The **PacRim Program** is a 9-month academic year of study-travel offered every three years, next in **2017-2018**. During the year of study-travel, approximately 20-25 students, selected by formal application to the University's Study Abroad Selection Committee, earn 8 academic units inclusive of an independent research or thesis project. Courses are taught on location in Asia, in such countries as Mongolia, Japan, China, Thailand, and India. The program is open to students of various academic interests and majors, although appropriate academic preparation in Asian Studies is required. The director of the Asian Studies Program at Puget Sound will supervise the students' academic preparation and two faculty members from the university serving as PacRim directors will each lead one semester of the year of study abroad.

The **PacRim Program** has evolved through the years according to the needs of its members and the requirements of the times, but it has some constant features. Foremost among them is an emphasis on reading, writing, reflection, self-motivated learning, and classroom work as an indispensable part of intelligent traveling. Equally important are awareness, sensitivity to others, and responsibility—which help the student to be both a welcome guest in Asia and an effective member of the PacRim group. The program provides a stimulating and often exhilarating learning experience combined with a challenging opportunity to spend nine months in Asia as an inquisitive and informed traveler rather than a tourist.

The itinerary and curriculum on PacRim vary from program to program, and the specific combination of courses and destinations varies according to the expertise and interests of the directors. Historically, most PacRim trips have included time in China, Japan, and India. However, each new PacRim program may include new regional foci, and no destination is guaranteed.

Students usually participate in the **PacRim Program** during their junior or senior year. Some students have delayed graduation in order to participate, and the program welcomes such students, who would be "fifth-year seniors" during the **2017-2018** program. Each student must take three prerequisite courses and attend the required orientation meetings during the year before the trip. Most PacRim students will also opt for the Asian Studies Program’s Interdisciplinary Emphasis in Asian Studies (IEAS), a designation program that complements any major. Students from all majors are welcome and actively encouraged to apply. Remember also that you may meet some of the University core requirements with prerequisites or PacRim courses.

The cost of participation in the program is kept as close as possible to the total of on-campus tuition, student fees, books, room, and board, **plus** air fare and the cost of passport, visas, and inoculations. **PacRim** students are eligible for financial aid and scholarships. Some scholarship funds are available uniquely for Pac Rim students. Endowed funds designated for the support of PacRim students make it possible to assist all students with some of their declared financial need in meeting program expenses.

**Financial Aid and Scholarships and Pac Rim**

- Students who demonstrate financial need through completion of the FAFSA may use, in conjunction with federal and state aid, any Puget Sound scholarships and grants up to their level of financial need towards study abroad costs. Merit Scholarships are Puget Sound
scholarships, and in conjunction with other institutional, federal and state aid, are available to use for study abroad as described above.

- If you do not complete the FAFSA, or if the FAFSA shows no demonstrated need, then your merit scholarship will not be available for use toward studying abroad.
- Federal or State Work study does not apply to study abroad.

**Determining Financial Need**

If your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from your completed FAFSA is less than the Puget Sound Cost of Attendance for your study abroad period, then you most likely have financial need. Some or all of your merit scholarship will be able to be used towards filling this need.

**Please consult with Student Financial Services for more specific information about your individual situation.**

Each student selected for the program must pass **3 prerequisite courses** from the Asian Studies curriculum according to the information on the following page. Additionally, each student selected for the program must attend and participate in the year-long PacRim preparation program, which entails noncredit on-campus meetings (typically held on a weekday evening) with the PacRim administrative and faculty directors during the 2016-17 academic year.

**PREREQUISITES:**

**Any three courses, exclusive of foreign-language courses, first-year seminars, and Asian Studies 489 (or equivalent),** in the Asian Studies curriculum as listed in the “Asian Studies” section of the University Bulletin. For course descriptions, as well as core curriculum designations, see appropriate sections of the University Bulletin; for availability of a course and verification of core status, see the Class Schedule.

**Notes:**

1. The list of Asian Studies courses is subject to change by the addition of a new course (for example, with the arrival of a new faculty member) or the removal of a course (for example, a one-time-only course taught by a visiting faculty member). Courses added or removed are valid prerequisites.

2. 300-level courses sometimes involve prerequisites; please consult the University Bulletin.

Chinese and Japanese language courses are available, although they are not required for the Pac Rim Program and do not count as prerequisites.

**Important:** Students who choose to pursue the IEAS designation program (see above) must meet requirements as presented in the University Bulletin and must consult the Director of Asian Studies.

**PACRIM SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The PacRim Program involves approximately 20-25 students, an administrative director, and two alternating faculty directors, who travel throughout Asia for a period of nine months. As a rigorous physical, emotional and intellectual challenge, the program demands of each student a commitment to a full academic undertaking, health, and stamina. The ability to cooperate with fellow students, the directors, foreign faculty, and nationals of the host countries in difficult foreign travel situations is
especially important. The demands of the program are both exciting and challenging. Application to the program should, therefore, be made only after careful consideration of these personal requirements.

Applicants will be informed of their provisional acceptance into the program in **March 2016** prior to fall 2016 registration. This will allow accepted students to begin (or to continue) taking prerequisites in the **fall of 2016**. Finalists will be expected to complete the following:

1. Receive passing grades in required prerequisite courses.
2. Attend and participate in the year-long PacRim preparation program.
3. Meet pre-payment deadlines.
4. Have an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher at the end of the spring semester just preceding the year in Asia.
5. Maintain a record of good citizenship.

**Students not meeting these requirements will be dropped from the Program.**

**Application Materials Required for Initial Screening:**

1. Completed application form;
2. Completed evaluation forms from two faculty members;
3. Request an unofficial transcript from the Office of the Registrar. Applicants will be expected to have a GPA of 2.0 or higher.
4. A signed statement of understanding

**Final Selection:**

The selection of the final participants will be made by the selection committee on the basis of the following:

1. The quality of participation in the PacRim orientation sessions;
2. Successful completion of all prerequisite courses; and
3. A personal interview, if requested.

**Timetable:**

**Application Deadline – February 19, 2016**

**Mid-March 2016**  **Initial** selection of participants and waitlisted participants by the University Study Abroad Selection Committee will be completed and all students notified by the Director of International Programs. Prerequisite coursework planning begins or continues.

**2016-2017:** Regular orientation meetings as part of the year-long PacRim preparation program; waitlisted students will learn if they have been added to the participant list by the end of the fall semester. **Final selection of participants** will be made during this year.

**Inquiries:**  **Roy Robinson**, Director, International Programs (Howarth 215, ext. 3653).
As a standing policy, the University of Puget Sound does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, marital status, disability or Vietnam-era veteran status. This policy is consistent with relevant federal statutes and regulations, including those pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Questions regarding the application of this policy may be referred to the University's Affirmative Action Officer, (253) 879-3368, or the Director of the Office of Civil Rights of the Department of Education.
A complete application will include the following items:
- Completed and signed application
- Unofficial transcript showing grades through the most recent term.
- Two recommendations from faculty members

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- Personal Essay

Please type or print neatly in ink.

**Correspondence Information:**

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(City) (State) (Zip)

**Academic Information:**

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- Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Courses you are currently taking:
1. 
2. 
3. 
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5. 

**General Information:**

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<td>Father’s Name</td>
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Phone home (____) work (____)

Mother’s Name
Address

Phone home (____) work (____)

Person to contact in case of emergency:
- Father  Mother  Other *

* If you answered “other,” complete the following:

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Statement of Understanding:

I declare that the responses on all of my application materials are true and accurate. I give permission to have my application materials duplicated and given to members of the Selection Committee and the Program Director. If I am selected for the program I also give permission to the Office of the Registrar to release a transcript when necessary to verify my satisfactory academic progress and completion of prerequisite courses. The Financial Services Office has my authorization to release the information about whether I am in good financial standing with the University.

I have read and understand all materials about the PacRim Program. To make the program a success, I agree to:

1. Provide accurate information on all application materials.
2. Show consideration for fellow participants, faculty, administrators, and host country persons, with particular regard to local customs and the needs of the group.
3. Complete prerequisite courses and the non-credit orientation course.
4. Register for, attend, and complete each of the courses in the Pac Rim Program.
5. Maintain good academic standing (an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher at the end of the spring semester just preceding the year in Asia).
6. Refrain from abuse of alcohol.
7. Refrain from use of illegal drugs.
8. Adhere to prescribed measures to prevent illness and contagious diseases.
9. Meet the financial obligations of the program

I agree to meet the participant expectations listed below:

1. Be committed to the academic program, which will be both vigorous and exciting.
2. This commitment means full-time enrollment & participation in all academic and related activities.
3. Participate in orientation sessions given by the University of Puget Sound.
4. Keep the Director of International Programs informed of any address change.
5. Participate in the evaluation of the program at its conclusion. Evaluations will be kept on campus.

By signing this statement, I affirm that I understand that the University of Puget Sound reserves the right to remove me from the program for failure to abide with these guidelines, and may inform my parent/guardian of my dismissal from the program. The authority to take this action rests with the on-site administrator, with prompt, formal report to the Dean of the University and/or the Dean of Students.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please return this form, your personal essay, unofficial transcript, and letters of recommendation to: International Programs, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner, Tacoma, WA 98416

NO LATER THAN February 19, 2016
Essay Question:

Please keep your response to under 500 words, or approximately 2 pages. To help the Selection Committee become acquainted with you, discuss briefly what you hope to accomplish during your study in Asia, and how you hope to incorporate this experience with your academic and/or career plans. Please include any experiences living or traveling in other countries. Please feel free to add anything that you think would be helpful to us in evaluating your application.

At the end of your essay, on a separate sheet, please provide the following information:

- What experience have you had in learning another language?
- What are your main experiences in interacting closely with others in groups?
- What do you enjoy most and find most difficult in being part of a tight-knit group?
- Have you completed any of the prerequisite Pac Rim courses, and, if so, which ones?
- What additional courses do you plan to take before you would go?
APPLICATION FOR PACRIM PROGRAM
Faculty Evaluation for Study Abroad Applicants
☐ Academic Year 2017-2018

To be filled out by the applicant

Name of applicant ________________________________

Name of recommender ________________________________

TO THE APPLICANT: When completed and returned to us, this form & accompanying letter of evaluation will be used in the admission process. Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you may have access to this form. You may, however, waive your right to access in order to facilitate a candid appraisal.

☐ I retain my right of access to this recommendation.  ☐ I waive my right of access to this recommendation.

Signature of Applicant ___________________________ Date ______________

TO THE RECOMMENDER: As you will note above, the applicant has been given the option of waiving or retaining the right of access to this recommendation. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Director of International Programs at 879-3653. Do not give this form to the applicant, but return it directly to International Programs Howarth 215.

Studying abroad requires constant personal adjustment. We appreciate your careful assessment of this student’s qualifications in the following areas (please address as many as you are able in your accompanying letter):

- Intellectual ability and motivation: to include seriousness of purpose; interest in other cultures; intellectual curiosity; past academic performance; ability to learn independently.
- Maturity: to include sensitivity to and tolerance of others; sensitivity to diversity; ability to work well with others and to adjust well to new situations; adaptability, flexibility and ability to deal with stress; and potential for successfully adjusting to life and study in a foreign country.

The Study Abroad Selection Committee would appreciate any other comments you may wish to make about this student’s application for study abroad.

☐ I recommend this student without reservation.
☐ I have minor reservations about this student’s participation.
☐ I cannot recommend this student for the program.

Name and title ________________________________ Phone __________________

Institution &/or department ________________________________

If not Puget Sound, give address: ________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Signature of Recommender ___________________________ Date ______________

Please return this form and your letter of recommendation to:

International Programs, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner, Tacoma, WA 98416-1055

NO LATER THAN February 19, 2016
APPLICATION FOR PAC RIM PROGRAM
Faculty Evaluation for Study Abroad Applicants
☐ Academic Year 2017-2018

To be filled out by the applicant

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Institution &/or department ____________________________________________

If not Puget Sound, give address: ____________________________________________

Signature of Recommender ____________________________ Date _____________

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International Programs, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner, Tacoma, WA 98416-1055

NO LATER THAN February 19, 2016