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Study Abroad in English

BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

"In the English department, we are very interested in a student's cultural literacy. This means deep reading, yes, but it also means knowledge of the wider world. What a student brings to a text is as important as what the text brings to the student – and travel is perhaps the greatest way to age a young mind."

Frederick Smock, Chair, English Department

Study Abroad as an English Major and . . .

- Learn about the literary works of another country
- Observe different press and journalism practices
- Learn first-hand about significant global issues
- Visit important international literary sites
- Prepare yourself for competitive graduate programs
- Build your résumé by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges

"When I think about how afraid I was before I left for Spain, I find myself wondering why I was so scared. In all honesty, I'm not exactly sure what I was so afraid of, but I know now that whatever it was no longer frightens me. Thanks to my six month adventure, I am happier with myself than ever before – I'm confident, relaxed, and much more spontaneous and I look forward to building upon the things that I learned while I was there …"

Laura Ward English Major, Spanish minor, Semester Abroad, Universidad de Salamanca , Spain

Plan ahead . . .

As an English major, you can study abroad as a sophomore, junior or senior. There are many opportunities for elective credits in the major which gives you the flexibility to study abroad and make progress towards your degree. Discuss study abroad options with your Academic Advisor and Faculty Liaison.

- Begin planning at least a year in advance of your study abroad program. Plan to meet with the Study Abroad Advisor and talk with faculty and students who have taught or studied abroad. It is never too early to start planning!
- Set some goals. There are many partners and programs abroad that offer English and journalism courses. The best one for you depends on what you plan to gain from your experience.
- Prioritize your goals. See the IPO handout on this subject and consider your long-term academic and professional goals, as well as your on-campus degree requirements.
- With proper planning, study abroad can help you prepare for the next step after college whether it is graduate school or starting a career.
- Start saving now! Consider saving for your time abroad when setting your spending priorities today.

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

"Studying abroad made my BU experience phenomenal. Study abroad and small classes are the best things about Bellarmine."

Elizabeth Magee, English Major, Semester Abroad, Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Next steps?

Study Abroad Information Meetings
Not sure how to start? There are general information meetings held weekly in the fall. See the BU student calendar or contact the IPO 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 information regarding your major. Learn what 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 a semester or year abroad junior year.

Sophomores

There are limited semester sites available for sophomores. However, mature applicants typically do not have trouble finding an appropriate site for study. The application to study abroad sophomore year is due in the fall of freshman year. Please work closely with the Study Abroad Advisor and your Academic Advisor to see what plan is best for you.

Juniors

Most Bellarmine students study abroad during their junior year. At this point, you may be more focused on upper division courses and electives. See the descriptions on the next page for program suggestions.

Seniors

Students may still study abroad during the fall semester of senior year, although the location should be selected carefully to ensure that they may take specific classes needed for graduation. They should be sure to choose a site that matches Bellarmine's calendar in order to be back in time to start the spring semester at BU.

How do I select a program?

Bellarmine has more than 150 international program sites. When selecting a program, consider both 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 English Department 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?

General Education: General education credits can be fulfilled on almost all study abroad programs. Some excellent courses to take abroad include: Fine Art requirement, Social Science requirement and the IDC 301 requirement. Occasionally approval is granted for the Theology elective requirement.

Major requirements: English, literature and journalism courses are offered at many partner universities. You will want to consider enhancing your BU degree by taking courses for your major that are not offered at BU. Some institutions have more course options than others and they are listed on this page. With advance planning, you will be able to earn credits towards your major.

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 English 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 English courses offered at BU partner universities abroad. Many links provide access to a course description. You should review this list with your Academic Advisor and Faculty Liaison 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.

Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK): Hong Kong, China
View from a dorm room

University of Helsinki:
Helsinki, Finland

Bilateral Exchange Partners with Excellent English Options:*

Campion College:
Sydney, Australia
http://www.campion.edu.au/

Chinese University of Hong Kong:
Hong Kong, China
http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/v6/en/faculties/arts.html

Edith Cowan University:
Perth, Australia
http://www.sca.ecu.edu.au/school/

Leeds Metropolitan University:
Leeds, England
http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/study/findacourse.htm

Swinburne University of Technology:
Melbourne, Australia
http://www.international.swinburne.edu.au/

University of Helsinki:
Helsinki, Finland
http://www.helsinki.fi/english/courses/

Rhodes University:
Grahamstown, South Africa
http://www.ru.ac.za/academic/departments/
This is an excellent and innovative institution located in beautiful and safe Grahamstown.

Study Abroad Option only:
National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland
http://www.nuigalway.ie/

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

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.

ISEP Exchange Partners with Excellent English Options:

Ajou University-Suwon, Korea
www.ajou.ac.kr/english

American University Bulgaria -Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria
www.aubg.bg/

American University Sharjah – Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
http://www.isep.org/students/Directory/member_site.asp?CSID=256&ID=366

University of Botswana – Gaborone, Botswana
http://www.isep.org/students/Directory/member_site.asp?CSID=254&ID=359

EWHA Women's University- Seoul, S. Korea
http://www.ewha.ac.kr/english/html/002/002001007.html

Masaryk University- Brno, Czech Republic
www.muni.cz/

Nanzan University -Nagoya, Japan
www.nanzan-u.ac.jp/

Napier University- Edinburgh, Scotland
www.napier.ac.uk/international

Linnaeus University- Kalmar, Sweden
http://lnu.se/?l=en

University of Tampere- Tampere, Finland
www.uta.fi/studies/

Universiteit van Amsterdam-Amsterdam, Netherlands
www.english.uva.nl/education/

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.

International Internships and Service

In addition to summer/winter options listed on this page, there are many international internship and service opportunities available. Popular destinations include Sydney, Australia; Dublin, Ireland; and London, England. Please consult the IPO for more information on these programs.

Top summer and winter destinations specifically for English majors:

CCSA
www.ccsa.cc
CCSA offers summer and winter programs in English speaking countries. Students may chose from courses in a variety disciplines including English.

CIEE
www.ciee.org
CIEE has summer programs in English around the globe. The academic focus will vary by program.

KIIS
www.kiis.org
KIIS offers summer programs in non-English speaking countries. Most are conducted in English. The academic focus will vary by country. Every year Literature and Theater courses are offered in a variety of locations.

Bellarmine student on the CCSA London Winter Program

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