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Rochester College announces Pre-Nursing program

First students will be admitted to the program this fall

As incoming college freshmen consider their educational options and career plans, one field that is filled with potential is Nursing. As the world of health care moves rapidly to meet the challenges of the 21st century, the need for well-educated nurses has perhaps never been greater. In recent months, the pressing shortage of qualified nurses in southeast Michigan and throughout the entire state and surrounding region has been well-documented. Not only are there not enough nurses, but there are not enough educational programs to train a sufficient number of nurses to meet the demands of the workplace. The combination of insufficient training programs and a shortage of trained professionals in the field has produced great and well publicized alarm among officials in educational, health care and government settings. Rochester College is eager to help respond to these concerns.

One way Rochester College is responding is in the development of a pre-nursing curriculum to help students prepare themselves for application to Nursing programs in colleges throughout our region. This curriculum was developed in consultation with working professionals in the field of nursing. It includes specialized courses in technology, ethics, psychology, holistic health and wellness, and cross cultural communication specifically designed to help students who are interested in nursing ready themselves to apply for training programs in the health care professions.

In the demanding and competitive environment of nursing education, no one can be guaranteed admission to a nursing program. But, Rochester College's pre-nursing curriculum exists to help high-achieving students make progress in the development of their qualifications for admission to these exciting and demanding programs. Professor David Brackney, chair of the Math and Science Department at Rochester College serves as the primary advisor for students interesting in pre-nursing. Your admissions advisors can help you connect with him to learn more.

Beyond the Classroom

Students and faculty branch out with global educational experiences, mission trips, and field studies

GEO Vienna: Fall 2009

In just three months, another group will depart from Rochester College to spend a semester in Vienna, Austria, staying at the beautiful Schloss Neuwaldegg. In addition to all the fantastic sights and local culture enjoyed by living in the heart of Austria, GEO Vienna students also have easy access to central Europe's extensive train system, taking them to weekend getaways throughout Germany, France,

Belgium, and Spain. Additionally, longer excursions to England and Italy are included as group travel opportunities.

Sophomore Asia Smith can't wait to leave. "I feel very privileged to have been chosen for this program," she says. "I'm really looking forward to the learning experience it will provide for me, both academically and spiritually."

Students take between 12-18 credit hours in the program, in subjects such as aesthetics/music appreciation, German language, mission experience, and fitness and wellness. Opportunities for spiritual development are also offered through daily devotional times and mission work at clothing and food distribution centers to refugees and shelters for children.

"The experience that GEO provides is incredible; there is no better way to learn," said John Barton, associate academic dean. "You learn more about yourself, history, music, food, politics, and more. Traveling cross-culturally adds an unbelievable dimension to a college semester."

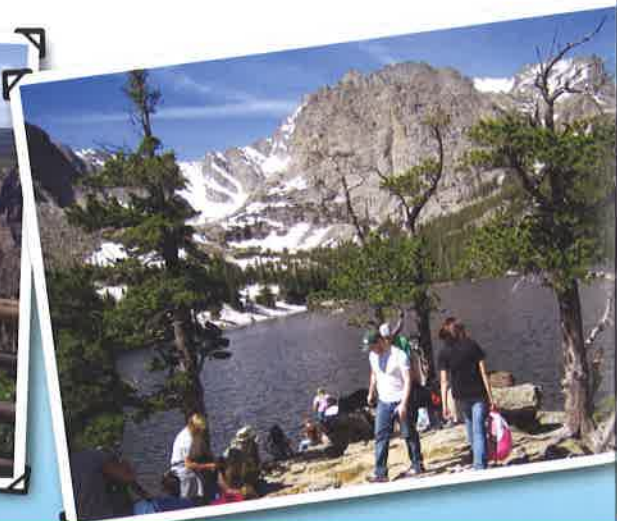
For more information about all the GEO offerings on this page, see www.rc.edu/geo

Field studies take students all over the USA

Now that the year has ended and summer vacation is here, two groups of students have embarked on academic field studies right here in the United States.

As part of the *Teaching Across Cultures* field immersion program, 14 education majors left for Muskogee, Oklahoma on May 10 to work in the community of the Murrow Indian Children's Home. During the day, RC students teach in various classrooms in the Muskogee public school system, where the children from the home are enrolled, and in the evenings, they lead tutoring sessions and spend time playing games and interacting with the children on-site. Staying in a volunteer cottage on the Murrow campus allows the students to make a connection between the school and home life of the children who live there.

Likewise, students left on May 24 for the fifth annual Earth Science Field Study. The two-week trip focuses on basic concepts of geology, which students are able to experience processes firsthand as they hike to, climb over, or crawl through many sites of geologic interest. While traveling throughout Colorado and Utah, the group will visit Great Sand Dunes National Park, Mesa Verde National Park, Capitol Reef National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Pikes Peak, the Gods, and Rocky Mountain National Park. "There is no better way to learn than immersing yourself completely in the subject under study," says professor David Brackney. "It is a richly rewarding experience for our students."



Cross-global adventures underway

The most unique of all travel experiences offered by Rochester College take students across the globe to the far-reaching countries of China and Israel.

The China trip, taking place for the first time this summer, is geared toward business majors and will explore the nation's emerging economy. Students will tour the cities of Beijing, Hong Kong, Xi'an, and Shanghai and see sights that include the Great Wall and Tienenman Square.

Business professor Jeff Cohu established the trip. He has wanted to go back to China ever since his first visit in 1996. "I've been a lot of places in the world," he says, "but never anywhere where I felt as much out of my culture as in China."

Potential missionaries will benefit from the trip as well. Since China has been a closed nation for many years, it is one of the least evangelized places in the world. To get around the ban, mission organizations "use existing infrastructures of education and business to evangelize," says Cohu.

At the other end of the spectrum, students traveling to Israel's southern city of Tamar get a rare peek into ancient archeology in the very lands where biblical history occurred. Tamar is believed to be the site of a 10th century B.C.E. fortress built during the reign of King Solomon (described in 1 Kings 9:18). While in Israel, other ancient cities of biblical importance are also toured, including Caesarea, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Megiddo, and Petra.

Rochester College students and faculty have participated in the dig, which takes place during three weeks of Christmas break, for five years. During previous trips the group unearthed several significant pieces of ancient pottery, among thousands of other small artifacts.



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Alumni Excelling

Former students make RC proud in the workplace



John Pleasant, Class of '03
Fifth-grade teacher and high school basketball coach

Since graduating in 2003, John has taught fifth grade at Brooklands Elementary School in Rochester Hills. He is well known among his students and peers as someone who always goes beyond the call of duty, starting after-school basketball and homework clinics and attending students' extra-curricular activities in his free time. Last spring, after three seasons as assistant coach and at the age of just 27, John was awarded the head

coaching position for the Rochester High School Falcons. So why did someone with such great potential choose Rochester College? "Simple," says John. "Rochester College shared my values, and that was important to me when choosing a school. My education prepared me for my life."

Kelly Tancuesz, Class of '06
Medical student, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

After growing up in Sterling Heights, Kelly transferred to Rochester College from Michigan State University in 2003. She completed her degree in General and Behavioral Science and then headed to the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, which specializes in training primary care osteopathic physicians. "Rochester College is the place that taught me about the human spirit and the importance of nurturing that spirit," Kelly says. "All of my classes

helped to prepare me for the academic endeavors I'm now pursuing. More than that, though, my professors demonstrated by their own examples how to be compassionate and kindhearted in order to really connect with others."

