in Armenia Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be:

- ♦ Of Armenian descent;
- ♦ At least 18 years of age;
- ♦ An entering junior or senior undergraduate student (as of fall 2009);
- ♦ In good academic standing at an accredited college or university.

Study Abroad Program in Armenia Admission Checklist

- ✓ Submit a completed *AGBU SAP Application*, and *Application for Financial Assistance* (if applicable), to the AGBU Central Office, by **April 1, 2009**.
- ✓ Submit a *Study Abroad Program Application* (www.aua.am/students/application.html) to AUA by **April 1, 2009**.



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Application Checklist

All AGBU and AUA application packets must be received by AGBU and AUA, respectively, by **April 1, 2009**.

STEP 1: In one envelope please submit the following, to

**AGBU SAP
55 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022, USA**

- a) _____ Completed AGBU SAP application form
- b) _____ Statement of purpose
- c) _____ One letter of recommendation (may be mailed separately; see form for details)
- d) _____ Resume/CV
- e) _____ Photocopy of passport (which includes personal information)
- f) _____ Two passport pictures
- g) _____ \$50 application fee, made payable to AGBU
- i) _____ Financial assistance application (if applicable)

STEP 2: Go to www.aua.am/students/application.html to submit the *Study Abroad Program* application to AUA.

Applications missing any of these materials will not be considered.

Questions?

212.319.6383 or sap@agbu.org

2009 Summer Study Program Calendar:

AGBU and AUA application deadlines: April 1, 2009

Decision notification by AGBU: May 1, 2009



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Application Summer 2009

Application Deadline: **April 1, 2009**. Please type or print clearly.

Personal Data

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)	Place of Birth	Gender
Marital Status	Social Security/ID/ or Passport #	Citizenship

Current Address

Valid Until _____

Street	Apartment #		
City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Code	Country
Current Home Phone	Mobile Phone		
Email	Permanent Home Phone		

Parent / Guardian Information

Last Name	Male Guardian/Father's Name	Female Guardian/Mother's Name	Mother's Maiden Name
Street	Apartment #		
City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Code	Country
Email	Permanent Home Phone		

Do not write in this box. For use by program staff only.

Program Application Status	Accepted _____	Denied _____
Applying for financial assistance?	Yes _____	No _____



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Name of Applicant: _____

Statement of Purpose

On a separate sheet, please submit a typed, double-spaced statement of purpose (max. 500 words in length) explaining your interest in studying abroad in Armenia. Outline the steps you have taken to prepare yourself for this experience and how you anticipate this experience will relate to your future goals. Include a description of what you hope to gain from - and give to - the AGBU Study Abroad Program in Armenia. Be sure to include your full name on each page, as necessary. You may use the same essay for the AUA application.

How did you hear about the Program?

(Check all that apply)

_____ AGBU News Magazine

_____ AGBU Website

_____ Armenian Newspapers

_____ Family/Friends

Other (please specify): _____

Applicant Signature

The information given above is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any misrepresentation will result in the disqualification of my application.

Print Name

Signature

Date



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Name of Applicant: _____

Course List

The 2009 summer faculty is comprised of top experts in their fields from both the Diaspora and Armenia with many years of teaching and research experience. They hold advanced degrees from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Armenia.

Select up to two (2) courses from the list below. Each course carries four (4) units of credit. The reciprocity of credits is to be cleared by the applicants with their home institutions.

For complete registration instructions, visit www.aua.am/students/agbu_stud_progs.html

Human Rights and Civic Development in the Caucasus

Faculty: *Vahan Bournazian and Theresa Khorozian, AUA*

This course is a comparative review of the development of individual rights and of civil society in the three Caucasian republics during their continuing post-soviet transition. Upon declaring independence, each state quickly acceded to international human rights treaties; to what degree have these societies been successful in internalizing these values? Topics for discussion include: the universality of human rights vs. cultural relativism, sources and consequences of violations, the scope and limits of minority rights, respect for the prohibition on the use of torture, free and fair elections, respect for women's rights, the rights of the child, public health and the AIDS pandemic. International, regional and national mechanisms, institutions and NGO's seeking to promote and protect human rights will also be discussed.

Health Care Systems in Transforming Economies

Faculty: *Varduhi Petrosyan, AUA; Michael Narimanyan and Marina Ohanian, Yerevan State Medical University*

This course provides an overview of the conceptual aspects of the macro level organization of health care systems worldwide with a focus on economies in transformation. The course presents the economic and financing mechanisms underlying changes occurring in the health sector. It also provides a critical comparison of the philosophy, organization, financing, and benefit packages of different health care systems; comparing low, medium, and high-income countries.

Current Issues in Global Security

Faculty: *Khatchik DerGhoukassian, AUA and Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO/Argentina)*

The traditional understanding of international security was closely linked to the preservation of the national territory from external threats. Since the 1980s, and especially after the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, the concept has undergone a broad theoretical and practical change to include more than just the military sector and to expand beyond the narrow national security understanding. This course aims at explaining the transformation of the meaning and practice of security in contemporary international relations and focuses on the linkage of the local, regional, international and global levels of security through case studies that help understanding the ongoing theoretical debate.

Women and Human Rights

Faculty: *Hasmik E. Khalapyan, YSU*

The course examines how international organizations in general and UN in particular have institutionalized women's human rights in the course of the 20th century and examines the contemporary history of the women's movement worldwide and contemporary policies in legislation that seek to bring equality between the sexes, as well as allowing for greater inclusion and representation of women in policy making and policy structures. Particular emphasis will be given to countries in the South Caucasus and the Middle East.

Web Application Development

Faculty: *Benjamin Janpoladyan, State Engineering University of Armenia*

This course provides students with the skills needed to develop software for web applications. Students will learn the principles of how web applications are built and the course covers both beginning and advanced web technologies.



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Name of Applicant: _____

Additional Background Information

Please answer the following questions completely.

(This information will remain confidential between the Program staff and the participant).

Do you have any medical conditions? If so, please list.

Do you have any allergies (food or otherwise)? If so, please list.

Are you currently taking any medication(s) that we should be aware of? If so, please list.

Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offense - or have a record of any nature that may prohibit clearance to receive a foreign Visa? If so, please explain.

Have you ever been to Armenia? Yes _____ No _____

Please check the appropriate level of your knowledge of the Armenian language.

	None	Basic	Good	Fluent
Speaking				
Reading				
Writing				



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Name of Applicant: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Please provide the following information for two (2) emergency contacts:

1. Name _____

Relation _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Mobile Phone _____

Email _____

2. Name _____

Relation _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Mobile Phone _____

Email _____



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Recommendation Form

To the applicant:

The letter of recommendation must be written by someone who can best describe your skills and character, excluding family members and friends. Complete the upper portion and submit this form to your recommender for completion. Include a stamped envelope addressed to **AGBU SAP** (55 East 59th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10022) - OR - have the recommender return a sealed and signed envelope to you for inclusion in the packet you submit to AGBU. It is your responsibility to ensure the submission of this reference form and letter to AGBU SAP by **April 1, 2009**. You may use the same recommender for the AUA application.

Applicant's Information *(Please type or print clearly).*

Last Name First Name Middle Name

College or University

I hereby unconditionally waive my right to access the information submitted on this form.

Applicant's Signature Date

To the recommender:

The individual named above has applied for admission to the AGBU Study Abroad Program in Armenia in collaboration with the American University of Armenia. Your thoughts and candid evaluation will be of special importance in helping AGBU/AUA to act wisely in the case of this individual. We will hold your comments in strict confidence providing the applicant has signed the waiver on this form.

On a separate sheet, please attach a written statement of endorsement. Kindly address what you know about the applicant's academic and professional experiences and pursuits, participation in extracurricular activities/community service, leadership potential, aptitude and achievement in his/her chosen field. Be sure to indicate how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant.

Please mail this completed form, along with your signed letter of recommendation, in the stamped envelope provided to you by the applicant - OR - return a sealed and signed envelope to the applicant in due time for submission as part of the application packet. **All letters must be received no later than April 1, 2009.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Recommender's Information *(Please type or print clearly).*

Last Name First Name

Organization/Institution Title

Street Address City State/Province Postal Code Country

Daytime Phone Fax Email

Please rate the applicant on the following criteria.

	OUTSTANDING TOP 10%	VERY GOOD TOP 20%	ABOVE AVERAGE TOP 25%	BELOW AVERAGE BOTTOM 50%	UNOBSERVED
Intellectual Curiosity					
Seriousness of Purpose					
Motivation					
Leadership					
Academic Achievement					
Cultural Adaptability					

Recommender's Signature Date



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Application for Financial Assistance

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Name _____
 Present Address _____
 Telephone () _____ Mobile Phone () _____ Email _____
 Years of Residency in Present County _____
 Permanent Address _____
 Telephone () _____
 Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____ Gender _____
 Marital Status _____ Social Security/ID/Passport # _____ Citizenship _____
 Occupation _____ Annual Income (\$ USD) _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Father's/Male Guardian's Full Name _____
 Permanent Address _____
 Telephone () _____ Email _____
 Occupation _____ Annual Income (\$ USD) _____
 Mother's/Female Guardian's Full Name _____
 Permanent Address _____
 Telephone () _____ Email _____
 Occupation _____ Annual Income (\$ USD) _____
 Spouse's Full Name _____
 Permanent Address _____
 Telephone () _____ Email _____
 Occupation _____ Annual Income (\$ USD) _____

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR USE TOWARD PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Financial resources that you can personally contribute: _____ (\$ USD)
 Other available resources (e.g., non-AGBU scholarships): _____ (\$ USD)
 Total Financial Resources (please add lines above): _____ (**\$ USD**)

Applicant's Signature _____
 Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____ Spouse's Signature _____

Do not write in this box. For use by program staff only.		
Program Application Status	Accepted _____	Denied _____
Financial Assistance Status	Accepted _____	Denied _____
Scholarship Amount (\$ USD)	_____	