



**Medicine, Microbiology and Health
UF in Europe**
ALS 4404
Summer 2024, Study Abroad

Instructors

Monika Oli, PhD, moli@ufl.edu

Dr. Oli has led four previous study abroad programs in Europe where she observed how going places where the material you are studying originates sparks curiosity and leaves a lasting impression at a level beyond classroom learning. She is a Master Lecturer and Microbiology Lab Supervisor, as well as previously serving as Undergraduate Coordinator. She has received numerous recognitions including the Internationalizing Student Education Award for her “Microbes Without Borders” course. As a native German, she will be bringing students to her home country where she will provide a unique experience for students to learn about the region from a more personalized perspective and through her extensive professional network.



Elizabeth D. Gadsby, PhD, egadsby@ufl.edu

Dr. Gadsby’s career includes research resulting in over forty patents at a Fortune 500 global health and hygiene corporation and leadership and consulting at entrepreneurial biotech companies. She has traveled internationally for business and pleasure over the last two decades, including fairly extensively throughout Europe. She recently reinvigorated and created curriculum for two professional development courses at UF. Dr. Gadsby and her husband, James Gadsby, have mentored over 50 college students in the last few years and have a passion for learning and sharing experiences in their first study abroad program alongside Dr. Oli’s leadership.



Course Description

This course provides a unique opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of microbiology and its role in medicine and health while experiencing other cultures and engaging in physical activity and wellness. Students will be immersed for 21 days in areas of Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland, and France where they will visit the birthplace of pivotal scientific discoveries and current leading-edge research. Students will develop skills in intercultural competence, self-discovery and communication, and critical thinking, preparing them for success in their academic and professional careers.

ALS 4404 is a 3-credit-hour course that is part of the UF Study Abroad program through UF International Study Center. These credits count toward the UF Summer Enrollment requirement.

Course Learning Objectives

After this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the historical and current practices in microbiology and their implications in medicine and healthcare.
 - Describe the fundamental principles of microbiology and types of microbes and their relevance in medicine and health.
2. Evaluate the relationship between culture, diet, and microbial communities.
 - Demonstrate an appreciation for physical activity, nutrition, and wellness.
3. Develop intercultural competence through engagement with local communities in different cultures.
 - Understand the importance of preparation and planning for site visits and cultural experiences.

- Contrast and appreciate their and others' personal style and culture in an immersive foreign environment.
4. Articulate their interests and abilities to network with leaders in international organizations.
- Relate classroom technical learning to real-world processes and commercial applications in a mind-opening setting.
 - Create and present engaging and informative projects that highlight the role of microbes in medicine and health.

Course Prerequisites / Corequisites

Students must complete the application process through the UF International Study Center. Selection will be based on submission timing and program fit.

Materials and Supply Fees

A \$395 nonrefundable deposit toward the total cost of the program is due with the application. The program fee is \$5,812 is due no later than 45 days prior to departure. If you receive financial aid, you can defer payment until it disburses. The program fee covers tuition, housing, breakfast, two dinners, transportation and fees for program excursions, tips, international health insurance, and emergency medical assistance. Separate finances are required for international round-trip airfare, most meals, personal travel, and other personal expenses. Financial aid and scholarship information is available through UF International Center and the Bursar's office.

Required Materials

There are no required textbooks for this course. Supplemental reading assignments will be provided.

Each student is required to bring their own laptop computer or a tablet/iPad with Wi-Fi and VPN connectivity, as well as an electrical adapter for Europe. Internet access will be available at most locations. Activities and assignments will require internet research and submission through the Canvas platform.

Schedule Overview (subject to change)

Dates	Locations
May 8 - 10	Budapest, Hungary
May 11	Brno, Czech Republic
May 12 - 15	Vienna, Melk, Krems, and Salzburg, Austria
May 16 - 19	Munich, Andechs, Seefeld, Bad Wörishofen, and Tegelberg, Germany
May 20 - 25, 27	Zurich, Rümlang, Kandersteg, Lausanne, and Geneva, Switzerland
May 26	Chamonix, France

Students may choose to independently extend their trip for an internship or other international training course.

Course Assignments

Critical Thinking

- **Historical Scientist Impersonation**

Each student will select a different person of scientific and historical significance associated with a trip locale to “personify” by sharing with the group an accurate, informative, and interesting presentation about the contributions and controversies. Suggestions for subjects will be provided, but students can propose other noteworthy figures. The presentation should be 10-15 minutes and ready to present on the appropriate day during the trip. Electronic handouts should be shared with the group to reinforce learning and provide at least two references.

Intercultural Learning and Communication

- **Scribe & Social**

Each student will be assigned to summarize key information for one day’s activities to include in the group journal and with group social media posts.

- **Participation**

Students are expected to participate in the mandatory pre-trip orientation meeting through the UF International Center. Active engagement in daily activities is also required to fully benefit from this experiential learning program. Activities beyond assignments may include cultural interactions and assessments, scavenger hunts, lecture discussions, and work style profiles.

To support mental wellness, each student may elect to take a ½ day break from the group activities. Students must inform instructors of their intent to exercise this benefit.

Grade reductions will be applied for persistent or egregious lack of effort and involvement. Examples include being consistently late, sleeping or being inattentive during lectures, leaving the group during tours, skipping events, and not turning in activities. It is not anticipated that this will be an issue as the program is designed for students to desire involvement. Students will be given an opportunity to explain their behavior and address it with both instructors. Code of Conduct violations will not be tolerated and will be handled per University guidelines.

Self-Discovery and Communication

- **ePortfolio and Reflection Project**

Your e-Portfolio is a foundation for showcasing your global and professional learning journey. The Wix website builder is recommended for simplicity, but other website accounts can be used. Basic building blocks of the site will include a personal interest statement, resume/CV or LinkedIn profile, and abbreviated travel log including photos.

The Reflection Project is an opportunity to summarize your learnings to solidify and retain them for yourself and to share with others through a written paper or recorded audio-visual presentation.

Assignment Grades

Assignments	Due Date	% Grade
Historic Scientist Impersonation	At related point in trip	25%
Participation, Scribe/Social	Rotating during trip	50%
ePortfolio & Reflection Project	End of Summer C	25%

Grading Policy

In compliance with current UF grading policies for assigning grade points

(<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>):

Range	Grade	Grade Points
94.0% to 100%	A	4.00
90.0% to < 94.0%	A-	3.67
87.0% to < 90.0%	B+	3.33
84.0% to < 87.0%	B	3.00
80.0% to < 84.0%	B-	2.67
77.0% to < 80.0%	C+	2.33

74.0% to < 77.0%	C	2.00
70.0% to < 74.0%	C-	1.67
67.0% to < 70.0%	D+	1.33
64.0% to < 67.0%	D	1.00
60.0% to < 64.0%	D-	0.67
0% to < 60.0%	E	0.00

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Please see UF policy at [Attendance Policies](#). Excused assignment extensions must be consistent with university policies in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) and require appropriate documentation.

Participation in program activities is mandatory unless excused due to medical issues or as mental wellness option.

Class Expectations and Behavior

Study abroad participants are expected to perform academically at standards commensurate with on-campus performance, although the learning environment will be very different. The “classroom” will be the places visited and learning will come from experience instead of textbook reading and fact memorization. The reading material and prep work provides a deeper understanding to relate experiences to student’s personal career path and future goals.

Practicing travel etiquette is a part of the learning experience to adjust, respect, and embrace a different environment, customs, and culture and people encountered. It may be some students’ first time to leave the country or to travel to Europe.

Training will include guidance about safety. Students are encouraged to register with the host countries’ U.S. Consulate. It is critical that students inform instructors if they will be away from the program site overnight and provide an itinerary and contact information. Students should be aware that unknown location triggers formal missing person reporting steps. The UF Due Process will be followed for investigation and handling of any behavior believed to be in violation of the program requirements and expectations.

Course Evaluation

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality

of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at

<https://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/public-results/>. Additional anonymous feedback on the course may be requested, but participation is not required.

Academic Honesty Policy

University of Florida students are bound by the Honor Pledge. On all work submitted for credit by a student, the following pledge is required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Student Honor Code and Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040, <https://policy.ufl.edu/regulation/4-040/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code, as well as the process for reported allegations and sanctions that may be implemented. All potential violations of the code will be reported to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. If a student is found responsible for an Honor Code violation in this course, the instructor will enter a Grade Adjustment sanction which may be up to or including failure of the course.

Appropriate Use of Artificial Intelligence

Students are encouraged to explore and utilize a variety of AI tools and libraries to enhance their understanding and practical skills. Students should consider the potential biases and implications of AI and make efforts to mitigate any discriminatory or harmful effects. When using AI tools, students should ensure that they comply with the respective licenses and terms of use set by the tool developers. Students should properly attribute any code or resources used from external sources, including AI libraries, frameworks, or pre-trained models.

In this course, AI-generated work may be used collaboratively and must be clearly acknowledged. AI programs are not a replacement for human creativity and critical thinking. It is the student's responsibility to review and ensure the appropriateness and accuracy of assignment submissions. Failure to cite and correctly edit work will result in a reduced grade and could be referred to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution in consistent or severe cases.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: <https://umatter.ufl.edu/>

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu> provides counseling services, groups and workshops, outreach and consultation, self-help library, and wellness coaching

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: <https://elearning.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center: <https://career.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-1601, First Floor Reitz Union. Career assistance and guidance.

Library Support: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/> Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Student Success Initiative: <https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu/> Pathways to student support through advising, coaching, peer mentoring and tutoring

Writing Studio: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Disability Services: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>, 1 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565. Registration, accommodations for disabilities.

On-Line Students Complaints for Online Course: <https://pfs.tnt.aa.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>

International Center Resources

UF International Center: <https://internationalcenter.ufl.edu/study-abroad>, (352) 392-5323;
Director: Susanne Hill, shill@ufic.ufl.edu, (352) 273-1500

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): <https://step.state.gov/step/>

Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI): <https://www.culturalinsurance.com/>, (800) 303-8120