Program Overview
This program integrates popular cultural sites and activities in and around Vietnam. As we travel through the various provinces students will participate in an eclectic array of activities unique to each area. Highlights include: visiting famous monuments and temples throughout Hanoi, Hue, Hoi An and Ho Chi Minh City; kayaking and snorkeling in Ha Long bay; riding on a traditional junk boat; hiking and visiting local Indigenous hill side communities in the Sapa district; preparing a traditional meal in an interactive cooking class; snorkeling and attending a yoga class on Phu Quoc Island; visiting Paradise Cave, and much more!

Academics:
**REC 494-800: Cultural Tourism.** This course is designed to provide an overview of cultural tourism opportunities in Vietnam. It highlights how cultural tourism can be used as a mechanism to create economic opportunities, through showcasing the lifestyle, history, and culture of the local residents.

**REC 494-801: Adventure Tourism.** This course is designed to provide an overview of adventure tourism, its motivations, impacts on tourism destinations, and the policies and current issues destinations face with this specialized travel segment.

Program Activities and Features
Students will learn about the abundance of cultural activities and natural sites that Vietnam offers to tourists, and the challenges and complexities of implementing, managing, and maintaining these attractions in a manner that protects the natural environment and cultural heritage. This program is bound to provide a once in a lifetime experience to one of the world’s most popular tourist destinations!
Location
This course takes place in various provinces throughout Vietnam. We begin our trip in Hanoi, exploring the busy and exciting streets during a city tour. From there we venture west hiking for 2 days through the Sapa Valley visiting local indigenous communities along the way. We return to Hanoi, in time for a street food tour, before embarking on a traditional junk boat, spending 2 nights sailing through Ha Long bay, kayaking and swimming during the day. We then head south to Dong Hoi visiting Phong Nha Ke Bang National Park and Paradise Cave. We depart for the historical towns of Hue and Hoi An participating in walking tours and a lantern making workshop. We then fly to Phu Quoc Island where we snorkel, swim, do yoga, and experience a bio-luminescent plankton evening adventure. Departing by boat we arrive at Can Tho and spend the next 2 days traveling through local villages by bicycle and floating riverboats along the Mekong Delta, until we reach Ho Chi Minh City. We end the trip with a city tour, cooking class, and guided shopping spree.

Program Leader: Dr. Alexia Franzidis
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Application Deadline: March 1, 2017
To apply log in at: https://itsappserv02.uncw.edu/intprogapp/ and select your program of interest
A $500 non-refundable deposit is due at time of application

Eligibility: Students are eligible to apply for this program if they meet the following eligibility criteria
• Degree-seeking student
• At least Sophomore standing at time of participation
• Good judicial standing
• 2.5 GPA at time of application

Estimated Program Fee: $2,950
Includes: Medical insurance, accommodation, all excursions listed in itinerary, transportation during the program, most meals (see itinerary)

Additional costs: Round trip airfare (approx $1,200), some meals, visa, vaccinations, UNCW tuition (6 credits), souvenirs, optional activities