Congratulations on participating in the SFS Marine Resource Studies program via CGIS at the University of Michigan. This following information, explains how the program will work for you as a U-M student and should be read in conjunction with the CGIS General Handbook, which was given out at the U-M General Orientation meeting, and any School for Field Studies materials.

Please take these handbooks and supplements with you when you leave for your program. Electronic copies of your CGIS General handbook and CGIS-Marine Resource Studies program specific supplement are available in your M-Compass application under the Document section.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Marine Resource Studies program is organized domestically and on-site by The School for Field Studies and its staff. Its accreditation is certified through the University of Minnesota. The University of Michigan and CGIS partner with SFS to help facilitate student participation to the program and accept academic credit. Students will participate in either the Fall, Winter, Summer or short-Summer sessions at the Field site.

Participation in the Turks & Caicos program requires you to work in and around the water, as well as various marine species, it is important that you are able to feel comfortable in this type of environment, if you feel that you cannot meet this expectation, speak to your CGIS program advisor immediately.

Realistic Expectations
It is important to take the time before you leave for your program to conceptualize what your every-day will be liked on-site so that you are prepared and can adjust more quickly to your new setting. This supplement, along with the SFS Field Guide and Program Manual will be great resources to help you plan.

The program at the Turks & Caicos field center provides an intensive opportunity to gain practical, hand-on experience in the field that would be hard to match in the classroom, therefore the field work and research is rigorous and you will be expected to be participating in the program about six days a week. While you will still certainly have opportunities to explore, go into towns, and have personal time while on-site, students are expected to adhere to any geographical restrictions or curfew times that the on-site staff set in place for your own safety. If you feel that you are having a difficult time adjusting, please talk to the on-site staff or reach out to your CGIS advisor, we are all here to help you get the most out of your experience.

REGISTRATION
In the same term you are participating in classes in Turks and Caicos, you will be registered at U-M as a full time student. Please refer to your CGIS General Handbook for the correct STDABRD 315 course number for your U-M registration. Fall and Winter students will register for a standard 15 credits (regardless of how many you will actually receive –this will be adjusted after your transcripts are received) and Summer students will register for 8 credits. These credits serve as a placeholder until we receive your official transcript from University of Minnesota/SFS after you complete your program.

Courses may not be listed with the same title or course number as they appear from the accrediting college when transferred to your UM transcripts.
LSA students will earn in-residence credit for your work in the program, grades will be taken from the Lafayette College transcripts without conversion (except that F = E at the U-M) and grades will be calculated into the student GPA.

Non-LSA students must check with their college or school to determine its policy on Michigan Global Academic Program (MGAP) credits, grades and GPA.

**Advisor Approval Form**

Though LSA students will receive in-residence credit for participating in a CGIS program, it is the student’s responsibility to speak with your advisors at Newnan Academic Advising and/or within your major and minor departments to confirm your credits will be accepted into the areas that you would like them applied to on your transcripts and within your requirements.

**This program is eligible to fulfill the PitE Field Experience requirement, please speak with your PitE advisor if you would like your participation counted toward that requirement.**

You will find the Advisor Approval form in the Documents section on M-Compass. This is primarily for your and your advisor’s use, though CGIS is happy to hold on to these as a record of approval of your credits.

**TRANSCRIPTS**

Once you have completed your semester at the SFS Turks & Caicos Field Center, they will send the transcripts for your work to the CGIS office and CGIS will then update your U-M academic record. There should be no transcript fee to you as UM is an SFS affiliated institution. Often it will take a few weeks to receive your transcript from the partner institution, after CGIS gets your transcripts we will notify you that they've been received and then it could also take several weeks to process them to your official UM transcript. Please be patient through this process and let us know in advance if there are any extenuating circumstances that you foresee about the receipt of your grades. If you encounter any forms asking where to send your transcript, please have your transcripts sent directly to the appropriate CGIS program advisor at:

[Program Advisor]
The Center for Global and Intercultural Study
435 South State Street, G155 Angell Hall
Ann Arbor, MI  48109-1003

**IMPORTANT DATES & TRAVEL**

SFS provides program dates to students in admission materials during the application process. Approximate dates are as follows. Please make sure you are paying attention to all communication from SFS so that you do not miss important information such as this.

**Arrival**

Arrival procedures will be relayed to you by the SFS staff before you leave. Students must be on site by the date & time given to you by your SFS coordinator; late arrivals will not be permitted. You will be given instructions and suggestions for the arrival airport, meeting place, and ground transportation details by SFS.
Contact your SFS Turks and Caicos on-site coordinator, University of Michigan DPS, and your program advisor (numbers at the back of this supplement) if your flight is delayed or you realize that you may miss or be late for your scheduled meeting time upon arrival. Students are free to leave their program and the Turks and Caicos Islands after all sessions are ended on the last day of their scheduled program. You might plan on staying in the country after your program but you must understand that you may not have housing on the night of that last program day and beyond. You will be responsible for arranging other accommodations, visa requirements, and for purchasing additional GeoBlue-HTH insurance to the rest of the time you plan to stay in-country after (or before) your program.

HOUSING

Field Camp

Students will live at the SFS Center for Marine Resource Studies. SFS-CMRS is situated in the former hotel “Admirals’ Arms Inn” adjacent to Cockburn Harbour on South Caicos. The Center sits on the rocky coast 40 feet above the ocean. Within a three-mile radius from the Center, you will find coral reefs, mangrove islands, seagrass beds, carbonate platform flats, and deep water diving. The island population consists of the TCI “belongers,” residents from other Caribbean island countries, and, at the moment, temporary workers from as far away as Sri Lanka. Please see your SFS TCI Field Guide for more information about the field center and the resources that will be available to you as well as packing suggestions for your time in Turks and Caicos.

At the SFS field stations students experience “group living” you will live and work alongside your peers and be expected to function and cooperate as a team in both your work and living duties.

Climate & Packing

See detailed information about climate, packing, and day-to-day life in the Turks and Caicos Islands in your SFS Field Guide and Program Manual.

Activity

Students should be prepared for high-levels of physical activity throughout the program. You will be hiking and walking quite a bit, and you will have many opportunities to swim, climb, and more while you travel.

VISA

IMPORTANT-PLEASE READ: Obtaining a visa and following the correct procedure is ultimately the responsibility of each student who is applying. SFS will provide assistance in the visa process, but the representing Consulate will make the final decisions regarding the issuance of the visa and whether or not you have followed the proper procedure. You are encouraged to read the general guidelines that have been provided to you by SFS and to carefully review the official Consulate (relevant to you) to be certain you are following the procedures and requirements that apply to your specific situation.

U.S. citizens do not need visas to enter the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCIS) as tourists for short periods, however, U.S. citizens must present a valid passport. Note: U.S. Passport Cards cannot be used to travel by air or private vessel to TCIS. If remaining in the Turks and Caicos Islands for more than 24 hours each person must fill out an immigration form. For more
information on the Turks & Caicos Islands, please visit: http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/turks-and-caicos-islands.html.

You must have a passport to enter all of the countries where SFS programs take place. Make certain that your passport is valid until six months after the program ends.

FEES AND BILLING

Although students are registered at U-M while participating in the program at SFS Turks & Caicos, tuition, housing, and other fees are paid directly to SFS. Students are responsible for paying the CGIS administrative fee, which will be billed to their U-M student account; this is the only fee paid to U-M. For more information, please see current budget estimate posted on the M-compass brochure page: https://mcompass.umich.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=11092

SFS will also provide students with information about program costs as they are due. You will be billed directly by SFS and are required to meet all deadlines for financial payments and arrangements.

WHO TAKES CARE OF WHAT

SFS is responsible for making final acceptance decisions, all academic arrangements, on-site orientation, providing arrival other logistical information to students, and housing. CGIS assists students in preparing to study at SFS Turks & Caicos, provides support services while abroad, and processes academic results from study at SFS Turks & Caicos for U-M academic records.

Each student is responsible for obtaining a passport and visa and making the appropriate travel arrangements, and paying program and other associated fees to SFS. Students are responsible for reading and understanding all materials received from SFS and all materials supplied by the CGIS and are expected to do their own research on the site and country to make the most of their experience.

A FINAL WORD

Enjoy your time in the Turks and Caicos Islands. You may find you have more or less independence than at Michigan, and this can enable you to pursue interests and take advantage of opportunities that might not present themselves here. If there is anything our office can do to make your stay easier, please let us know.

CONTACT INFORMATION

See the SFS Tanzania Field Guide for on-site contact information.

The School for Field Studies (Domestic Office)
100 Cummings Center, Suite 534-G, Beverly, MA 01915
Phone: 800-989-4418
Fax: 978-922-3835
University of Michigan
Center for Global and Intercultural Study
G155 Angell Hall
435 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003
Phone: 734-764-4311; Fax: 734-764-3229
Email: cgis@umich.edu
Web: www.lsa.umich.edu/cgis

Administrative matters and program advising: Cristina Zamarron, Advisor
734-647-3560
cezamarr@umich.edu

EMERGENCY
In the event of an emergency on-site, immediately call local emergency services. You should know your local address and the 911 equivalent number in your host country and carry that number with you at all times.

Contact your local program director/on-site staff immediately if you are the victim of crime or need emergency assistance. Please also contact the University of Michigan Department of Public Safety, which has the following 24 hour number: (734) 763-1131. They will then contact the necessary on-campus offices, including the Center for Global and Intercultural Study, to respond to your situation. You may provide this same 24 hour number to your parents should they experience an emergency and need to get a hold of you while you are abroad and are unable to contact you directly.

To contact GeoBlue-HTH Worldwide in the event of an emergency or regarding insurance questions call 1.800.257.4823 or collect +1.610.254.8771 or globalhealth@hthworldwide.com