

Alumni Feedback

"You have no idea what I would give to go on this final trip with you all! Even though I won't be able to make it, I read through the itinerary anyway with a glimmer in my eye! Know that the Sicily trip was formative for me in so many ways, and that I still think about it often. I hope you're doing well - does this mean you're retiring? A huge hug from Puglia!! "

"So sad to hear that the Sicily course is no more-- it was my favorite class at UMass, and one I still talk about all of the time!"


"Great to hear from you! I'm so sorry to hear that the Sicily trip is coming to a close. My trip was by far the highlight of my college experience and I wish I could fit the "last hurrah" trip into my schedule. I'm a marketing manager for a medical device company now and this trip falls right in the middle of peak trade show season! Enjoy the final trip and I hope to remain in touch. Thank you so much again for a great class and an unforgettable adventure."

↙ You like your photo-
album. You can change
the picture in the front
because I wasn't sure
which picture to put there.
Thankyou for everything!
I know I've been a pain
with all my phone-calls
& emails-- but, don't worry
they're not going to end
just because I'm graduating!
Maybe I can pour a quiness
for you in whatever Irish Pub.
I'll be working in! -Thanksagain! -Khara

Rick--

I have to say that
you've definitely become
one of my favorite
teachers. ^{The language} Thankyou
so much ^{of kindness} for
^{is understood} letting ^{by all.} me come
to Sicily. The trip was
one of the greatest
experiences of my life
and has inspired me
to see more of the world.
(Including Ireland for
4 months!!!) I hope

2nd times the charm.
 I'll miss correcting
 you & having a professor
 that loved to travel! -Becca
 Thank you!


Rick, I can't imagine
 the trip being half as enjoyable
 without you. Remember
 Alumni Quest!  I will
 So much for
 everything, I'm
 so thankful for
 the opportunity
 you have given
 me.


Rick,
 your dedication to
 your students is
 so inspiring!
 Thank you for everything,
 is truly wonderful.
 Christina


Rick,
 Thank you
 for a great
 semester. I had
 a great experience

"Wow, I wish I could join you for this. 14 years later and at least one thing from that trip pops up in my thoughts nearly every week or so! Such a shame that the journalism department won't offer this class in the future, it was my first trip to Europe and the itinerary was amazing."

Thank you so much
 for running for
 an awesome such
 program! I
 learned so much
 about photography
 and had a lot of
 fun in the process.
 Un abbraccio forte!
 ~Hollis

Rick,
 Thank you so much for
 this amazing experience,
 I truly have learned
 more from you and this trip
 anywhere else at unass 

Rick,
 We truly appreciate everything
 you have done for
 us. I'm a writer,
 but I've learned
 so much about
 photography from
 you that I will
 use throughout the
 rest of my journalism
 career. Thanks
 for everything!
 ~Lindsay 

Rick, Thanks so
 much!
 Allie 

"How wonderful to see your name AND Sicily in my in-box today! What a wonderful surprise! I'm saddened to hear the course will no longer be offered by the journalism department. What an incredible loss for the journalism students. That course was such a blessing and gave me training no other course could. Thanks to the hands-on training I received in that class, I save my employer money frequently by not having to use a freelance photographer on many occasions and pinch-hit when our graphic designer is overloaded and can't make photo adjustments. Without YOUR class, I wouldn't be able to do any of that -- so for that, I thank you."

"How often I think of this trip and how often I think of you! I hope you are well! The trip to Sicily had a big impact on my life. It was my first time out of the country and here I am 11 years later (I think?) living abroad (in Spain.) This course gave me the bug and you are responsible for that.

I hope you keep instilling young minds, some where, some how that there is life outside Massachusetts and it smells, tastes and looks amazing. "

2013

Rick

The trip was amazing. I'm so glad I went and I am so thankful for you and Carol for accepting me in to the program being comm maps and all. It was an experience I will never forget and one you prepared us well for. I can't stop telling people all about it. Also, thanks to you I got my dad reading the olive oil book and both my parents only wanting to buy the good kind. Also all the feedback on my photos has been greatly appreciated, now I just need to get the dust out. Again, thank you for an amazing time!

♥ Sarah
TON

"I did want to send you an email to thank you. Not only do I have the pictures around my house, and share stories with my son about the volcano, countryside, food, and amazing people I met on this journey, but I also want to thank you for opening my eyes to the world of travel through this trip. Since this time, I have gone on to travel with my students at the high school I work at, and now my husband is traveling the US for work, and I am fortunate to be able to accompany him. You instilled in me a thirst for travel, and a way of life that I will be forever grateful for."



Rick,

I can't espresso
my thanks enough!

Thank you for having the courage
and the patience to take 40 people
over seas to a foreign place! The
trip was amazing. I can't thank you
enough for taking me. I've really
enjoyed being your student for the
past two semesters!

Let me know of reunion trips!

Thank you again for your
tireless efforts!

Melissa Patm

How are you? Hopefully well. I'm writing to inform you that I left my heart in Sicilia over a year ago and await the day I will return. I would love to write an article on organized crime in Sicily and local movements to reclaim Sicilia from the mafia. How was this year's trip? And Rosa? Ohhh Sicilia, my heart.

Hey!! You won't BELIEVE where I am right now. ROME, ITALY :) I am here covering the Pope's death...and the appointment of the new Pope. I am an associate producer for FOX News Channel in Washington D.C. and at about noon on Friday I was told... "you're goin' to Rome." Gotta love our biz. I still remember all our times in Sicily...it was really the point where I decided what I wanted to do with my career. I want yo to know you were the teacher that helped me find my passion. Seriously!!

"I ended up getting a job at a beach in East Boston, and I am also writing for an online travel magazine based out of Somerville MA called Intravelmag.com. I was so excited when i got the internship! I honestly think a lot of it had to do with my Sicily portfolio. I wrote her a nice cover letter and in my resume I included a link to my Sicily Photographs. When I actually meet her for the interview she could have cared less about London, she just kept talking about Sicily and my photographs. You said that they would come in handy one day and you were right!! "

"When I think of my time at UMass, a couple big things stand out... and two of them are the Sicily trip and your classes. I figure I should remind you every couple of years, in case you forget just how awesome your teaching was for me!"

I hope everything is going well for you. It's been almost 5 years since I went to Sicily and it remains one of the best experiences of my life. Thank you so much for that opportunity. I hope to hear from you soon.

"I'm definitely sad this will be the last time the trip is offered. I was really hoping that I'd be able to come back after a couple of years.

I've been living in France since September, and I'll be returning to the U.S. broke as ever, so I won't be able to come this year.

Regardless, I just wanted to reply to the e-mail to thank you for the class and everything you taught me about photography. It's really changed my life in a way, and my trip to France has been that much more awesome with my camera in hand. Thank you so much- not only for your instruction but the confidence you instilled in me, as well as this insatiable desire to travel."

Rick,

Thank you for all that you have done this semester. The sicily trip was an amazing, unforgetable experience, thanks majorly to you. Please stay in touch with us!



Stay
Salty
RICK! Best
trp ever !!
-Maggie