



Middlebury Schools Abroad Evaluation: 2007-2008

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students planning to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to International Programs and Off Campus Study a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for Middlebury College students who studied at Middlebury Schools Abroad (this does not apply to non-Middlebury students). Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.

The staff of the Middlebury Schools Abroad/International Programs and Off Campus Study welcomes the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

This document contains respondents between 1 and 4 inclusive.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

International Studies

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

June 2010

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

At least in my mainstream classes, plagiarism was the norm and I hadn't seen oral presentations so dreadful since my freshman year of high school. The classroom culture was quite different (much more formal), but that hardly improved the quality of anything.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

It's Siberia.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I am more patient. Patience was very useful. Also the psychological ability to commit horrible crimes like elbowing tottering babushkas into the gutter in order to get on a marshrutka, because if you can't be rude you will be standing at the bus stop indefinitely.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I tried not to let Russia have anything to do with influencing my academic and career goals, to the extent that they exist.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

Absolutely. But I knew this ahead of time and was looking forward to it. My host family was wonderful, and was probably 50% of "gaining insight into the host culture".

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

16. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I volunteered at an environmental organisation called BaikalWave. I enjoyed it mostly because through this organisation I was able to meet some of the few people in Irkutsk who actually take an active role in trying to preserve the environment in the region. I've usually explained it this way, that through BaikalWave I was actually able to make friends with the kind of people I would want to make friends with if I were living in Russia long-term and had much of a choice about what kinds to make.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

My grammar is shot, but that's partly because I spent the summer in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan and my grammar became quite undisciplined. But my general ability to communicate, argue about politics, or have a full-out shouting match with a taxi driver improved greatly. And I can read 19th-century Russian novels. Not easily, but I can do it.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

23. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

I'm hardly the person to evaluate this. The professors are all quite knowledgeable, but as far as I can tell most of the students are not quite so much. It felt like my public high school all over again.

24. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the course content:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

29. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Describe course content

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Russian Civilization and Culture

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Describe course content

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #1
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Media Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Phonetics (or Russian Film for students in Irkutsk)

37. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Describe course content

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

39. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

40. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

MIDDLE EAST: Elective: Fall Semester: History of the Middle East

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs (Please describe in the boxes below)

41. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Describe course content

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

42. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

44. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below), or...
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Mainstream class (Please describe in the boxes below)

45. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Describe course content

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

Other comments about this course:

Umm... I was a spring semester student and you need to get your software in order... it's bad enough that you send us this long survey in the first place, you could at least make the interface reasonable.

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

48. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

49. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

Practical Russian Grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

IGU Internat'l Faculty

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Daily homework and a final exam

Describe course content

Umm... Russian Grammar.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Small seminar... just talking and drilling from books.

Other comments about this course:

I should have been placed somewhere above this course and below the "advanced grammar" for the year-long students. We touched on virtually no new grammar topics for me, but the review was nice.

50. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

51. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

52. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

53. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

Praktika Rechi

At which institution/university did you take this course?

IGU International Faculty

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Daily homework and a final exam.

Describe course content

Whatever happened to occur to the instructor at the time. The best way to run a speech class, anyway.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Conversation.

Other comments about this course:

Lyudmila Semonovna is the most cheerful Russian woman ever.

54. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

55. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

56. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

History of International Relations

At which institution/university did you take this course?

IGU History Fakulty

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

One written "quiz" near the beginning of the semester, an oral presentation near the end and an exam.

Describe course content

History of International Relations (mostly, European) from the Congress of Vienna until today. More or less.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, plus biweekly "seminars" that involved either oral presentations followed by questions or the professor shouting at everyone for being such bad students.

Other comments about this course:

It was a nice review and I loved my professor. But I don't have a very high opinion of my once-classmates. Everything was plagiarised. Everything.

57. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

58. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

59. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Elective: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #1 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR ...
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course (Please describe in the boxes below)

60. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

Baikalovedyeniye

At which institution/university did you take this course?

IGU International Fakulty

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Several presentations during the course of the semester and a final exam

Describe course content

Everything, with a focus on Baikal and eastern Siberia

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The closest thing you can get to a lecture in a class with three people

Other comments about this course:

Pavel Aleksandrovich is my hero.

61. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

62. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

63. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR...
- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

64. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #12

Post-Soviet History

At which institution/university did you take this course?

IGU

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Several long-ish written homework assignments during the course of the semester, and a final exam

Describe course content

Post-Soviet History of Russia.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Ditto Baikalovyedyeniye

Other comments about this course:

This was an awesome class. Sometimes a little bit rough to understand (not because of the instructor; because of the subject matter), but I really enjoyed it a lot. In retrospect, this was probably the most "useful" class I took for better understanding my host nation.

65. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

66. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

67. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

68. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

69. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

70. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

71. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

It's Russia. Don't kid yourself.

72. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I've travelled through western Russia since. You won't understand Russia until you've lived in the provinces.

73. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

You need to meet the youth of other countries. Not the international, liberal youth that you might meet in the States or in London or Paris or Moscow or Berlin or anywhere else like that... because that's most of the world. It's not fair to call this "most of the world" ignorant. That's not true at all. But they have different priorities and don't try to think about a Friedmansque "flat world" in all its nuance. ESPECIALLY when talking about Russia, you can't understand that country without understanding these people. In the states you meet Russian intelligentsia expats who hate Putin and are cynics but still very liberal (in the American sense of that word). But that's not Russia. It's the same way that a Russian student coming to study at Midd would never understand why on earth Bush stayed in office for two terms if he or she never left Vermont.

So back to the original question here, it's not just about studying abroad, it's about studying abroad slightly off the beaten track (maybe I'm a hypocrite for writing this from Paris, but sue me).

74. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

75. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

76. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I'm just incredibly glad that the study abroad office handled my visa.

Nothing can prepare you for Russia (esp. Irkutsk, and as far as I understand, Yaroslavl to a slightly lesser degree), and the handouts were hardly helpful at all. Much more useful was just informally talking to former Irkutsk students at the Russian house or REES events.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

Russian/ Religion

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

It was nice to have more time to explore the city and generally experience Russian culture than I would have with an academic program like at Middlebury.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

They eat mayonnaise and ketchup on their spaghetti. How much different can you get. Actually, I was pretty impressed by the degree to which the society was based on assumptions and institutions unimaginably different from our own.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Self-reliance was important, and thick skin. I think I developed more of both.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

The general atmosphere of Russia, and the social pressures of Russian society, definitely made me feel like my professional and academic goals should be more distinct, and that all academic and other work should have some clearly-defined end as a goal. Not knowing what I wanted to do with my degree was not okay, and it became not okay with me after a while.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration



11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

It was very important, and I wouldn't have chosen a different living situation, but I didn't interact with my family as much as I thought I would.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

hiking club, volunteering at orphanage, teaching English

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

Reading outside of class was more important than I thought it would be. The vocabulary and constructions you read stick with you much more if you hear them on the street the next day.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

take Baikal Studies with Pavel Alexandrovich if possible

23. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

try not to take mainstreams for 1st year students

24. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

28. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Baikal Studies

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Irkutsk, International Department

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exam, oral reports

Describe course content

biology, geography, history, anthropology of Baikal and the surrounding region

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lectures

Other comments about this course:

The Russian of the instructor is very academic, very precise, enjoyable to listen to. The class covers everything imaginable, and the instructor works to find material to fit the interests of members of the class. It's challenging but very rewarding.

31. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

History of Siberia

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Irkutsk, International Department

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, paper, homework

Describe course content

ethnography and history of Siberia, both sort of suspicious as to veracity

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lectures, readings (of middle-school textbooks)

Other comments about this course:

I felt like I understood more about where I was after I took it, even if the academic level wasn't especially high

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

History of Russia

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Russia, History Department

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, paper

Describe course content

1st year class, basic history

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

boring- teacher and students all bored

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

Post-Soviet History (audited)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Irkutsk, International Department (spring)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, homework, exam

Describe course content

social, political, and economic history of later USSR and the Russian Federation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

readings from contemporary and historical newspapers and journals, textbook, lectures

Other comments about this course:

very interesting, recommended

40. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

42. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

43. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

44. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

45. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

48. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

Russian Orthography

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Irkutsk, Department of Philology and Journalism (I think)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, quizzes, tests, paper

Describe course content

history of Russian writing, theories of orthography, minutiae of Russian spelling rules

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture, review of homework

Other comments about this course:

it would have been impossible without a sympathetic teacher; as it was I learned a lot, though it was frustrating at times

49. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Elective: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #1 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR ...
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course (Please describe in the boxes below)

50. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

Russian Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

International Department

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers

Describe course content

reading of poems and short stories and interpretation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

reading out-loud of students' response papers, then analysis of text by instructor

Other comments about this course:

slow, repetitive, boring, but instructor was sweet and texts were interesting in themselves

51. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

52. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

53. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR...
- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

54. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #12

History of World Religions

At which institution/university did you take this course?

State University of Irkutsk, History Department

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

paper, oral report

Describe course content

history of world religions explained by development of agriculture

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

students presented their papers, brief lectures

Other comments about this course:

it was interesting to have a class in which the students spoke, though they never said anything informative, except about their own misconceptions and lack of work ethic

55. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

56. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

57. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

58. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

59. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

60. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

61. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Don't be afraid to explain the differing expectations of America, but don't expect to change anyone's mind or anything.

62. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I can't explain it. It's not even fun.

63. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Remember: the more miserable you are in Russia, the more you feel like you understand Dostoevsky.

64. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

65. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

66. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

There's no way to prepare students really.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Smith College

2. Your academic program

Major

Russian Literature

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

I learned Russian. I didn't write a lot of papers. I'm not sure what this question is trying to get at.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Russia is the place that is the most different than any other place in the world in comparison to the US. I felt that way abroad, and I feel that way back in the US.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I matured a lot, became less of a crazy student who does too much, and became more depressed along the way. I got through a challenging experience. I realized that community interaction is important in integrating, but that doesn't mean that I will always do that, because it's hard for me.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Somehow education became really important to me, so now I want to pursue that. But in general it didn't really influence those goals. I met people from China, and now I'm pursuing Chinese, since I know Russian pretty well now.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

It was actually pretty isolating. I sat in my room a lot (I was depressed). I didn't get along very well with my host mom, and my family gave me an impression of Russia that was accurate but negative in some ways.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

14. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all

Only slightly helpful

Somewhat helpful

helpful

Very helpful

15. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

volunteer at orphanage - kids are great; bandy practice for a few weeks - I couldn't continue it because my culture shock was too great; Women's Crisis Center - great, can see Russia's progressive side, but it might not exist anymore due to lack of funding

16. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved



20. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

It was a bit less than expected. The academics weren't very rigorous, even the Russian language classes. I'd write hundreds of pages in my journal in English to cope. Match American students with Russian students, and Americans can teach English to Russians (cultural exchange)?

21. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

geology

22. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

23. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)

LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno

MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk state university

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

hw, exam

Please describe the course content:

grammar

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

textbooks

Other comments about this course:

i liked this class a lot

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

27. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese

MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

speech practice

At which institution/university did you take this course?

irkutsk state university

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, short essays, exam

Describe course content

talking practice, expressions, vocab

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

talking, short essays

Other comments about this course:

easy

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

31. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #1

MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Media Arabic

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Phonetics (or Russian Film for students in Irkutsk)

32. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Russian Film

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk state university

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short essays

Describe course content

watched movies

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

movies, kind of talked about it after, maybe?

Other comments about this course:

easy, didn't like too many of the movies though (maybe because I didn't understand them)

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

35. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

MIDDLE EAST: Elective: Fall Semester: History of the Middle East

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs (Please describe in the boxes below)

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

siberian history

At which institution/university did you take this course?

irkutsk state university

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework/short essays, paper, exam

Describe course content

siberian history, evenkis and religious people

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture, handouts, textbook

Other comments about this course:

good, hard to understand in the beginning but it was interesting

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below), or...
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Mainstream class (Please describe in the boxes below)

40. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

analysis russian conversation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

irkutsk state university

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short essays, memorize texts, essay at the end

Describe course content

siberia, baikal

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

through a textbook, memorize poems

Other comments about this course:

it was okay, kind of agonizing but easy

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

44. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

isu

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, attendance, exam

Describe course content

grammar

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

talkin

Other comments about this course:

i learned a lot, favorite course/teacher

45. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

48. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

speech practice

At which institution/university did you take this course?

isu

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short essays, reciting in class, exam, oral exam

Describe course content

talking

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

read and respond?

Other comments about this course:

argh, painful

49. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

50. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

51. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Russian Civilization and Culture

52. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

history post-soviet russia

At which institution/university did you take this course?

isu

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short essays, exam, paper

Describe course content

history post-soviet russia

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

readings, handouts, talking

Other comments about this course:

good

53. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

54. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

55. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Spring Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Elective: History of the Middle East

RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #1 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR ...

RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course (Please describe in the boxes below)

56. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

19-20c russian literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

isu

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short essays, discussion

Describe course content

19-20c russian literature

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

she just talked at us, it was painful and boring

57. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

58. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

59. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR...
- RUSSIA: RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)

60. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #12

internship

At which institution/university did you take this course?

women's crisis center

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

weekly reports, paper

Describe course content

crisis center

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

reading, firsthand experience

Other comments about this course:

i saw russia's progressive side

61. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

62. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

63. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

64. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

65. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

66. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

67. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

my host mom doesn't like blacks or chinese. my female friend's host mom likes boys better.

68. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

you learn russian, you get to live in russia, but it's too much money for what you get

69. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

try looking for ways to get there without middlebury (convenient but pricey). be friends with the americans.

70. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

71. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

72. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

handbook; update the handbook (which they were doing when we left)

73. How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

.....

74. Why did you choose this particular program and site?

it wasn't peter or moscow, and it's siberia.

75. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

i tried not to have any expectations before i went

76. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

77. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

78. How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

have the contact info of the in-country administration on the website (not just in the handbook)

79. Were there particular challenges unique to you as a student from another institution? Please explain.

in the beginning all the midd kids stuck together, and that was hard to get over for me because im awkward and even more so in russian/russia. but i grew to love some of them, and the other non-midd kids as well. it was also hard trying to get counseling services abroad from my home institution. at least middlebury came through in this way, which i really appreciate.

80. Further comments:

I filled out several pages of evaluations of the program when I was in Irkutsk; it's annoying to have to do it again, especially now when I have moved on from this experience and don't remember my classes well. also, your survey wouldn't let me submit unless i answered the "middlebury college students only" boxes (90 and 91), but i'm not a middlebury student.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Stanford University

2. Your academic program

Major

Geology

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

June 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

I benefited from hearing Russian spoken around the clock, including in the classroom. That was probably the main benefit of this "different" academic environment. I liked that the teachers were focused on teaching, rather than research, the way the professors are at my school. It was also pretty fun to watch how the Russian students behaved in my mainstream classes, and to see how the teachers responded to their antics--like the high school I never attended.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

There aren't any absolutes, but interpersonal gestures seem to carry a different weight in Russia than in the U.S.--smiles, conversation, invitations have more substantive meaning (people do not act friendly just to be polite). I guess this is true in many other countries--we (Americans) are known for empty social forms that mimic good will and friendship. Russians also seem to have different group dynamics and emphasis on communal etiquette--e.g. it is weird to just eat your snack when you are hungry rather than waiting for the rest of your hiking group.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

It has given me a certain amount of personal pride--I like that I can (sort of) speak a foreign language. I learned some things that I don't like about myself and that I will work toward improving. I realized that I am even fiercer than I previously thought.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I don't think that study abroad has influenced my academic/career goals in any specific direction (I'm pretty much all over the place). I did enjoy the challenge of living abroad, and am still having a lot of fun with Russian language. I will probably go back next year.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
 - Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
 - Apartment
 - Other (please describe)
-

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

My housing situation gave me some insight into the host culture, but it was not a pleasant experience. I am a hotheaded and independent person, so I clashed with my landlords, which I still feel really bad about. I made lots of Russian friends on my own, and towards the end pretty much lived with some of these friends, and not in the room Middlebury rented for me. Most of my stress came from the supposed "homestay" experience, which for me included the following:

landlady #1 skimming off the board money that Middlebury gave her (skipping meals on weekends and feeding me a lot of potatoes the rest of the time), then getting mad when I told the RC

landlady #2: a very old, probably nice but opinionated, critical, and controlling babushka. Horrible, horrible falling out over my unladylike behavior, her unsolicited criticism, the ballpoint pen swastikas I found on my bedpost, and other bones of contention. Maybe the worst experience of last year.

landlady #3 was wonderful, read me Pushkin, told me stories and let me cook for myself. I had to move out after a month so that her sick daughter and grandson could move in.

landlady #4: nice old lady, but ailing and grumpy. At this point I was tired of the "homestay" experience and not up to the criticism and stress. I went to live unofficially at a friend's apartment for most of the last two months of school.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

Yes

No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

Poor

Neutral

Helpful

Very Helpful

Not Applicable

Comments

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all

Only slightly helpful

Somewhat helpful

helpful

Very helpful

16. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

outing group - went hiking, spent time with college and high school students from neighboring city. Very nice people, one of the first "communities" to welcome me during my stay.

children's home - visited children's home on weekends, spent time with the kids (mostly 4 year-old group). Amazing, heartbreaking experience.

Guinea pig for aspiring language tutor - started out as free language tutoring, ended up as friendship

Red cross internship - I unfortunately was not as proactive in my internship as I probably could have been, but not all was lost. I ended up spending a fair amount of time with the volunteer coordinator and some of her students (a group from the teacher's college, where she is also an instructor): I sat in on their class, went hiking and did a park clean up project with them. Cultural exchange as opposed to formal internship, but lots of fun.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I made a great deal of progress in listening comprehension, and some progress in my ability to speak. I made less progress in my ability to read and write. This disappointed me, but I was so stressed out at various points throughout the year, that I think I'm lucky to have made as much progress as I did.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

23. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

24. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (international department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final exam, homework, class time

Please describe the course content:

Russian grammar

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

we did exercises from books; the teacher criticized our appearances in order to prompt interaction. At first no one knew what to make of her, but by the end all grudgingly adored her.

Other comments about this course:

.....

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

29. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Speech Practice

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (international department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, final exam, class discussions

Describe course content

extremely varied

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the teacher picked topics, we discussed them

Other comments about this course:

.....

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Historical Geology (mainstream)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (geology department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final exam

Describe course content

history of the surface of this planet

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture w/ or w/o powerpoint presentation

Other comments about this course:

.....

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Elective: Fall Semester: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs (Please describe in the boxes below)

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

History of Siberia

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (international department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, term paper, final exam

Describe course content

Siberia from prehistory to present

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We received and reviewed lecture outline. Then the teacher went over it in class.

Other comments about this course:

There was a lot of writing. This was difficult for me, especially b/c I hadn't figured out how to use a Russian keyboard yet. This is reflected in my final grade.

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs #2 (Please describe in the boxes below), or...
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Mainstream class (Please describe in the boxes below)

40. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

Structural Geology

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (geology department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

lab assignments, final exam

Describe course content

rock deformation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture w/ overhead projector; textbook; lab manual

Other comments about this course:

good for listening comprehension in a sink or swim sense; instructor treated me no differently from other students (which was good)

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

44. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

Grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (international department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final exam, homework, class time

Describe course content

Russian grammar

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

same instructor as 1st semester (grammar)

Other comments about this course:

.....

45. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

Geologic mapping (mainstream)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (geology department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

lab assignments, term project, final exam

Describe course content

practical application of structural geology; prep for field work

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

same instructor as first semester (structural geology)

Other comments about this course:

.....

48. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

49. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

50. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

Lithology (mainstream)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (geology department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework/lab assignmetns; term paper

Describe course content

types & formation of sedimentary rocks

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lectures read by the teacher

Other comments about this course:

.....

51. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

52. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

53. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

Geochemistry of metamorphism (mainstream)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (geology department/institute of geochemistry)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

lab assignments, final exam

Describe course content

geochemical description of changes in mineral assemblages resulting from changes in heat and pressure

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

powerpoint lectures

Other comments about this course:

.....

54. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

55. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

56. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Elective: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #1 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR ...
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course (Please describe in the boxes below)

57. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

Baikal Studies

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Irkutsk (international department)

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

paper, final exam, reading assignments

Describe course content

natural history of baikal; history of people & baikal; substantial and tenuously relevant section on WWII (entire lecture spent discussing WWII airplanes)

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The teacher gave us lecture outlines to read. Then he went over them in class. We were also given individual reading assignments, which we then had to report on to the class.

Other comments about this course:

.....

58. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

59. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

60. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

61. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

62. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

63. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

64. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

antisemitism: the anachronism is alive and well in a benign but infuriating form. Jews are sly and inexplicably comical. People are perplexed that you admit to being jewish, the more so that you express pride in the fact. I don't know what advice to give to future students or staff. I never felt threatened, just hurt and frustrated.

65. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I'm really not sure. I have a problem with the whole homestay mantra: a good idea in principle, but it shouldn't supercede important mitigating factors such as the shortage of appropriate homestay families.

66. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Study abroad is a great way to accelerate your language study. I think the language pledge is a great idea, and Middlebury has a really solid immersion focus. That said, I don't think that this program is necessarily the best fit for students who are used to living, traveling, and studying independently.

67. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

68. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

69. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

some of the pre-departure information was redundant.

70. How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

.....

71. Why did you choose this particular program and site?

I chose this program based on the reputation of Middlebury's language schools and the idea of the language pledge. I chose the site in order to take mainstreams relevant to my major.

72. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

.....

73. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

74. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

75. How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

No particular recommendations.