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"I hope that I keep searching inside myself in order to become a better person for society. Challenging myself to become more knowledgeable, to use critical literacy in the classroom, and to start acting out for the community is what has evolved from this trip." ***Lara Donnelly, Elementary and Special Education Major, Jamaica Service Program***

Study Abroad in Education

BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

"Today, classroom teachers are met with students from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. The 21st century teacher must provide culturally relevant instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Study abroad is a wonderful opportunity for Bellarmine students to experience firsthand, the excitement and challenges of being in a different cultural environment. This opportunity will provide future educators with the insight and compassion necessary to help all students meet their full potential."

Cindy M. Gnadinger, Ed.D. Dean, Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education

Study Abroad as an Education Major and . . .

- Observe different methods of teaching
- Learn about the academic system of another country
- Explore diverse areas in the field such as environmental education
- Understand current global issues in education
- Experience world events through the perspective of another culture
- Acquire knowledge of different countries to share and develop in the classroom
- Enhance your portfolio by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges and experiences

Rachel Staub, Education Major, Summer Abroad CCSA Program, Ireland

Plan ahead . . .

As an Education major, you will want to **carefully plan** for your study abroad experience. **While students can study abroad as a sophomore, junior or senior, the best time for semester study abroad will depend on your area of specialization.** It is **STRONGLY** recommended that education majors meet with their Academic Advisor and the Faculty Liaison during the freshman year.

- Begin planning at least a year in advance of your study abroad program. Meet with the Study Abroad Advisor and talk with faculty and students who have studied or taught abroad. It is never too early to start planning!
- If you are interested in a particular area of education, inform the Study Abroad Coordinator and your Faculty Liaison in your meetings so that they may help you find the best program based on your needs.
- Set some goals. There are many partners and programs abroad that offer education courses. Make sure to consider your long-term academic and professional goals. The best program for you will depend on what you hope to gain from your experience and what your post-graduate plans may be.
- Start saving now! Consider saving for your time abroad when setting your spending priorities today.
- With proper planning, study abroad can help you prepare for the next step after college whether it is pursuing a higher degree or starting a career in the field of Education.

Can I afford it?

YES! Now is the most cost-effective time in your life to spend an extended period of time abroad. Most undergraduate students do not have to balance a job, mortgage, family and car payments when saving for study abroad.

- Studying abroad for a semester on exchange will cost about the same as attending Bellarmine and living on campus.
- For exchange programs, financial aid and scholarships can be applied toward your semester or academic year abroad.
- There are many short-term programs with a wide range of prices to accommodate various student budgets.
- Bellarmine also offers scholarships for study abroad! For more information visit: http://www.bellarmine.edu/international/scholarships.asp

Tracy Law
Education Major
Summer Abroad
CCSA program
England

Next steps?

Study Abroad Information Meetings and Highlight Sessions
Not sure how to start? There are general information meetings held weekly in the fall. See the BU student calendar or contact eward@bellarmine.edu for dates.

The Study Abroad Fair
This annual fall event held in October is a great place to talk to program providers and students who have studied around the world on Bellarmine's programs. It is a wonderful time to ask returned students about their experiences abroad.

Browse Our Website
Find information on all Bellarmine study abroad programs, as well as application procedures and tips on preparing for your time abroad. http://www.bellarmine.edu/international/

What happens next?
Visit the International Programs Office in Miles Hall Suite 149 to learn more about the program and application deadlines. Talk with your Academic Advisor and the Faculty Liaison for study abroad. Learn which courses you will be able to take abroad, and plan ahead. Research the country and site where you wish to study. Find out as much as you can about your host site.

When should I go?

Summer programs are available to ALL students starting the summer after freshman year. Depending on a student's major and minor, certain times may be better than others for long-term study abroad. See below for tips on deciding when you should go.

Freshman

The best time to start planning for study abroad is your freshman year. If you hope to have two international experiences, it is a great idea to do a summer program after freshman year and then plan for an additional experience later.

Sophomores

The application to study abroad sophomore year is due in the fall of freshman year. As an education major, spring of sophomore year is one of the best times to spend a semester abroad. Please work closely with the Study Abroad Advisor and your Faculty Liaison to see what plan is best for you. Students may also choose to do a summer or winter break program sophomore year.

Juniors

For education majors, it is difficult to spend a semester abroad junior year. If you would like to study abroad at this time, you should plan for a winter or summer break program.

Seniors

Study abroad senior year is limited for education majors as most students will be doing their student teaching at this time. If you chose to delay your student teaching to the fall of the following year, then you could spend the fall of senior year abroad. Alternatively with proper planning and department approval, students may be able to spend the spring semester of senior year abroad. Students will need to work closely with the IPO, the Education department and the registrar if they chose this option. Students may also choose to do a winter break program between the fall and spring semesters.

How do I select a program?

Bellarmine has more than 150 international program sites. When selecting a program that will work best for you, consider your geographic interests and academic goals. Use this sheet, talk with your advisor, talk to past participants of study abroad programs, and work with the IPO to identify the best program for you. **These highlighted programs offer excellent options for you to earn credit in your major; however, depending on your flexibility, you may also want to explore other Bellarmine partners and programs.** As the School of Education and the IPO work together, specific recommended programs may change. Check with the Study Abroad Advisor for the latest information.

Can I fulfill graduation requirements?

Can I fulfill graduation requirements?
General Education: General education credits can be fulfilled on almost all study abroad programs. **Some excellent courses to take abroad include**: Fine Art requirement, English Literature requirement, Social Science requirement and the IDC 301 Trans-cultural Experience requirement. There are always options for this course in the semester programs as well as summer and winter programs. Occasionally approval is granted for the Theology elective requirement.

Major requirements: Education courses are offered in English at many of our partner universities. Some institutions have a broader selection than others and they are listed on this page. With advance planning, you may be able to earn credits for your education major. If possible, plan on taking some elective credits in education that are not offered on campus so that you may enhance courses you have taken at BU.
Minor requirements: Depending on your minor, you may also be able to take courses to fulfill those requirements abroad. Please consult with the Department Chair.

Study Education for a semester or an academic year at partner universities abroad!

The list on this page contains links to view course catalogs and/or titles of education courses offered at BU bilateral partner universities abroad. Some links provide access to a course description. You should review this list with your advisor to see which institution will provide you with the courses you need. If necessary, you will also want to discuss substitutions or waivers with the Department Chair.

ISEP Exchange

Bellarmine is also a member of The International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) which provides access to many additional study sites around the globe. It is easy to do a search by subject on the ISEP website www.isep.org. For most sites, you can access course catalogs for these institutions online or in the IPO resource room. Students who have many electives will have greater flexibility in their choice of schools. Students who have a second major may also chose to focus on that subject area while abroad.

Bilateral Exchange Partners with Excellent Education Options:*

Leeds Metropolitan University
Leeds, England
Leeds Met has Early Childhood, Primary and Education Studies Programs among other options.
http://prospectus.leedsmet.ac.uk/main/list.htm?p=35&level=1

Edith Cowan University
Perth, Australia
Edith Cowan has been Western Australia's major provider of teacher education for over a hundred years. This institution has Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary Education Programs.
http://www.education.ecu.edu.au/

Curtin University
Perth, Australia
Curtin has Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary Education Programs.
http://handbook.curtin.edu.au/unitSearch.html
http://www.humanities.curtin.edu.au/education.cfm

* For the most updated partnership options please check with the International Programs Office.

Town Center in Leeds, England

ISEP Exchange Partners with Excellent Education Options:
Below are some of the best education options with ISEP. If you are looking to do general education requirements or courses in a minor, you will have many more options. See www.isep.org

Orebro University- Orebro, Sweden
http://www.oru.se/templates/oruExtDeptIntroPage.aspx?id=14583
In addition to education classes, Orebro offers a unique Education in Democracy and Social Justice Program which leads to a Master Degree in Social Sciences (MSc.) with orientation to the field of education.

Vaxjo University- Vaxjo, Sweden
http://www.vxu.se/english/education/programmes/education.xml
http://www.vxu.se/iped/english/education/courses.xml
This institution has a Teacher Education-Global and Intercultural Perspectives program.

University of Joensuu- Joensuu, Finland
http://www.edu.joensuu.fi/programme/

University of Jyvaskyla- Jyvaskyla, Finland
http://www.jyu.fi/edu/en/
This former teacher-training school now offers excellent options in Elementary Education and Physical Education that are available in English.

Short Term Program Options

For students interested in a spending a summer or winter break abroad there are many excellent options for all majors. Students can chose to do general education courses, courses in the major or elective courses. See the information box on this page for more details.

International Internships and Service

In addition to summer/winter options listed on this page, there are many international internship and service opportunities available for all Bellarmine students. Please consult the IPO for more information on these programs.

"For the first time in my life, an educative experience has forced me to find meaning and answers to questions that were not just hand-fed to me…… I happen to believe that liberation in a classroom is found in making a classroom a democratic place. Thank you all for making this a democratic class and allowing and even pushing us to own the experience in Jamaica." ***Delana Hill, Elementary and Special Education Major, Jamaica Service Program***

Top summer and winter destinations specifically for Education majors:

CCSA
www.ccsa.cc
CCSA offers summer and winter options in English speaking countries. There are courses in a variety disciplines, including education, in these programs.

CIEE
www.ciee.org
CIEE provides summer options around the globe. The academic focus of the programs will depend on the location.

KIIS
www.kiis.org
KIIS offers summer options in non-English speaking countries
Most programs are conducted in English. The academic focus of a particular program will vary by country. The KIIS programs in Denmark and Bregenz (Environmental Ed.) have an education focus and students could enhance their education experience with these programs.

BU Faculty-led IDC 301

http://www.bellarmine.edu/service/jamaica/index.asp

This program serves as the field experience for a spring IDC 301 course. The focus is on education and it is open to all majors.

"The Jamaica service learning experience offers a window into the 21st century crisis of the Global South (what we once called the Third World). We attempt to merge hands-on experiences with children in both schools and orphanages with theoretical and historical study of why the Global North, Global South divide exists. We do this so that we might best understand how we can become leaders of change locally, nationally, and/or internationally. "

Dr. Adam Renner, Associate Professor, School of Education