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Study Abroad in History and Political Science

BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

"The History/Political Science Department encourages all its majors to do some study abroad whether a year or during the summer. In order to understand world cultures, which is an important aspect of history there is nothing better than actually living where there is a different culture and hopefully a different language. This will lead to a better appreciation of our own culture as well as that of others."

Dr. Margaret Mahoney, Professor, History and Political Science Department

Study Abroad as a History or Political Science Major and . . .

- Gain international perspectives in the field of politics
- See world events through the lens of another culture
- Experience the history and political system of another country
- Learn first-hand about important global issues
- Prepare yourself for competitive graduate programs
- Build your résumé by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges

"The most meaningful aspect of my study abroad experience I consider to be the invaluable insight into my future. I have gained understanding as to how important it is for me to finally start life as an adult- on my own terms. I have come to the realization that I myself am responsible for my intellectual development- a lesson which the Universität Tübingen and living alone taught me. "

Almir Banjanovic, FLIS & History Major, Academic Year Abroad, Universität Tübingen, Germany

Plan ahead . . .

As a history or political science student, you can study abroad as a sophomore, junior or senior. There are opportunities for elective credits in the majors which gives you 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. 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 both history and political science 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 now.

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

"I now know that I have the ability to do anything. I had a lot of doubts about myself before I went but now I feel that I am more confident."
Tara Reyna,
History Major,
Semester Abroad
Södertörn University,
Sweden

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 September 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 Coordinator 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 your senior year, although they will need to select the location carefully to ensure that specific classes needed for graduation are available. 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 that will work best for you, 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 programs BU offers**. As the History and Political Science Departments and the IPO work together, specific recommended programs may change. Check with the Study Abroad Coordinator 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, English Literature requirement, Social Science requirement and the IDC 301 Trans-cultural Experience requirement. Occasionally approval is granted for the Theology elective requirement.

Major requirements: Both History and Political Science are offered in English at many of our partner universities. 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. Plan on taking some elective credits that are not offered at Bellarmine so that you may enhance the coursework 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 Chair of the Department.

Study History or Political Science 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 history/political science courses offered at BU partner universities abroad. Most links provide access to a course description. You should review this list with your academic 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.

Bellarmine student at USFQ in Louisville's Sister City, Quito, Ecuador

Al Akhawyn University: Ifrane, Morocco

Bilateral Exchange Partners with Excellent History and Political Science Options:*

Al Akhawayn University: Ifrane, Morocco
http://www.aui.ma./VPAA/shss/shss-index.htm
Al Akhawayn has a fabulous International Studies Program and Women in Development Program with a variety of courses in P.S. & History. (Courses are in English; some knowledge of French us highly recommended.)

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

Ewha Womans University: Seoul, South Korea
http://www.ewha.ac.kr/english/html/002/002001007.html

Lingnan University: Hong Kong, China
http://www.ln.edu.hk/

Rhodes University: Grahamstown, South Africa
http://www.ru.ac.za/academic/departments/
This is an excellent institution with many course options in history, political science and international relations.

Universidad San Francisco de Quito: Quito, Ecuador
http://www.usfq.edu.ec/
Students must have completed at least 4 semesters of Spanish prior to the start of program. Some courses are offered in English.

University of Birmingham: Birmingham, England
http://www.birmingham.ac.uk

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

University of Western Australia: Perth, Australia
http://www.uwa.edu.au/

Yokohama National University: Yokohama, Japan
http://www.ynu.ac.jp/english/
The program combines **courses taught in English** with a Japanese language course at an appropriate level. Some knowledge of Japanese language is recommended.

* 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. 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 History & Political Science Options:

American University in Bulgaria- Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria
http://www.aubg.bg/

Karlstad University- Karlstad, Sweden
http://www.kau.se/en

Tokyo International University- Kawagoe, Japan
http://www.isep.org/students/Directory/member_site.asp?CSID=86&ID=386

Universiteit van Amsterdam- Amsterdam, The Netherlands
http://www.studeren.uva.nl/english

University of Debrecen- Debrecen, Hungary
http://www.englishstudies.sci.unideb.hu/

University of Strathclyde- Glasgow, Scotland
http://www.strath.ac.uk/about/departmentlist/

University of Tartu – Tartu, Estonia
http://www.isep.org/students/Directory/member_site.asp?CSID=73&ID=175

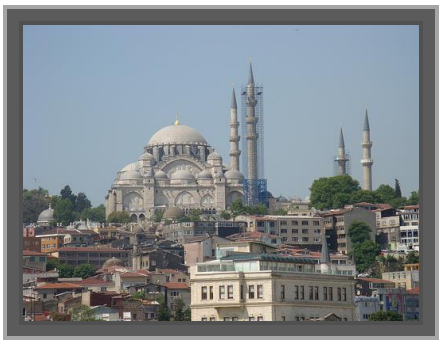
University of Wroclaw- Wroclaw, Poland
http://international.uni.wroc.pl/en

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 major requirements or general education or elective courses. **Some top summer/winter destinations for History & Political Science Majors are listed on this page.**

International Internships and Service

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



"Try something different.... by no means am I Indiana Jones, and if you've got Celtic heritage and you want to go to Scotland, that's fine. But if you're wishy-washy about where to go and you want a study-abroad experience, don't wimp out. Go somewhere interesting."

Kevin Edelman, History Major, KIIS Summer Program, Turkey

Top summer and winter destinations specifically for History & Political Science majors:

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

Chinese University of Hong Kong Summer Program
http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/osp/

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. There are many course options in both History and Political Science.

Lingnan University Summer School
http://www.ln.edu.hk/summer/

View from Ayia Yorgi Monastery on the KIIS Istanbul, Turkey program