Global Languages & Cultures
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"Studying abroad offers a crash course on determination, perseverance, self-confidence and cultural awareness. You'll come back stronger, smarter, and more prepared to make a difference in the world."
Ginny Roby, FLIS/ Accounting major, Academic Year Abroad, University of Salamanca, Spain

Study Abroad in Global Languages & Cultures

BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

"At Bellarmine, we don't just offer study abroad; we link our students to a foreign university one student at a time…Our students directly enroll at the foreign university, allowing for complete immersion in the culture and the foreign educational system."

Gabriele Bosley, Professor, Global Languages & Cultures Department
Director, International Programs Office

Study Abroad as a Language Major or Minor and . . .

- Increase your proficiency in another language
- Learn about the culture of another country
- Experience world events through the perspective of another culture
- Build your self-confidence in speaking and writing in another language
- Understand current global issues
- Prepare yourself for competitive graduate programs
- Enhance your portfolio by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges and experiences

"My language skills improved so much. I don't think that I would have been able to do that without being forced to speak French on an everyday basis."
Shannon Nicaise, FLIS Major, Academic Year Abroad, Université d'Aix en Provence, France

Plan ahead . . .

As a language major or minor, 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 language majors meet with their Academic Advisor and the Study Abroad Advisor during 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!
- Set some goals. Partners and programs abroad offer a variety of levels of language study, from direct enrollment to intensive beginner language programs. 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.

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 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

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 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 Study Abroad Advisor. 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. Language students should have a high proficiency level if they would like to spend a semester abroad sophomore year. Please work closely with the Study Abroad Advisor to see which plan is best for you. Students may also choose to do a summer or winter break program sophomore year.

Juniors

Most Bellarmine students study abroad during their junior year. At this point, they 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 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 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 Global Language 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?

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: Students may earn credits toward their major abroad. They will need to work with their advisors to decide if they need specific language credits or content courses. Students who are at a lower language level at the time of application may want to consider an intensive language program or combination program rather than direct enrollment.

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 Languages for a semester or year at partner universities abroad!

The list on this page contains links to view course catalogs and/or titles of 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.

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore: Milan, Italy

Cathedral in Strasbourg, France

Bilateral Exchange Partners with Excellent Language Options:*

Arabic & French:

Al Akhawayn University: Ifrane, Morocco
http://www.aui.ma./VPAA/shss/shss-index.htm

Chinese:

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

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

Nanjing University: Nanjing, China
http://www.nju.edu.cn/cps/site/njueweb/fg/index.php

French:

MICEFA (study at one of Paris' 16 Universities including the Sorbonne)
http://www.micefa.org/

EM Strasbourg: Strasbourg, France
http://www.em-strasbourg.eu/

German:

Universität Tübingen: Tübingen, Germany
http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/international.html

University of Kufstein Tirol: Kufstein, Austria
http://www.fh-kufstein.ac.at/ger/International

Universität Graz: Graz, Austria
http://www-classic.uni-graz.at/E/

Italian:

Università Cattolica de Sacre Cuore: Milan, Italy www.unicatt.it
Students may take a combination of courses in Italian & English.

Japanese:

Students may take a combination of **courses in English** and Japanese language courses at both institutions.

Kansai Gaidai University: Kyoto, Japan
http://www.kansaigaidai.ac.jp/asp/03_academics/06.html

Yokohama National University: Yokohama, Japan
http://www.isc.ynu.ac.jp/index_e.html

Spanish:

Universidad Granada: Granada, Spain
http://www.ugr.es/

Universidad Salamanca: Salamanca, Spain
http://campus.usal.es/~rrii/

Universidad San Francisco de Quito: Quito, Ecuador http://www.usfq.edu.ec/

* 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 Language Options:

ISEP has many member institutions that offer courses in the host country language. Some institutions offer specific language and culture programs for international students. Students with a high proficiency in the host language may chose to direct enroll at the institution and take all of their courses in that language.

The chart in the link below lists ISEP member schools by language:
http://www.isep.org/students/US_students/language_considerations.asp

Short Term Program Options

For students interested in 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.

"**I never could have learned so much about another culture, language, or myself, while studying in the United States. It allowed me to see the world, the U.S.A., and MYSELF from a different perspective.**"
Erin Ott, FLIS major, Academic Year Abroad, USFQ, Ecuador

Top summer and winter destinations specifically for Language majors:

CIEE
www.ciee.org
CIEE provides summer options around the globe. The academic focus of the programs will depend on the location. They offer programs with a language focus and programs that are conducted in English.

KIIS
www.kiis.org
KIIS offers summer options in non-English speaking countries. The academic focus of a particular program will vary by country. Some programs have a language requirement in order to participate; others offer beginner courses and/or courses in English.

ISEP Summer Programs
http://www.isep.org/students/Programs/summer_programs.asp
Many ISEP summer programs have a language focus. Others allow students to study a variety of subjects. The locations vary every year

"Study abroad, in my experience is so much more than academics; for me it was an endless string of adventures. I loved it."

Mary DeCoursey, FLIS major, semester abroad, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain