



THE UNITED STATES – INDONESIA SOCIETY

SUMMER LANGUAGE STUDIES PROGRAM

The United States-Indonesia Society is dedicated to expanding understanding of Indonesia and of the importance of the United States-Indonesia relationship. As the world's third largest democracy and the fourth most populous country, Indonesia is one of the United States' most important partners on trade and security issues. Despite its great importance, most Americans know little about Indonesia. The USINDO Summer Language Studies Program has, for more than 15 years, worked to educate young Americans about Indonesia through in-country language and culture training in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

The USINDO Summer Language Studies Program fills a large gap in funding for in-country language studies. Language study is an integral way of introducing and interesting Americans in Indonesia, a country important but often overlooked in the United States. Studies of Indonesia in the United States are vibrant but limited to very few academic institutions. Mainstream media offers glimpses of Indonesia generally limited to bylines of terrorism and corruption. As a result of this limited and biased exposure, American students and young professionals rarely turn their attention to Indonesia in a constructive way. The inauguration of a U.S. president with roots in Indonesia brings welcome attention to the significance of Indonesia at the policy level, but more attention needs to be paid to what undergirds policy: the people-to-people relationship.

Educating Americans about Indonesia is essential if we are to prepare our next generation of leaders for the global issues that lie ahead. In-country language study such as that provided by USINDO is critical: it provides needed incentive for Americans to become interested in Indonesia, and raises awareness of the importance of Indonesia and of the Indonesia-United States relationship. Currently, USINDO is one of very few programs bringing Americans to Indonesia for language study.

The program is designed to give our American students the skills – language, political awareness, cultural sensitivity – they need to engage with the country in a constructive and mutually beneficial manner. It also engages Indonesian students through tutoring sessions and other activities, exposing them to a part of the United States – its students – with which they rarely have the opportunity to interact.

Program Details

The Summer Language Studies Program is conducted at the Gadjah Mada University (UGM) under the direction of the Indonesian Language and Cultural Learning Service (INCULS). The program staff in Yogyakarta has ably managed the program, working with the dedicated teachers, tutors, and host families.

Students participate in 24 hours of language study per week, organized into three classes: reading and vocabulary, grammar and writing, and speaking and practicum. Students also practice daily with Indonesian tutors who are students at UGM. Such tutoring provides the opportunity to both the Indonesian and American students to engage at an informal level, to ask questions, and to develop friendships; many Summer Studies alums have maintained these bonds long after participating in the program.

The program also features cultural programs that introduce the students to integral aspects of Indonesian and Javanese (Indonesia's largest ethnic group) life: gamelan music, cooking, traditional dance, traditional martial arts, and batik cloth making. Language is one aspect of culture; introductions to these other aspects allows for a fuller appreciation of all.

Notable speakers from Yogyakarta are also invited to present. Speakers in the past have focused on Indonesian politics, history, and economics, and have included professors, the Sultan of Yogyakarta, and other professionals. USINDO staff in Washington and Jakarta work with program staff in Yogyakarta to ensure a diverse and lively group of speakers.

Students live with host families throughout their stay in Indonesia. The host family experience is intended to reinforce language studies during the day, and to give students the real experience of living with an Indonesian family. Indonesians are hospitable, welcoming people. Strong emphasis is placed on the importance of the family unit. By welcoming American students into their homes, host families welcome them to their daily routine and often invite them to participate as family members in significant events such as weddings. Significantly, the experience allows acquaintances and extended family of the host family to have exposure to young, educated Americans interested in Indonesia and willing to engage.

Eligibility

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and undergraduate college seniors, enrolled in a graduate or post-graduate degree program, or recent graduates of any tertiary educational institution (within 6 months).

Costs

The cost of the program participation is \$2,000.

Program cost covers tuition, housing and board, airfare, student visas, and health insurance. All other incidentals will be the responsibility of the students.

Deadlines

Applications and transcripts must be received by USINDO no later than **March 31th**. Notification of acceptance to the program will be issued by the end of April.

Airfare

USINDO purchases roundtrip air tickets to Yogyakarta for students from any city in the US. Travel arrangements are made by USINDO.

Visa

USINDO will process the student visas at the Embassy of Indonesia in Washington, DC. Students **MUST** possess a passport that is valid at least until December (of the program year), **AND** must have at least four blank visa pages in their passport.

Health Insurance

USINDO purchases health insurance from HTH Worldwide and will pay for the premium for each student for 3 months coverage (June, July, August).

http://www.hthstudents.com/healthInsurance_selectState.cfm

Students will be responsible for any deductible payments.

Yogyakarta Orientation

When students arrive in Yogya, they will stay in a hotel for two nights before moving in with their host families to ease them into the new setting. In-country program coordinator welcomes the students to Yogya and introduces them to program staff, who will be assisting the students throughout their time in Yogya. Program staff organize a welcome dinner with all the host families giving everyone the opportunity to meet one another before “move-in day”. Students also meet with their tutors and together they go for a city tour of Yogya. Gadjah Mada University hosts an official opening ceremony to introduce the students to the instructors and launch the language program. Placement exams are also given for those students wanting to participate in the intermediate level class.

Classes

The language program is run by the Indonesian Language and Culture Learning Service (INCULS) at Gadjah Mada University (UGM). The USINDO program typically offers two class levels: beginner and intermediate.

Typical class schedule is held Monday – Friday from 8 a.m to 11 a.m. and covers:

- Reading & Vocabulary
- Grammar and Writing
- Speaking

Private tutorials are held every Monday and Wednesday after regular classes with Indonesian graduate students at UGM. Each USINDO student gets paired with a tutor to practice Bahasa Indonesia and assist with homework and daily life activities (such as going to the market and taking students around campus).

Special Lectures

USINDO, with input from students, will organize lectures on special topics. Special lectures are typically only organized upon request.

Cultural Workshops

Students are able to get first hand experience of the Indonesian culture through several workshops. Examples of cultural workshops in the past include *gamelan* (traditional musical

ensemble), *batik* (textile dyeing technique), dance, martial arts, cooking, and *wayang* (shadow puppets performance). Students can also watch cultural performances such as *gamelan* and *wayang*.

Field Trips

As part of the learning experience, in-country program staff organize two to three weekend trips in and around central Java.

Past program field trips have included visits to various *candi* or ancient temple such as Borobudur, Prambanan, Suku, and Ceto, as well as to batik factories, gamelan makers, antique markets, and the surrounding palaces. In 2011, these trips included a visit to shelters for refugees/survivors from the Mount Merapi eruption in the previous year.

Practicum Period

During the middle of the program students will have a week break from classes and workshops. Students are allowed to travel **within** Indonesia during this time to conduct research or for leisure.

Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements and costs during the practicum.

University Credit

- Number of classroom hours: 112
- Number of tutorial hours: 32
- Students will receive an official transcript from Gadjah Mada University
- Students are responsible for arranging to receive credit from their respective institutions. Not all institutions will accept credit from the USINDO Summer Studies Program.

Program Supporting Staff

The INCULS program coordinator has led the program for numerous years in Yogyakarta. She receives high praise from students and host families alike for her ability to translate cultural differences and her efforts to make herself available to students at all times on any topic. USINDO's office in Jakarta also assists in managing program logistics, monitoring student progress, and is an important point of contact for friends and family, while the USINDO Washington office liaises with students and their universities to ensure proper credit is received for the program.