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### Table of Contents:

Why go abroad? pg 1

Finances pg 2

When to go abroad pg 2

Planning to go pg 2

Types of programs pg 3

Partner schools pg 4

Short-term options pg 4

Internships  
& Service pg 4

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# Study Abroad in Math or Computer Science



“Study abroad can be an enriching experience that broadens a student’s understanding of commonalities and contrasts with other cultures. For mathematics, studying at other institutions offers the possibility of courses that may not be available at Bellarmine. Certain specialized programs, such as the Budapest semester in mathematics, go well beyond what U.S. universities typically offer. These are great opportunities for a motivated and curious student.”

**Dr. Bill Fenton, Department of Mathematics**

## *Study Abroad as a Math or Computer Science Major and . . .*

- Gain international perspectives in the fields of math & computer science.
- 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.
- Build your résumé by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges.
- Prepare yourself for competitive graduate programs.



“Studying abroad in France for the summer was a great way to take some fun electives & supplement my Communication minor. I really enjoyed spending time in another culture, and even got the chance to meet some French college students who were happy to talk to us about life and school in Paris. I’m really glad that I took the chance to travel while at Bellarmine and it was an adventure I’ll never forget!”

*Rachel Keyser, Math Major, KIIS Summer Program, France*

## *Plan ahead . . .*

As a math or computer science student, you may 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.

- Begin planning at least a year in advance of your study abroad program. Plan to meet with the Study Abroad Coordinator, 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 math & computer 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 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.bellarmino.edu/international/scholarships.asp>



**Bellarmino  
Student Abroad  
at the Chinese  
University of  
Hong Kong,  
China**

## *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.bellarmino.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. 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 or senior 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 senior year. Students will need to select the location carefully to ensure that specific classes needed for graduation can be taken abroad. 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. 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 programs BU offers.** As the Math & Computer 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 math and computer science classes 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 Department Chair.

## *Study Math or Computer 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 math and computer science 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.



City of Melbourne, Australia  
Location of Swinburne University



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

## *Bilateral Exchange Partners\* with Excellent Math & Computer & Science Options:*

### **Al Akhawayn: Ifrane, Morocco**

<http://www.aui.ma/VPAA/SBA/index.htm>

Courses are offered in English, however students must have completed at least two semesters of French.

### **Chinese University of Hong Kong-Hong Kong, China**

<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/v6/en/>

### **Leeds Metropolitan University-Leeds, England**

[http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/visiting/course\\_search.htm](http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/visiting/course_search.htm)

### **Swinburne University of Technology- Melbourne, Australia**

[www.swinburne.edu.au](http://www.swinburne.edu.au)

### **Universidad Pontificia Comillas Madrid- Madrid Spain**

[www.upcomillas.es](http://www.upcomillas.es)

Computer courses are offered in English. Students must have completed at least two semesters of Spanish

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

## *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](http://www.isep.org). For some sites, you can access course catalogs for these institutions online or in the IPO resource room.

### ISEP Exchange Partners with Excellent Math & Computer Options:

The following ISEP institutions are only a few of the many destinations where you could study.

#### **Åbo Akademi University -Åbo/Turku, Finland**

[www.iuta.org/](http://www.iuta.org/)

#### **Brock University -St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada**

[www.brocku.ca/international/](http://www.brocku.ca/international/)

#### **EWHA Women's University- Seoul, S. Korea**

<http://iei.ewha.ac.kr/html/courses01.asp>

#### **Karlstad University- Karlstad, Sweden**

[www.kau.se/eng/](http://www.kau.se/eng/)

#### **Malardalen University- Västerås, Sweden**

[www.mdh.se/](http://www.mdh.se/)

#### **Radboud University Nijmegen -Nijmegen, Netherlands**

[www.ru.nl/english](http://www.ru.nl/english)

#### **University of Ghana- Accra, Ghana**

[www.ug.edu.gh/](http://www.ug.edu.gh/)

#### **University of Strathclyde- Glasgow, Scotland**

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/about/departmentlist/>

#### **University of Tampere -Tampere, Finland**

[www.uta.fi/studies/](http://www.uta.fi/studies/)

#### **Växjö University- Växjö, Sweden**

[www.vxu.se/english/](http://www.vxu.se/english/)

### **Study Abroad Only- NOT Exchange**

#### **Budapest Semester in Mathematics**

This is a specialized program that has an excellent reputation. Bellarmino aid is not transferable for this program.

## *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, general education or elective courses.

## *International Internships and Service*

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

## *Top summer and winter destinations specifically for Math & Computer Science majors:*

### **CCSA**

[www.ccsa.cc](http://www.ccsa.cc)

CCSA offers summer and winter programs in English speaking countries. Students may chose from courses in a variety of disciplines. Students often chose to meet general education requirements on these programs.

### **CIEE**

[www.ciee.org](http://www.ciee.org)

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

### **KIIS**

[www.kiis.org](http://www.kiis.org)

KIIS offers summer programs in non-English speaking countries. Most are conducted in English. The academic focus will vary by country. Students often chose to meet general education requirements on these programs.

### **ISEP Summer Programs**

[http://www.isep.org/students/Programs/summer\\_programs.asp](http://www.isep.org/students/Programs/summer_programs.asp)

Some summer programs have a Math and/or Computer Science focus. Others allow students to study a variety of subjects including foreign languages.



*Bellarmino student on a KIIS Greece Program*