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Ramapo College is Grant Recipient of U.S. Department of State's Capacity Building Program for Study Abroad

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College of New Jersey has been selected to receive a grant as part of the U.S. Department of State's 2019 Capacity Building Program for Study Abroad. Ramapo is one of 21 colleges and universities from across the United States selected from more than 120 applications to create, expand and/or diversify American student mobility overseas in support of foreign policy goals. The Capacity Building Program for U.S. Study Abroad is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by World Learning.

Ramapo College, which has a vibrant international program, recently created a new model of study abroad experience called "Global Field Experiences." These are two-credit courses that involve 7-15 days of travel during winter or spring break in addition to structured activities before, during and after the international component to create meaningful learning experiences.

"The Global Field Experience initiative is an embodiment of the Ramapo College mission in action: the commitment to support international, experiential, interdisciplinary, and intercultural learning and awareness for our students," said Stefan Becker, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at Ramapo College. "We are grateful and proud our efforts to provide students with meaningful and affordable international learning experiences have been recognized by the State Department's Capacity Building Program for Study Abroad. Through this initiative, students will have more opportunities for academically rigorous, experiential and project-based learning abroad that will enhance their curriculum and deepen their understanding of global intercultural competence."

The Capacity Building Program for Study Abroad seeks to increase the capacity of accredited U.S. colleges and universities to create, expand and diversify study abroad programs for U.S. students. In addition to the small grants competition, the program will also offer opportunities for faculty, staff and administrators at U.S. colleges and universities to participate in a series of virtual and in-person study abroad capacity building activities.

"We are pleased to support U.S. colleges and universities from across the United States as part of our suite of initiatives aimed at increasing American student mobility. We are committed to providing more opportunities for American students to benefit from the rich experience of studying overseas," said Marie Royce, assistant secretary of state for the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

For further information about other study abroad resources and other exchange programs offered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, please contact ECA-Press@state.gov and visit studyabroad.state.gov/

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by $U.S.\ News\ \&\ World\ Report,\ Kiplinger's$, Princeton Review and Money magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's $Guide\ to\ Military\ Friendly\ Schools$.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.