

SanPietro Travel Prize



Who we are...

FASA

Fellowship Advising and Study Abroad Office

Lauren Stolper, Director

Meghan Kuroda- Assistant Director


Location: 3rd floor, room 319, Center
for Student Services

FASA Office Library - in our office

We are working virtually this term
and the office is not open.

Craig SanPietro

\ 69



“Since leaving Caltech in 1969, I have traveled through more than 50 countries, mostly in the third world. This travel has greatly enriched my life and I want to make similar experiences available to Caltech students. Hopefully, this travel can immerse you in unusual cultural and physical situations that challenge you and make you feel more alive.”

Travel Expands Your Horizons

- Challenge yourself by going to new locations that are not familiar to you. *Do not be afraid to think outside the box!*
- Check out in detail what there is to see in a location – don't miss important sites you are not aware of, e.g., Ostia Antica in Rome.
- Think about camping versus all hostels. Use public transport, but also consider walking or cycling as part of your experience.
- ***SP proposal should be your work – do not copy form websites or get Writing Center or other input. Proposal is written by the traveler!***

But keep in mind...

- ✗ No buddy trips or tag along trips-one person picks destination & does all the work.
- ✗ No adding extensions onto pre-existing travel plans with friends.
- ✗ No “honeymoons” - it is OK to travel with a significant other
- ✗ No hobby trips
- ✗ No political trips
- ✗ No business-oriented trips
- ✗ No expensive activities or luxury travel such as concerts, Michelin starred restaurant meals, expensive day tours, etc.

Other Things to Note

- ✗ No car or motorcycle rental
- ✗ No travel to familiar locations
- ✗ No discovering your roots trips or theme trips that dominate travel such as foodie trips or trying to visit every monastery in France
- ✗ No “cozy” trips, e.g., staying put in one location
- ✗ No superficial trips, e.g., trying only to visit major cities for short period of time
- ✗ No hobby trips, e.g., trip is all about mountain climbing
- ✗ Trip is not adventure travel, but should be adventurous for you within your comfort zone. No need to sky dive, etc. You don't need any adventure activities! But it is good to consider doing some cycling, walking tours, etc.

Covid Issues

- Travel in one country + 1 adjacent country max during pandemic.
- All countries must have 70%+ vaccination rate and stable or falling infection rate. Check NY Times World Covid Tracker:
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/world/covid-cases.html>
- Covid full WHO approved vaccination required and booster(s)
- Up to \$200 will be provided if a student's health insurance does not have emergency evacuation coverage.
- Prize will be deferred up to one year max/one time for the following summer **ONLY** if the pandemic situation is safe for travel. Graduating seniors cannot defer.
- **Travel in one country, max two with a shared land or river border is MANDATORY to lower infection and lock-down risk versus the max of two during the pandemic.**
- Cannot travel to a country that has a quarantine requirement over 48 hours.

Eligibility

- Sophomores, juniors, and seniors can apply (Sorry, no freshmen)
- Must be 18 years of age by application deadline
- **Must be enrolled at Caltech for all terms in current academic year and enrolled fall term after your trip**
 - Graduating Seniors exempt from fall enrollment
 - Sophomores & Juniors must be enrolled fall term
- No GPA or citizenship requirement-keep visas in mind!
- Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing throughout prize process— cannot be on leave. For fall, winter, & spring terms & fall term if not graduating. You must be enrolled & on campus. The prize is forfeit if you go on leave, for either an individual or for pair travelers. Also forfeit if one traveler backs out of trip! Cannot be deferred for personal, job or grad study reasons.

Requirements

- Can travel alone or in a pair
- 2 - 12 weeks (14 days on the ground minimum- not counting arrival & departure day!)
- End date – weekend prior to start of fall CIT instruction
- Expansive & well thought out travel
- Feasible, intriguing, & well planned proposal!





Application

1. **Proposal Cover Page**
2. **Application Form-**
<http://fasa.caltech.edu/fellowships/sanpietro>
3. **Essay** – all applicants
4. ***Second Essay*** for Pairs ONLY
5. **Travel proposal**, which includes:
 - Cover page
 - Itinerary
 - Map of proposed route
6. **Budget**
7. **Cost breakdown**
8. **Health Insurance**
9. **Country Specific Synopsis**
10. **Unofficial transcript**
11. **2 letters of reference**
12. ***Optional 3rd peer reference***

Budget Proposal Example

Airfare International Roundtrip Flight	Solo/1 st Traveler	2 nd Traveler	Total:	Airline
Airfare #1	\$1277	\$908	\$2185	Delta
Airfare #2	\$1196	\$987	\$2183	El Al/ Virgin America
Airfare #3	\$1476	\$987	\$2463	El Al/ Virgin America
<u>Average of airfare requesting</u>	<u>\$1316</u>	<u>\$961</u>	<u>\$2277</u>	
Airport to city transport	\$17.94	\$17.94	\$35.88	

- There are a number of great examples in the library.
- Remember to list everything in US Dollars.
- Make sure to consider rate and fee changes. During the summer months, prices may change for activities.
- Meals, accommodation, museum tickets, day tours reasonably priced activities that enhance the trip and roundtrip airfare and local within a city and between destinations travel are covered items.

No double dipping for travel

- If you are working abroad or doing research abroad we only pay for your travel from the work or research location to your SanPietro proposed destination provided it is on the same continent.
- Travel to/from a work or research, etc. destination is not covered.
- If you propose travel to a continent different from the foreign work, research, etc. location, departure must be Home or California unless foreign travel is cheaper.

No double dipping for travel, cont. Examples:

- For example: If you are doing research at CERN and want to do a post or pre CERN trip to Italy, your travel by train, bus or flight to your first destination in Italy and return to Geneva, SZ is paid only — NOT the travel to and from Geneva from Caltech, other California major airport, or your US home.
- For example, if you work at CERN and want to travel to Belize, only fare from a Calif. or US home destination will be covered – NOT travel from Geneva to Belize unless cheaper or same!

The SanPietro is taxable income

- 1. The SanPietro is a prize (not a fellowship) and subject to taxes. All recipients for the SanPietro will need a payroll assignment set up. There has been a Caltech decision that all such prizes cannot utilize the 1099.
- 2. **US citizens and US permanent residents ONLY** who do not want FIT (Federal) or SIT (State) taxes taken out of their prize, need to file a W4 that selects Exempt status. They can change the Exempt status after receiving their prize funds to avoid being under withheld on future earnings in the current tax year.
- 3. The following taxes are required to be withheld regardless of exempt status and will be withheld for US citizens and permanent residents: FICA (7.65%) and SDI (1%)
- FICA and SDI are still required to be withheld for prizes/awards. The exempt status only eliminates FIT and SIT (Federal Income Tax and State Income Tax) withholding.
- FICA and SDI combined totals 8.65% that will be deducted from each student's award regardless of withholding status.
- 4. Non-Resident Aliens cannot change to Exempt status and would be charged 22% Federal, 6.6% State, 1% SS and 0% FICA.
- This is a state and federal tax regulation that employers must abide by, however, the student may receive a refund of those taxes when he/she files their taxes. Note well: The recipient must be a full-time student at the time to not be charged FICA tax (7.65%) and SDI (1%).
- **YOU CANNOT INCLUDE TAXES IN YOUR PRIZE BUDGET.**

Travel Methods & Costs

- Outbound & return airfare (Calf. Or US Home & back)
- Intra-country (within the country)
- Intra-city (within the city)
- Intercity (travel between cities)
- International travel between countries
- Bus, train, metro/subway/trolley, Uber, walking, cycling, flights, ferry, etc.
- There are many ways to research routes and costs online

Budget Advice

Kathmandu	Total for 6 days and 9 nights	Itemized
Accommodation	\$234	Hotel Nepalaya, \$14 per night/per person; Monastery \$5 per night/per person
Meals	\$180	\$15 per person, per day
Intercity travel (bus, rail, air)	\$3,510	Airfare: \$1550 per person (roundtrip from LAX to Kathmandu), Greenline Bus to Chitwan \$25 per person, Flight to Lukla \$150 per person, Visa \$40 per person.
Local, intra-city travel (buses, taxis, subway)	\$32	Bus to/from Bhaktapur \$1 per person, taxi from airport \$15 per person (\$30 total)
Activities	\$50	Bhaktapur entrance fee \$15 per person, plus misc. entrance fees
TOTAL FOR LOCATION:	\$4,006	\$2,003 per person

Budgeting tools: TaxiFareFinder, TripAdvisor, Expedia, STA Travel, SkyScanner, HostelWorld, Hostelling Intl., AirBnB, Uber, Lyft, XE Converter, Lonely Planet, Rome2rio, Wiki Travel, Fodors' Pinterest, FASA Library, travel books & blogs, etc.

Accommodation

- No couch surfing
- Airbnb & similar OK
- No luxury style accommodation
- Must be practical and affordable for a travelling college student
- Hostel prices are per person
- Small hotels/B&B's can be cheaper than hostels
- Consider legal camping



Do's and Don'ts

Do:

- ✓ Go somewhere you've never been before –can do US travel, e.g., East Coast Trip. **US Travel encouraged during pandemic**
- ✓ Quality not quantity
- ✓ Get off the beaten path
- ✓ Research, research, research! Books, blogs, online articles
- ✓ Budget, budget, budget
- ✓ Check U.S. Dept. of State Travel Warnings: **website travel.state.gov**



Do's and Don'ts

Don't:

- ✗ Try to squeeze in too many locations or activities
- ✗ Underestimate food costs!
- ✗ Weather in summer is not conducive to travel
- ✗ Rely on guided tours- only day tours allowed!
- ✗ No private car rental
- ✗ Ask to go to a dangerous place, e.g., North Korea or location with warfare or unrest, e.g., Ukraine, or kidnapping for foreigners.





Resources

- Internet research
- Publications
 - New York Times Travel
 - National Geographic
 - Lonely Planet
- FASA Library
 - Previous winners' proposals and reports
 - Travel books
 - Articles about travel

Authentically YOU

- These proposals must be purely your own work:
 - Do not copy itineraries from the blogs, the internet, or books
 - Do not go to the writing center for edits and do not ask FASA to help look over your work
 - Do not have your essay or proposal professionally reviewed
 - Please keep this in your own words
 - Remember to use the library as guidance



FASA Library

If Offices reopen, time on Doodle
Survey posted on [fasa.Caltech.edu](https://fasa.caltech.edu)

Usually open daily, 8am-5pm (closed 12-1 for lunch)

Rm. 319, Center for Student Services

Virtual drop-in advising hours – email Meghan Kuroda for link





Applications due by 3pm,
March 10, 2022
fasa.caltech.edu

