



**THE UNITED STATES – INDONESIA SOCIETY  
2019 SUMMER STUDIES PROGRAM\*  
May 23 – August 1, 2019**

*\*Please note that some program details and information may be subject to further change.*

The United States-Indonesia Society is dedicated to expanding understanding of Indonesia and of the importance of the United States-Indonesia relationship. As the world's third largest democracy and the fourth most populous country, Indonesia is one of the United States' most important partners on trade and security issues. The archipelago of Indonesia is also one of the most culturally and environmentally diverse places in the world. The combination of a large population, generous resources, and a democratic government means the Muslim majority country is set to become an economic giant within Southeast Asia.

Despite its great importance, most Americans know little about Indonesia. Studies of Indonesia in the U.S. are vibrant but limited to very few academic institutions. The establishment of the U.S. – Indonesia Strategic Partnership in 2015 brought welcome attention to the significance of Indonesia at the policy level, but more attention needs to be paid to what undergirds policy: the people-to-people relationship.

For over 22 years, USINDO through its Summer Studies Program has worked to educate young Americans about Indonesia through in-country language and culture training in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The program has benefited a total of 227 alumni, many of whom have returned to work, do business, or conduct research in Indonesia. The program is designed to give American students the skills – language, political awareness, cultural sensitivity, knowledge, and networking – they need to forge a relationship with a vibrant country full of opportunity. Students of any major, from environmental studies to music to international relations to Asian studies will find their interests piqued by Indonesia with this program.

**Program Details**

**a. Orientation**

The program will begin with a three-day orientation in Yogyakarta, where participants will be introduced to the local committee, their language tutors from ILCIC Sanata Dharma University, as well as their host families. The participants will attend various sessions designed to enable them to create a richer and meaningful experience during their stay in Yogyakarta. These include Cross-Cultural Understanding session which will help students gain a comprehensive understanding of the cultural differences between Indonesian and American Culture, as well as an 'Amazing Race' challenge which will help familiarize students with key places in Yogyakarta in a fun and interactive way. The program ends with the students moving in to each host family.

**b. Classes**

The language component of USINDO's Summer Studies Program is conducted in partnership with the Indonesian Language and Culture Intensive Course (ILCIC) housed at Sanata Dharma University. ILCIC has had extensive experience in conducting Bahasa Indonesia teaching programs for foreign university students and its location in the heart of Yogyakarta allows Summer Studies students to interact directly with Indonesian students and locals in its lively campus atmosphere.

The program typically offers two class levels: beginner and intermediate. However, USINDO also accommodates participants wishing to learn at the advanced level as well. To make sure the learning is customized, students will have the opportunity to adjust their class levels based on their progress.

Typical class schedule is held Tuesday – Friday and covers the essentials of Indonesian vocabulary, grammar, and cultural contexts through interactive speaking, reading, writing, and listening exercises. Students also practice twice a week after regular classes with Indonesian tutors who are students in Yogyakarta. Such tutoring provides the opportunity to both the Indonesian and American students to engage at an informal level, to ask questions, and to develop friendships; many Summer Studies alumni have maintained these bonds long after participating in the program.

**c. Host Families**

Students will live with host families throughout their stay in Indonesia. The host family experience is intended to reinforce language studies during the day, and to give students the real experience of living with an Indonesian family. Indonesians are hospitable, welcoming people. Strong emphasis is placed on the importance of the family unit. By welcoming American students into their homes, host families welcome them to their daily routine and often invite them to participate as family members in significant events such as weddings. Significantly, the experience allows acquaintances and extended family of the host family to have exposure to young, educated Americans interested in Indonesia and willing to engage.

**d. Special Lectures**

Special Lectures will be held on a bi-weekly basis to introduce students to discussions of topics in various fields, including politics, history, culture, religion, and economics with an emphasis on current issues, such as good governance, interfaith relations, economy outlook, and Indonesia contemporary politics. The selection of topics will also consider the participating students' fields of study and general interests. Speakers may come from prominent leaders in the Indonesian private sector, government officials, scholars, non-government sector, and media.

**e. Cultural Workshops**

Students can get firsthand experience of Indonesian culture through various cultural workshops, including: *gamelan* (traditional musical ensemble), *batik* (textile dyeing technique), traditional dancing, and cooking classes focusing on Indonesian cuisine.

**f. Volunteering with Structured Project/Independent Study (Research)**

Every Monday, students are required to participate in an ongoing activity outside of the classroom, which involves either one of the following: volunteering with structured

project *or* independent study (research). The intention is to allow for candid experiences of direct interaction with Indonesians outside of their classroom setting. Please refer below for more information on what each activity entails:

**a. Volunteering with Structured Project Component**

Students will have the chance to volunteer in a variety of local organizations, ranging from notable retail businesses, local NGOs as well as think tanks. A networking event intended to match program participants with potential host institutions will allow them to choose the organization that caters to their personal interests and goals.

This year, students will conduct a structured project as individuals in conjunction with their volunteering experience. With guidance from USINDO, PCMI, and their volunteer organization, students will produce a solution plan on how to tackle an issue related to their specific volunteering organization. At the end of the program, students will present their projects to each other, relevant stakeholders, and PCMI. Past Summer Studies participants had the chance to volunteer at various institutions, including: *Research Center for Politics and Government of Gadjah Mada University (PolGov UGM)*, *SHEEP Indonesia Foundation*, *Coklat nDalem*, *Stichting Jogja*, *Nahdlatul Ulama Islamic University*, *Tepas Tandha Yekti Yogyakarta*, *Center of Southeast Asian Studies (PSSAT) of Gadjah Mada University*, and *Radio of Republic of Indonesia (RRI) Pro 2 Yogyakarta*.

**b. Independent Study (Research)**

This option is reserved for students with a specific pre-existing research topic related to Indonesia. Students will be required to interview 10-15 Indonesian locals as part of their fieldwork and submit their research findings at the end of the program. Whenever possible, students should identify their in-country research supervisors.

**g. Field Trips**

USINDO organizes a variety of field trips to renowned cultural and historical monuments/sites, as well as visits to local organizations in Yogyakarta. These trips are designed to allow the students to learn about and experience firsthand Yogyakarta's unique culture, history, tradition, belief system and natural wonders. Previous field trips have included the famous Merapi Lava Tour, as well as visits to the Indmira organic farming, the historic quarter of Kotagede, Borobudur Temple, Prambanan Temple, Tugu Yogyakarta, Keraton Palace, and a variety of other famous sites in and around Yogyakarta.

**h. Post-Program Event**

Upon completion of the language classes in Yogyakarta, students will participate in a post-program event in Jakarta, held from **July 29 – 31, 2019**. This is the culmination of the Summer Studies Program that is designed to broaden the students' perspective, knowledge, and exposure to contemporary issues facing Indonesia, while also giving them the opportunity to network with government officials, experts, academics, NGOs and private sector. Past Summer Studies participants have had the chance to meet with distinguished figures such as Indonesia's former Minister of Trade, U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia, Indonesia's Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Deputy Chief of Staff to the President, as well as heads of various organizations in Indonesia. USINDO will also organize trips to renowned historical sites within the capital, such as the Istiqlal

Mosque, Jakarta Cathedral, Museum of National History, the National Monument, and many more.

Applicants will be required to participate in all Summer Studies activities, including attendance at classes and taking a final examination. Participants will be required to sign a statement verifying this intention, as well as a release form, upon admission to the program. Participants should be available to depart from the United States with the group.

For photos from previous Summer Studies Programs, please click:

<http://bit.do/USINDOSSPhotos>

For stories and articles of our past Summer Studies Fellows, please visit:

<http://bit.do/USINDOSSBlog>

For testimonials from our past Summer Studies Fellows, please visit:

<http://bit.do/USINDOSSTestimonials>

### **Written & Visual Deliverables/Products**

Participating students will be required to produce, based on their experience in the program, four short blog articles and photo journals which USINDO will feature on its website. Students will also be required to create short video clips of their experiences during the program which will help future Summer Studies participants have a glimpse of what the program is like. USINDO will also encourage Indonesian tutors, host families, and volunteer host institutions to share on social media, stories based on their involvement in the program.

### **Eligibility**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, aged 18-30 years old, and university juniors or seniors, or graduate students, currently enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree program. They may also be recent graduates (within 6 months) of any accredited U.S. college or university.

### **Fee**

The program fee covers the following expenses of the program including return international and domestic air ticket, tuition, cultural program, field trip, special lecture, accommodation, two meals per day, visa, and travel insurance. Each student pays a fee of \$2,000 toward these program costs, and the USINDO Summer Studies Program provides the substantial remainder of these program costs. All other incidentals are the responsibility of the student.

### **Deadlines**

We are accepting applications all year long. Applications and required documents must be received by USINDO no later than **February 8, 2019** to be considered for the Summer 2019 intake. Applicants will be notified of the decisions on **February 22, 2019**.

### **Application Submission**

All of the following application documents must be submitted via email to [usindojkt@usindo.org](mailto:usindojkt@usindo.org).

- Application form: Please submit a completed and signed application form, available [here](#).
- Personal statement: Please submit a 500-800 words personal statement describing your academic interests, career goals, interest in Indonesia, and how your participation in this

program will enhance those interests and goals, as well as how your career might further the mission of the Society to promote more awareness of Indonesia in the United States, and why you chose to apply for the 2019 USINDO Summer Studies Program.

- In addition to the personal statement, you may also submit a short introductory video of yourself. This video should be no more than one minute long and should serve the purpose of helping us get to know you and your motivation better beyond your personal statement. Please note that this video is optional.
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume: Please submit a curriculum vitae or resume (not to exceed 10 pages).
- Academic transcript(s): Please submit the latest academic transcript from the educational institution where you are currently enrolled or recently graduated from. Unofficial copies are acceptable.
- Letter of recommendation: One (1) recommendation letter is required. The letter of recommendation may include the recommender's assessment of your character, potentials, and accomplishments, with examples if possible; the recommender's understanding of your academic/professional interests; and why the recommender would recommend you to be chosen as a 2019 USINDO Summer Studies participant. Recommenders must submit the letter of recommendation directly to [usindojkt@usindo.org](mailto:usindojkt@usindo.org).

Applicants are responsible for ensuring their applications are submitted on time. Only complete applications will be considered.

### **Criteria for Selection**

Applicants will be judged by the clarity of communication in their personal statements and their demonstrated interest in Indonesia or in learning about Indonesia. A strong academic record is required as well as a demonstrated interest and success in learning languages. Previous foreign travel is desirable but not necessary. Students who have less exposure to Indonesia are desirable, but we also accept students who have had extensive experience in Indonesia. The purpose is to familiarize the students with Indonesia and encourage a lasting interest in Indonesia. Stated career plans will be judged in part on the likelihood that such a career will also involve communicating knowledge of Indonesia to a broader audience.

### **Scholarship**

This year, USINDO will **award one \$1,500 scholarship toward the program fee** for those seeking financial aid on a competitive basis. Students interested in the scholarship should submit their tax return transcripts along with their application. The transcript should be from the most recent year filed and can be either the student's or their parents' (if the student is still a dependent). Kindly submit the electronic copy of the tax return transcript, which can be obtained for free online (see <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>).

### **Airfare**

USINDO purchases roundtrip air tickets to Yogyakarta for students from any city in the US. Travel arrangements are made by USINDO.

### **Visa**

USINDO will process the student visas at the Embassy of Indonesia in Washington, DC.

Students MUST possess a passport that is valid at least until December (of the program year), AND must have at least four blank visa pages in their passport.

**Travel Insurance**

USINDO purchases the travel insurance and will pay for the premium for the duration of the program. Students will be responsible for any deductible payments (if any).

**Contact Information**

Questions or inquiries regarding the program can be directed to [usindojkt@usindo.org](mailto:usindojkt@usindo.org) or call +1.202.232.1400 (DC) or +62.21.3983.0061 (Jakarta).

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*The **United States-Indonesia Society (USINDO)**, established in 1994, is the premier bi-national non-governmental organization exclusively concentrating on deepening United States-Indonesia relations and mutual understanding.*

*USINDO conducts programs to enhance Americans' understanding of Indonesia and Indonesians' knowledge of America, deepen people to people relations, and support the U.S – Indonesia Strategic Partnership. USINDO implements its mission through public discussions in each country and long-term bi-national program in the education, legislative, and other sectors, including the US-Indonesia Joint Council on Higher Education Partnership and the Indonesia-U.S. Council on Religion and Pluralism.*

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