

School of Environmental Studies
Newman Hall
502-272-7628
www.bellarmino.edu/green/

Faculty Liaison for School of Environmental Studies
Dr. Steven Wilt
Pasteur 181
502-272-8462
swilt@bellarmine.edu

Office for Study Abroad & International Learning,
502-272-8479

Dr. Gabriele Weber-Bosley,
Executive Director
gbosley@bellarmine.edu

www.bellarmino.edu/international/

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Study Abroad in Environmental Science & Studies



“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.”

*Dr. Gabriele Bosley, Professor, Global Languages & Cultures Department
Executive Director, Office for Study Abroad & International Learning*

Study Abroad as an Environmental Science & Studies Major and . . .

- Experience the world of science and research in another country
- Gain international perspectives in the field
- Understand global environmental issues
- Explore diverse areas of environmental issues in marine biology, ecology, & biodiversity
- See world events through the perspective of another culture
- Acquire skills to succeed in post-graduate opportunities
- Build your résumé by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges



“Never in my life have I ever been exposed to such cultural diversity. And to be dumped into it cold turkey has been quite the experience, an experience that I am truly grateful for...Being around all these people from so many cultures has helped me erase many of my cultural stereotypes and has prepared me for future cultural encounters.”
Nick Tournaud, Biology Major, Semester Abroad, University Canterbury Christchurch, New Zealand

Plan ahead . . .

As an environmental science or studies student, you will want to carefully plan for your study abroad experience. 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 students and faculty 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 environmental science and studies courses. The best one for you depends on what you plan to gain from your experience and what your post-graduate plans may be.
- 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 in environmental science and studies.
- **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/>



“Studying abroad was truly one of the most enriching experiences of my life. It widened the scope of my education and I loved every minute of it!”

Chelsea Rupp, Biology Major, KIIS Summer Program, Germany

Next steps?

Study Abroad Information Meetings

Not sure how to start? There are general information tables and meetings held in the fall. See the OSAIL website for details or contact the office directly.

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 McGowan Hall 280 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 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 winter during or 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. For ENVI and ENVS majors, the best time for semester study is junior year. 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 which plan is best for you.

Juniors

Many Bellarmine students study abroad during their junior year. At this point, you may be more focused on upper division courses and electives. This may be an option if you are not planning to attend medical school or if you are flexible and willing to take a summer class or two. See the descriptions below for program suggestions.

Seniors

Many students can still study abroad during the fall semester or winter break of senior year. Students will need to select the location carefully to ensure that specific classes needed for graduation can be taken abroad or simply bring the credits back as general electives. Students will also want to choose a site that matches Bellarmine’s academic calendar in order to return in time to start the spring semester.

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 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 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 Bellarmine partners and programs.** As new partners are established specific program recommendations 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, and Social Science requirement. Occasionally approval is granted for the Theology elective requirement.

Major requirements: Environmental Science and Studies 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 major. If possible, plan on taking some elective credits that are not offered here so that you can 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 Environmental Science or Studies for a semester or an academic year at partner universities abroad

The links on this page allow you to visit the websites and/or view course catalogs and courses offered at BU partner universities abroad. You should review this 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. For most sites, you can access course catalogs for these institutions online or in the OSAIL.

Earn an Environmental Studies Minor while at USFQ

Study for a semester (in English) at the **Universidad San Francisco de Quito's GAIAS program in Quito & the Galapagos Islands**, and earn your minor in Environmental Studies.

- ✓ Take **ENVR 111 Introduction to Environmental Science** at Bellarmine prior to departure.
- ✓ Take the following GAIAS courses while abroad at USFQ to fulfill the remaining Environmental Studies Minor requirements:
 - **Wildlife Conservation Management**
 - **Human Ecology and Maritime Communities**
 - **Political Ecology**
 - **Strategic Planning for Natural Resource Management**
 - **Health and the Environment**

http://www.usfq.edu.ec/galapagos/international_program/Paginas/default.aspx

Bilateral Exchange Partners with Excellent Environmental Science & Studies Course Options:*

Chinese University of Hong Kong: Hong Kong, China

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

Many environmental science courses are offered in English.

3.0 required

Rhodes University: Grahamstown, South Africa

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

Rhodes is located in beautiful and safe Grahamstown and has many science options.

Universidad San Francisco de Quito: Quito, Ecuador

https://www.usfq.edu.ec/programas_internacionales/opi/Paginas/default.aspx

Excellent destination for environmental science and studies, including the GAIAS program. Students must have completed at least 4 semesters of Spanish prior to the start of program. Some courses are offered in English.

University of Graz: Graz, Austria

<http://international.uni-graz.at/en/stud/incoming/>

They have a variety of options for environmental science majors but are also great for general education courses.

University of Birmingham: Birmingham, England

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/index.aspx>

Great options for both Environmental Science and Studies majors.

2.8 GPA required

University of Helsinki: Helsinki, Finland

<https://www.helsinki.fi/en/studying/how-to-apply/exchange-studies>

This university is also great for general education courses.

University of Western Australia: Perth, Australia

<http://www.international.uwa.edu.au/>

* 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 OSAIL. **Students who have many electives will have greater flexibility in their choice of schools.** Students who have a second major may also choose to focus on that subject area while abroad.

ISEP Exchange Partners with Recommended Environmental Science and Studies Options:

Below are some of the best natural science options with ISEP. If you are looking to do general education requirements or courses in a minor, you will have many more options.

Massey University

Palmerston North, New Zealand

http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/international/international_home.cfm

Plymouth University

Plymouth, England, United Kingdom

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

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 general education courses, courses in the major or elective courses such as the gen. ed. IDC 301 Trans-cultural Experience course.

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 internship credit with appropriate approval. Please consult the OSAIL for more information on these programs.



“I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity and I look forward to visiting Ireland again so that I may again observe the progress of the small island nation.”

Raymond Burns, Chemistry major,
CCSA Summer program, Ireland

Top summer and winter destinations specifically for Environmental Science & Studies majors:

Bellarmine Peru Field School

<http://www.bellarmino.edu/green/buinperu/>
Organized by the OSAIL and the Environmental Studies and Anthropology departments. Spend one week on campus and two weeks exploring Peru in this six-credit summer program.

CCSA

www.ccsa.cc

CCSA offers summer and winter programs in English speaking countries. Students may choose from courses in a variety of disciplines.

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.

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Summer Program

<http://summerschoolsouthafrica.com/>
Environmental science and studies program.



Spring Break BU Marine Biology program in Belize