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“I now have a much stronger understanding of the world in which we live that we learn about each day in the classroom.”

Katie Kolkmeier, Psychology Student, Semester Abroad, Swinburne University, Australia

Study Abroad in Psychology, Sociology and Criminal Justice



“We encourage our majors to study abroad since the best way to appreciate how culture influences personality is to participate in another culture. Our curriculum has a 25- hour major so there are plenty of opportunities to study a foreign language and/or study abroad without falling behind in meeting the requirements for the major. We help our students select classes at overseas campuses that will meet the major’s requirements or offer opportunities to study subjects that we do not offer within the department. Sites where Bellarmine psychology students have studied include Morocco, England, Sweden, the Netherlands, Denmark, Mexico, Germany, Ireland, and the Fiji Islands.”

Dr. Don Osborn, Professor, Psychology / Sociology / Criminal Justice Studies

Study Abroad in the Social Sciences and...

- Gain international perspectives in the fields of psychology, sociology and criminal justice
- See world events through the lens of another culture
- Observe other cultures and customs first-hand
- Experience the lifestyle 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



“There is nothing that could have prepared me completely for the transformation that occurred while I was abroad. No matter how many times you hear "It is the experience of a life time", it never truly sinks in until you go and see the world for yourself.”

Jacob Murphy, Sociology Student, Semester Abroad, Rhodes University, South Africa

Plan ahead . . .

As a psychology, sociology or criminal justice student, you may study abroad as a sophomore, junior or senior. There are opportunities for elective credits in the major 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 studied or taught abroad. It is never too early to start planning!
- Set some goals. There are many partners and programs abroad that offer psychology, sociology and criminal justice courses. The best one for you depends on what you plan to gain from your experience.
- Prioritize your goals. See the OSAIL 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.bellarmino.edu/international/scholarships/>



"The study abroad program at Tilburg University gave me an opportunity to interact and connect with students from all types of countries and cultures, as well as to adjust to Dutch culture. The level of comfort and confidence I gained will be extremely valuable in my career."

Lisa Puetz, Psychology Student, Semester Abroad, Tilburg University

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 OSAIL 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.bellarmino.edu/international/>

What happens next?

Visit the Office for Study Abroad & International Learning in Horrigan Hall Suite 111 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 which courses you may 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 winter program during or 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, they may be more focused on upper division business courses and electives. See the descriptions on the next page for program suggestions.

Seniors

Students may still study abroad during the fall semester or winter break of senior year. They will need to select the location carefully to ensure that they can take specific classes that may be needed for graduation or choose general electives. Students should choose a site that matches Bellarmine's calendar so that they will be back in time to start the spring semester at BU.

How do I select a program?

Bellarmino has more than 150 international program sites. In order to select 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 OSAIL 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 Psychology, Sociology and Criminal Justice Departments and the OSAIL 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, 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: Psychology, sociology and criminal justice courses 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 and the next. 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 Department Chair.

Study Psychology, Sociology and Criminal Justice 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 psychology courses offered at BU partner universities abroad. Most 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.



Al Akhawayn University:
Ifrane, Morocco



Rhodes University:
Grahamstown, South Africa

Bilateral Exchange Partners* with Excellent Psychology, Sociology or Criminal Justice Options:

Al Akhawayn: Ifrane, Morocco

<http://www.aui.ma/en/international.html>

Al Akhawayn has a Women in Development Program and offers a variety of culture courses. Courses are offered in English; however, some knowledge of French is highly recommended.

Australian Catholic University: Brisbane, Melbourne, & Strathfield, Australia

http://www.acu.edu.au/international/study_abroad_and_exchange

Chinese University of Hong Kong: Hong Kong, China

<http://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/>

3.0 GPA required

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University: Port Elizabeth, South Africa

<http://international.nmmu.ac.za/>

Rhodes University: Grahamstown, South Africa

<http://www.ru.ac.za/international/>

Located in beautiful & safe Grahamstown, Rhodes has many options in the social sciences.

Tilburg University: Tilburg, Netherlands

<http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/exchange-programs/>

3.0 GPA required.

Universidad San Francisco de Quito: Quito, Ecuador

<http://www.usfq.edu.ec/Paginas/default.aspx>

Students should have at least 4 semesters of Spanish. USFQ has some course offerings in English.

University of Leicester: Leicester, England

<http://www.le.ac.uk/>

Edge Hill University: England Ormskirk, England

<http://www.edgehill.ac.uk/international/>

Ulster University: Coleraine, Jordanstown, & Magee Campus, Northern Ireland

<https://www.ulster.ac.uk/international>

* For the most updated partnership options please check with the Office for Study Abroad & International Learning.

ISEP Exchange

Bellarmino 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 some sites, you can access course catalogs for these institutions online or in the OSAIL.

ISEP Exchange Partners with Recommended Psychology, Sociology or Criminal Justice Options:

Plymouth University, England (PSYC)

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/international>

Tecnológico de Monterrey (ITESM), Mexico (PSYC, SOCI, & CJS)

<http://www.itesm.mx/wps/wcm/connect/sim/study+in+mexico/homepage/>

Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia (PSYC)

<http://www.upsi.edu.my/index.php/en/2016-05-10-10-16-10/international-applicant>

University of Chester, England (PSYC & SOCI)

<http://www.chester.ac.uk/international>

University of Essex, England (PSYC, SOCI, & CJS)

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/international/>

University of Johannesburg, South Africa (SOCI)

<https://www.uj.ac.za/internationalstudents/>

University of Jyväskylä, Finland (PSYC & SOCI)

<https://opiskelu.jyu.fi/en>

Vilnius University, Lithuania (CJS)

<http://www.vu.lt/en/studies/exchange-students>



BU students travel to Victoria Falls during a semester in South Africa

“During my last trip down the mountain I realized my heart wasn't racing and I felt strangely at ease. With no words to truly describe it, I knew I had been changed to the point that even my natural reactions were no longer those of an average American.”

Allison Schumacher, Psychology student, semester abroad, Al Akhawayn University Morocco and BU Service Abroad, Guatemala Program



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 choose to do major requirements, general education or elective courses.

CIEE

www.ciee.org

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

CCSA

www.ccsa.cc

CCSA offers summer and winter options in English speaking countries. There are courses in a variety of disciplines in these programs.

KIIS

www.kiis.org

KIIS has summer options in non-English speaking countries. Most programs are conducted in English. The focus varies by program.

Tilburg University Summer School

<https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/summerschool/>

Australian Catholic University July School

http://www.acu.edu.au/international/july_school

International Internships and Service

In addition to summer/winter options listed on this page, there are many international internship and service opportunities available. International Studies Abroad (ISA) (<http://studiesabroad.com/experience/>) has a wide variety of programs in many countries, including Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Spain, and England. Internships and Service-Learning through ISA may be counted as IDC 301 credit with appropriate approval. Please consult the OSAIL for more information on these programs.