Myths and Misinformation

Students who are interested in Education Abroad are often haunted by tall tales and myths about going abroad! This Halloween, Education Abroad is here to help guide you out of the corn maze of rumors and onto the path to begin your journey abroad!

**MYTH #1: I have to speak a foreign language!**

While Education Abroad does offer many language intensive opportunities, most of our programs do not have a language requirement. Want to see a comprehensive list of all our programs taught in English? [Click here!](#)

**MYTH #2: Education Abroad costs too much!**

All of Education Abroad’s programs allow you to utilize your state and federal financial aid! Furthermore, for the BGSU in Spain programs, BGSU in Austria programs, short-term faculty-led programs, and exchange programs, students pay BGSU tuition and fees, meaning that institutional financial aid can be applied well. Additionally, BGSU offers a myriad of institutional scholarships for Education Abroad. Want to explore scholarship options? [Click here!](#)

**MYTH #3: Going abroad will delay my graduation!**

Education Abroad offers programs not only during the Fall and Spring semesters, but also during Summer, Spring Break, and soon-to-be Winter Session! Going abroad during these periods is a great way not to miss required courses for your degree-sequence.

**MYTH #4: I can only take classes in my major!**

Education Abroad does not require you to take classes towards your major while on program (although you are certainly welcome to if your program offers coursework for your major!). Many of the classes our students take abroad can also fulfill BGP and minor requirements. You may also take elective courses as well!

**MYTH #5: I can only study abroad!**

Education Abroad also offers service learning, research, and internship opportunities! For example, our Global Internship in Spain program offers students the chance to both receive credit and gain work experience.
Student Ambassador Highlight

with Maya Danner

Want to know what it feels like to be a Falcon abroad? Check out this interview with Student Ambassador Maya Danner!

Which program did you participate in?
I went to Alcala de Henares, Spain as part of the BG in Spain Program during the Spring Semester.

What was one of your favorite experiences during your time abroad?
Some of my favorite experiences when studying abroad was how easy it was to travel; it was cheap and easy to book a flight or a bus ticket and take a weekend trip. One of my favorite trips I took was to Tenerife, a small Spanish island off the West coast of Africa. I went with five other BG students and we explored the island and got lost for hours, but we also made friends with locals. Getting lost in different airports, bus stations, and train stations were common on these trips, and they made me grow to be a well-informed traveler.

How did Education Abroad help you grow personally/academically/professionally?
I grew a lot while studying abroad. It gave me a better perspective of the world and expanded my mindset so that I understood that the United States was not the center of the world. Although this seems obvious, it is surprising how entitled you are as an American without even knowing it. Culture shock is what really challenged me the most while I was abroad and consequently it taught me the most. There are small things that you do every day that you don't realize are intrinsically American until you are not in the USA. This left me feeling dejected and out of place during the beginning of my time in Spain but it took me working on myself to become comfortable in a society that was accustomed to my American habits.

What would you like to say to students interested in Education Abroad?
I highly encourage studying abroad to every student. BGSU's study abroad programs are some of the best I have ever heard of and they gave me an amazing experience. It costs no more to live in Spain, Germany, Australia, than it does to live in Bowling Green, Ohio. This seems like enough of a reason for me to want to explore the world. To the students who may not have the travel bug like I do: studying abroad will expand the way you think in a ways that you will not realize until you go. Even going to Canada would push you out of your comfort zone and force you to grow; although this may seem jarring, it is something that I think everyone needs to experience. If you have ever heard about study abroad, I feel like that should motivate you to go.

Summer in Alcala, Spain
A brand new way to fulfill your BGPs abroad!

Education Abroad is proud to announce our new Summer in Alcala, Spain program! Starting this Summer 2018 from June 29-July 30, this new initiative allows students to enroll in general education courses while also exploring another country.

What is the focus of the courses’ content?
All of the available courses fulfill BGP international perspective requirements, while also exploring the rich culture of Spain.

What else does the program entail?
All classes are taught by local BGSU instructors at Cardinal Cisneros University Center, where housing accommodation is also provided. Students also participated in weekend excursions led by BGSU staff.

Interested in submitting an application? Email us edabroad@bgsu.edu for more information and start your application today!
New in Exchange Programs

New treats just in time for Halloween!

Education Abroad is excited to promote some of our newest exchange programs! With programs located in Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, and France, check out some of the newest options to spread your wings and become a Falcon abroad!

**Austria**

**-FH Applied Sciences, Salzburg:** Located near Austria’s Salzach River, FH Applied Sciences boasts a student body of 2,700 students with small class sizes and personal attention to each student. Courses available include Computer Science, Multi-Media, and Business.

**The Netherlands**

**-HZ University of Applied Sciences, Vlissingen:** HZ University prides itself on a high percentage of international students (nearly 30%), modern facilities and its ability to offer students individual coaching. For the past six years, HZ University has ranked in the top three of multidisciplinary Dutch universities of applied sciences. Courses available include Environment, Tourism, Supply Chain, and Biology.

**-Fontys University of Applied Sciences:** Located in the south of Holland, Fontys is one of the largest Dutch universities with over 40,000 students. Business courses are available to BGSU students and Fontys takes measures such as personal coaching to ensure each student’s success.

**-Radboud University, Nijmegen:** Situated in the oldest city of the Netherlands, Radboud University was recognized as the best traditional Dutch university in 2016. Radboud likes to challenge its students to change their perspectives and offers more than 250 courses in English. With nearly 20,000 students, the university sees its international students as cultural ambassadors and attempts to offer international students a wide variety of social activities as they experience life in the Netherlands.

**Italy**

**-Universita Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore, Milan:** Placed in a European epicenter of culture and history, Cattolica had all of its disciplines ranked in the global top 200 in 2016. The University takes great pride in their global academic reputation and the extraordinary study experience that their university has to offer. Business and Fashion Design programs are available.

**France**

**-Rennes School of Business, Rennes:** Founded in 1990, Rennes has a focus on internationalization and has a 50% international student population. Rennes is an English-friendly campus and is ranked in the top ten business schools in France.

**Denmark**

**-University of Southern Denmark, Odense:** SDU offers international students a lively community to study in they place an emphasis on student engagement and participation on their English-friendly campus. Various programs are available to BGSU students.

**Oldies but Goldies**

Didn’t see a program for you? Here are a few more of our exchange programs you might be interested in:

**Asia:**

**-Nagoya Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan:** NGU’s Institute for Japanese Studies brings language instruction and cultural enrichment for foreign students, and has an overall undergraduate enrollment of about 4500 students.

**-Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong:** study business and media communications in one of the world’s prominent economic centers. HKBU has been a fully accredited institution since 1983 and enrolls over 10,000 students. Courses and are conducted in English.

**-Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul, South Korea:** SWU is a private school in Seoul, the capital and largest city of South Korea. Preference for this program is given to students in Media and Communication, but courses in English are offered in Tourism and Leisure, Fashion Design and Merchandising, as well as Korean language and culture. Men may attend over the summer.

**Australia:**

**-Deakin University, Melbourne:** Situated in the large Australian city of Melbourne, and with two seaside campuses in the state, Deakin offers a variety of education atmospheres as well as a wide array of courses. The school is well known for its programs in sports and fitness, which makes this exchange a unique opportunity for students in that major at BGSU.

Check out a complete list of all of our exchange programs by clicking here
Affiliate Program Highlight: ISA

One of our exciting affiliate partners is International Studies Abroad. Want to learn about what programs ISA has to offer? Keep reading to find out!

What is ISA?

ISA is an international organization that Education Abroad partners with to send students abroad. They have grown from offering only one exchange program in Salamanca, Spain, to offering programs in over 25 countries.

Where can I go abroad with ISA?

ISA offers programs in Morocco, South Africa, China, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the UK, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Jordan, Australia, New Zealand and much more!

What is unique about ISA?

ISA is committed to helping students interested in second languages by providing on-site tutoring and offering the option to add an Intensive Month program prior to semester or summer programs.

Can I only study abroad with ISA?

ISA also offers service learning and internship opportunities in addition to their academic programs. Students may also participate in summer, spring break, winter break, semester, yearlong, and intensive-month programs.

How do I receive credits from ISA for BGSU?

Because ISA is an affiliate partner with BGSU, all credits completed through an ISA program count as BGSU credits.

Do I pay BGSU tuition? Does this impact my financial aid?

Because ISA is an independent entity, students pay ISA tuition and fees directly.

However, students may apply state and federal aid towards ISA tuition.

Does ISA offer any additional financial aid?

ISA offers additional scholarships that are both for their programs at large and specific offerings. For example, they hosted a webinar on the various scholarship programs they offer. Feel free to check out the video here:

Want to learn more?

Come to the ISA table at the Bowen-Thompson Student Union to talk to an ISA representative!

Happening on October 23, 11am-1pm

Experience PEACE with ELS International Students

Are you still spooked about applying to our programs? Would you like to speak directly to an international student who knows what it is like to be a student abroad? Come to the PEACE (Pizza Eating and Conversational English) ESL International Student night! Here is what you need to know:

When: Thursday October 20, 2017 and November 3, 2017 from 12:45pm-1:30pm
Where: 202 Memorial Hall

Pizza is free for the first 20 native-English speakers (students, staff, faculty & community members are welcome) who help ELS International students practice their English conversational skills. No experience necessary.

You can ask questions such as:
- What do you miss about your home country?
- How did you find friends and activities in a new place?
- Did you ever have anything that got lost in translation?
- What is your home university like and why should I study there?

Please email bgn@els.edu for any questions about how to get involved!

“Every dreamer knows that it is entirely possible to be homesick for a place you’ve never been to, perhaps more homesick than for familiar ground.” —Judith Thurman
Re-Entry: Next Steps

Reverse Culture Shock

It is normal to experience Reverse Culture Shock when you return from your study abroad program. The experience is different for everyone, but there are some commonalities. It can be surprising to return home and find that this place has remained the same, but that you have changed. This can be one of the most interesting and rewarding aspects of your study abroad experience so take the time to acknowledge this adjustment and try to learn from it. Keep in mind that reestablishing yourself in your home culture may take some time and patience.

Common Feelings

* Inability to communicate the impact of your experience on the person you are now
* Interest in seeking out others who have also studied abroad
* Feeling critical of U.S. / Seattle / UW customs and behaviors
* A desire to return to the country or community in which you were immersed

Next Steps:

Some options you can consider are:

* Organize a reunion of your study abroad peers to reminisce and reconnect;
* Put together a scrapbook or blog of your pictures and journal entries;
* Get involved with local international organizations;
* Find a local language partner
* Study abroad again!

Another option: are you newly returned from an Education Abroad Experience, or curious about how to integrate international experiences in your professional prospects? Consider attending the Lessons from Abroad conference this October! Here is the information you need to know to participate:

At a Glance:

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2017
Time: 10:00 – 3:00 (on-site check-in begins at 9:00)
Location: Denison University, Granville, OH
Registration Fee: Only $15 (plus a small fee charged by our registration host, Event Bright) for students who register by October 8th, with the fee increasing to $25 between October 9th and 18th

Conference Goals:

The objectives of the conference are to offer study abroad returnees the opportunity to

- reflect on their recent international experiences
- connect with other study abroad alumni
- network with professionals from international organizations
- gain important skills for continual learning and application in their future career and academic paths

The conference will offer insight into how study abroad translates socially, academically, and professionally. Other conference highlights include a variety of exhibitors presenting opportunities for students to stay involved internationally and/or to go abroad again, various panel discussions and workshops on resume-building, graduate schools, career and volunteer opportunities, job interviewing and more! This is a great opportunity for students to network, so we ask that they dress business casual and bring several copies of their resume.

How to register:

Online registration is available for students and school officials here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ffa-ohio-conference-tickets-37033573415. The registration fee, which includes lunch and a coffee break, is only $15 (plus Event Bright fee) for students who register by October 8. All-day parking will also be available free of charge. University staff and faculty are encouraged to attend for $20. Please “save the date” for this important event! Registration and detailed conference information is available at the Lessons from Abroad Website.

“I am not the same having seen the moon shine on the other side of the world.”

Mary Anne Radmacher
Who You Gonna Call?
De-bunking Spooky Study Abroad Rumors

Check out pages 7 for information on and upcoming event!

See pages 9-10 for information about how to integrate your Education Abroad experience into your CV and Resume!

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Bowling Green State University
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edabroad@bgsu.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER
10/20: Information Meeting for Cultural Explorations in Italy (See page 7)
10/21: Lessons from Abroad Returnee Conference (see page 5)
10/23: ISA Table, Bowen-Thompson Student Union (See page 4)
10/31: Tuesday Table in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union, 11am-1pm. Come chat with Education Abroad representatives and Student Ambassadors about our programs and opportunities!

NOVEMBER
11/9 and 11/14: Hoskins Scholarship Information Sessions. Stay tuned for location here
11/13-11/17: International Education Week. For more information, click here
11/14 & 11/28: Tuesday Table in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union, 11am-1pm
11/30: Pre-departure Orientation, 308 BTSU. This mandatory event prepares all outgoing spring education abroad students for their abroad experience. You or a colleague are welcome to present information about the role of the Dean of Students Office, the importance of abiding by the BGSU student code of conduct, and the consequences should a student choose not to follow the codes, for about 5 minutes at the beginning of the program.
Unpacking Your Experience
Marketing Study Abroad

These are critical skills identified by employers across all sectors of the world of work that they desire from college students. Use this worksheet to reflect on your experiences abroad and provide examples to illustrate how you obtained or used the skill on the left. Take control of your future. You have the story, now articulate it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILLS</th>
<th>EXPERIENCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analyze, evaluate &amp; interpret information</td>
<td>• Honing navigation skills&lt;br&gt;• Observing and analyzing cultural norms/behaviors&lt;br&gt;• Developing communication skills – overcoming the language barrier using gestures, non-verbal cues&lt;br&gt;• Blogging, journaling, writing email updates&lt;br&gt;• Writing reflection papers for classes or internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build and sustain working professional relationships</td>
<td>• Developing relationships with colleagues at internship, volunteer placement, or teaching placement&lt;br&gt;• Developing relationships with program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute to a team</td>
<td>• Group projects in class or in internship/job&lt;br&gt;• Traveling as part of a small group – compromise and budgeting&lt;br&gt;• Learning to be flexible with new rules or standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate effectively orally</td>
<td>• Communicating across a language barrier using alternate words, gestures, non-verbal cues&lt;br&gt;• Developing skills in another language through daily use, immersion, home stay, friends from the host country, etc.&lt;br&gt;• Oral presentations in class/internship&lt;br&gt;• Learning slang (especially in other English-speaking countries) or conversational (rather than formal) language skills&lt;br&gt;• Teaching English to non-native speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage time and priorities</td>
<td>• Balancing demands of academic coursework with desire to travel and explore the city&lt;br&gt;• Adjusting to a different educational system and different academic expectations&lt;br&gt;• Prioritizing desires and obligations in a new setting&lt;br&gt;• Adjusting to new time zones and different cultural norms with regard to time and schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perform with integrity</td>
<td>• Respecting cultural norms different from your own&lt;br&gt;• Developing cultural sensitivity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Solve problems | • Respecting environmental concerns  
• Traveling in a sustainable fashion |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | • Learning to navigate public transportation and travel in a new place  
• Traveling on a budget  
• Getting lost and finding your way back  
• Navigating cultural differences  
• Overcoming culture shock and/or homesickness  
• Learning to cook with new or unfamiliar ingredients  
• Overcoming the language barrier |
| Take the initiative | • Internship/Job – develop skills, make connections, discover new career possibilities  
• Making travel arrangements  
• Making friends in the host culture  
• Stepping out of your comfort zone  
• Living with a host family  
• Joining local club or team  
• Deciding to study abroad and following through! |
| Think critically | • Discerning connections between academics and real world issues  
• Discovering your own biases and/or privileges  
• Making global connections  
• Recognizing what it means to be American  
• Navigating cultural differences or differences of opinion with friends/host family |