

Missouri State University  
*Education Abroad*

FACULTY FELLOWS PROGRAM  
-Spring 2025-

## INTRODUCTION

The Missouri State University Education Abroad Faculty Fellows program aims to support faculty in developing, implementing, and executing faculty directed education abroad programs. Each interactive workshop is designed to connect Fellows with education abroad resources and enable faculty to apply their expertise in program design. The Education Abroad Faculty Fellows Program will empower Fellows to create education abroad experiences that promote cultural immersion and engaged learning.

## PROGRAM GOALS

This inaugural Fellows Program is focused on sustainability in that the culminating experience is a five-day travel experience in Costa Rica. The program will provide learning opportunities for future Education Abroad faculty directors and guide them through the creation of their future education abroad program. Through a series of workshops and sustainability themed Costa Rica travel, participants will gain the necessary skills and knowledge to lead effective and enriching global education programs.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The spring 2025 program includes the following components:

- **Four In-Person Workshops:** These 90-minute workshops, 10-11:30 am, will cover key aspects of faculty directed program development including academic frameworks, financial planning, health and safety, sustainability, and cultural integration.
  - **January 24, 2025**
    - ▶ Building an Academic Framework
    - ▶ Outcomes and Assessments
  - **February 7, 2025**
    - ▶ Financially Designing a Successful Program
    - ▶ Creating an Inclusive Program – Building Community for All
  - **March 28, 2025**
    - ▶ Incorporating Sustainability Principles/UN SDGs
  - **April 11, 2025**
    - ▶ Health and Safety on Faculty Directed Programs
    - ▶ Inspiring Global Citizens – Reflection as a tool for personal and professional growth
- **Two Asynchronous Digital Workshops**
  - Education Abroad Program Planning Workshop, the basics of leading a program
  - Marketing and Recruitment

- **Culminating Experience:** Education Abroad Faculty Fellows will travel to Costa Rica from May 19-23, 2025, led by Education Abroad Director, Elizabeth Strong, and Education Abroad Coordinator, Morgan Marler. This immersive experience will showcase best sustainability practices in global education through hands-on activities, collaborative workshops, and cultural excursions.

## BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

- **Professional Development and Growth**
  - **Enhanced Teaching Strategies:** Fellows gain exposure to diverse pedagogical methods and cultural perspectives which can be integrated into their own teaching practices.
  - **Research Opportunities:** Participation can open doors to new research topics and methodologies influenced by international perspectives, potentially leading to collaborations and publications.
  - **Networking:** Fellows connect with other educators and professionals, fostering valuable partnerships and academic collaborations.
  - **Cultural Competence:** Fellows develop a deeper understanding of different cultures, which can enhance their ability to teach and mentor students from diverse backgrounds.
  - **Leadership Skills:** Leading an international program builds leadership and organizational skills that are beneficial within and beyond the academic setting.
  - **Guided Support:** Acquire tools and resources necessary for program leadership, one-on-one assistance, and access to Education Abroad resources.
  - **Compensation:** Education Abroad Program Directors are compensated for their education abroad leadership work as program directors.
- **Institutional Benefits**
  - **Increased College/Department Visibility:** By engaging in international programs, Fellows can raise the profile of their college or department on a global stage, highlighting MSU's commitment to global education.
  - **Attracting Students:** MSU's most recent National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data indicate that 24 percent of first-year students intend to study abroad. By their senior year, only six percent of respondents studied abroad. Students are seeking global experiences and the faculty directed program model is the most popular option at MSU.







## EXPECTATIONS

Participants are expected to attend all four workshops (in person), two digital sessions, and participate in the Costa Rican travel. Engagement in discussions and active participation in learning activities are integral to maximizing the program's benefits.

Faculty Fellows commit to directing an education abroad program within one year of completing the Education Abroad Faculty Fellows Program. During the planning and implementation of that program, Fellows will have the assistance and support of Education Abroad Coordinator Morgan Marler.

Education Abroad Faculty Fellows will serve as Education Abroad advocates in their respective departments to strengthen MSU's network of globally minded champions.



## ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS

The Education Abroad Faculty Fellows program is open to all MSU full-time faculty members (tenured and tenure-track faculty, senior instructors, lecturer instructors).

Interested faculty may apply [here](#) by **October 18, 2024**. All applicants who are approved by their college/school and academic department will be considered, but preference will be given to faculty who have never directed an education abroad program, have never taught for MSU internationally, and have never taken a group of research students to an international study site. The Education Abroad Advisory Committee, the Education Abroad Director, and the Education Abroad Coordinator, will review applications and communicate decisions by December 2, 2024.

