



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS, EDUCATION ABROAD

## Winter Chills: Escape the Cold with Education Abroad!

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## December 2018

#FALCONSABROAD

FALL 2018

# Looking Ahead for 2019

Start planning your Education Abroad experiences for the upcoming year today!

Fall Semester has flown by and is rapidly coming to a close! Didn't get the Education Abroad experience you dreamed of in 2018? Keep reading to find out how to make your 2019 the best year yet with Education Abroad.

### Why should I make my new year's resolution to have an Education Abroad Experience?

Traveling abroad for academic, professional, and volunteer opportunities has never been more accessible or affordable! Be it [scholarship programs](#) or academic internships, students going abroad have a chance to not only develop their transcripts and resumes, but to grow as individuals and become more culturally sensitive and globally minded people. Want to read more about the benefits of studying abroad?

[Check out this article from InternationalStudent.com.](#)

### How can I start my Education Abroad journey?

The required first step for any Education Abroad Program is to come to an [Information Session](#)! Spring 2019 Information Sessions will be held in

University Hall, Room 402 at the following times:

**Tuesday: 2:00-2:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday: 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

**Thursday: 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

**Friday: 10:00-10:30 a.m.**

### I have gone to an Information Session, but I still have questions! Can I talk to a fellow student about Education Abroad programs?

Our peer advisor, Alannah Reisling, is available to meet with prospective students in University Hall, Room 301 at the following times:

**Tuesday: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm and 2:30-4:30 pm**

**Wednesday: 12:30-2:30 pm**

**Thursday: 10:30 am-12:30 pm**

### What are the important deadlines for 2019?

Students intending to apply for **Summer 2019, Fall 2019, or Academic Year 2019-2020** need to submit their application to Education Abroad by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. You can start searching for programs by [clicking here](#).



### Social Media and BGSU News

Like our Facebook and Instagram pages! Stay updated on upcoming events, deadline reminders, and new developments. Also, check out some of the headlines our students are making:



Website:

<http://www.bgsu.edu/educationabroad/>

Email:

[edabroad@bgsu.edu](mailto:edabroad@bgsu.edu)

## Ambassador Highlight

Vincent Fauceglia says buongiorno to Italy!

### What year are you in and what are you studying?

I am a Senior in the college of business, and I am currently finishing my degree in Sales & Services Marketing. When I was abroad, I was a Junior.

### Which program did you participate in?

I participated in the ISA spring 2018 semester in Milan, Italy. I was placed with this program with help from the abroad office, after switching my initial exchange program.

### What was one of your favorite experiences during your time abroad?

My favorite experience during my time abroad, was getting to explore and experience the Italian culture unseen by many or overlooked due to the country's

normal stereotypes. Traveling the countryside and finding unique places to eat



and tour helped to bring a better light on the true Italy.

### How did Education Abroad help you grow personally/academically/professionally?

Education Abroad helped me grow personally by letting me talk to new cultures and find my faith in others and myself. I grew academically by seeing how a new country teaches its youth not only in college but also

in other school levels, and professionally the Italians have a very different mindset and I have been able to adapt that into my professional experience and myself.

### What was one of the challenges you faced while abroad?

The biggest challenge I faced while abroad was what to do in my free time. There was so much stuff I wanted to experience and do over my time abroad that it was difficult for me to plan it all. I did get a lot of help from my ISA staff who helped me book travel, hotels, and restaurant reservations.

### What would you like to say to students interested in Education Abroad?

Go! Don't worry about the hiccups that might be stopping you, it's worth it. You will keep the memories and experiences for the rest of your life, and it will change you so much in ways that you cannot explain. Just go!

#### WANT TO LEARN MORE?

You can read more about our Education Abroad Ambassadors by [visiting our website](#).



## Ambassador Highlight

Allie Campbell shares her thoughts on the benefits of Education Abroad!

My name is Allie Campbell and I spent summer 2017 in Alcalá de Henares, Spain. I am a junior, dual majoring in Psychology and Spanish with a minor in Sociology.

Studying abroad in Spain is what led me to making the decision to add Spanish as my major. The experience made me absolutely fall in love with the Spanish language and culture.

One challenge I had to face while studying abroad was being forced out of my comfort zone. Through traveling and living in a completely new country, I had to learn how to be independent and rely on myself. These are skills that I have taken with me back home and that I will carry with me through the rest of adulthood.

My favorite part of studying abroad was meeting people who were completely different from me. Studying abroad opens your eyes in a way no other experience can. I now have such an immense passion for learning about new people and cultures. Studying abroad will be an experience you will have with you for a lifetime. There are limitless opportunities!



# Ambassador Highlight

Haleigh Rae Dwyer shares her experiences in Spain!

## Which program did you participate in?

I spent the 2017 Fall semester as a student at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid in Madrid, Spain.

## What was one of your favorite experiences during your time abroad?

My favorite experience during my time abroad – All of it. Every time I get asked this question I cannot come up with a good solid response because I truly loved every second of my semester abroad. Having the opportunity to meet so many people from all different backgrounds and getting to know them and their culture while creating friendships is what made every adventure even more exciting. I spent most of my time traveling alone, so checking into a hostel with a bunch of people who were strangers and ending the trip with a whole new group of friends is something I looked forward to on every trip I took.

## How did Education Abroad help you grow personally, academically, and professionally?

“Studying abroad will change your life” is such a cliché that I’m sure everyone is so tired of hearing, just as I was before I went, but the statement couldn’t be more true. Personally, I became much more independent as well as self-reliant and self-motivated. My appreciation for other cultures and languages was enhanced. Academically and professionally I became much more interested in learning more about the European markets and how they directly or indirectly affect what happens in the US market and vice versa. Leaving with a more global perspective and a willingness to relocate and travel is something I think will really give me a one-up in the business world moving forward in my career.

## What was one of the challenges you faced while abroad?

I am not bilingual, or even close to being fluent in another language. Studying French in high school and living in Spain for 4 months was a bit of a challenge because of the language barrier. It gave me a higher appreciation that English is such a commonly spoken language, but also made me realize how often I take that for granted and I have taken it upon myself to start learning another language as well.

## What would you like to say to students interested in Education Abroad?

To any student interested in Education Abroad, I say go for it. Don’t wait until you’re older, or richer or have more time. When people ask me about my time abroad whether it be an interviewer, a professor or just a family friend, I would say 9 times out of 10 they respond with “I wish I would have studied abroad when I had the chance.” So, do it now while you can. Receiving college credit while getting to travel the world at the same time is a win win.

### SCENES FROM HALEIGH’S EXPERIENCE



## Get your passport through Education Abroad

Applying for your first passport has never been easier!

International Programs and Partnerships (IPP) is pleased to announce that we are now a Passport Acceptance Facility!

### What is a Passport Acceptance Facility?

A Passport Acceptance Facility is a public sector office that is designated to accept and execute passport applications on behalf of the United States State Department. Passport Acceptance Facilities verify the information of applicants using [Form DS-11](#), which includes all first-time applicants and all minors.

### How long will it take to receive my passport?

Routine processing for a passport is 4-6 weeks. If you submit your passport directly through the passport acceptance facility or USPS, expect it to take the full amount of time. If you need your passport faster than 4-6 weeks, you will need to expedite it.

### Why should I get my passport through IPP?

One of the aspects of students' first time abroad that can be particularly intimidating is the paperwork and bureaucracy needed to start your journey. By coming to the Education Abroad office to apply for your first passport, we can help walk you through the process, and help ensure your documents are processed in a timely manner!

### When and where will this service be available?

You will be able to apply for your passport through Education Abroad starting on **November 1, 2018**. Come to Room 301 in University Hall to fill out your application today! If you have additional questions about the application process, you can always email us at [edabroad@bgsu.edu](mailto:edabroad@bgsu.edu) or give us a call at 419-372-4254.



## Spring Expo

Come learn all about Education Abroad's amazing programs!

### What is the Spring Expo?

The Spring Expo is an annual fair where representatives from Education Abroad's programs come together to hold an open house for our prospective students!

### Why should I come to the Spring Expo?

The Spring Expo is a unique chance to chat with Program Coordinators, as well as the Education Abroad Advisor, Peer Advisor, and Financial Aid Advisor all at the same event! It's also a wonderful chance to pick up some literature, so that students can compare and contrast our various program options! Finally, we will be holding a raffle with various prizes, so be sure to come to enter for a chance to win travel accessories and much more!

### When does the Spring Expo take place?

The Spring Expo will take place on **Thursday, February 14** from **11am-1pm**, in **Room 201 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union**.

### What are the next steps to applying to an Education Abroad program after the Spring Expo?

All students are required to attend an [Information Session](#) (see [page 1](#)). After attending an Information Session, students will meet with the Education Abroad Advisor, Mary Kate Traficano, as well as their individual academic advisors. Students may also begin filling out applications for Education Abroad Programs through our [Program Search](#).



## BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

## EXCHANGE PREPERATION INFORMATION - FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



## CONGRATULATIONS!

You are starting a journey that will help you become a more well-rounded, responsible, worldly person. We understand how difficult it may be to go to a culture you may or may not have experienced yet, and we commend you for embracing it. In the interest of helping you and your family prepare as much as possible for their upcoming adventure, we have put together a list of things to keep in mind and accomplish before their adventure begins.

\*NOTE: SOME OF THESE STEPS MUST BE DONE IN A TIMELY MANNER AND PLANNING AHEAD AND UNDERSTANDING THE LENGTH OF TIME NECESSARY FOR THESE TASKS IS CRUCIAL.

## DOCUMENT COPIES (THIS IS COUNTRY DEPENDANT):

- Passport (signed)
- Plane tickets/electronic confirmations
- Credit card with pin number for emergency cash
- ATM/debit card
- Driver's license

\*HELPFUL TIP: IN ADDITION, YOU CAN SCAN THESE DOCUMENTS AND KEEP THEM IN A PASSWORD PROTECTED FILE ON YOUR COMPUTER, IN CASE THE PAPER COPIES ARE LOST.

## IMPORTANT ACTIONS PRE-DEPARTURE:

- Update emergency contact information on your phone
- Game-plan for travel day
  - How will you communicate?
  - Emergency plan (plane is delayed, miss the meetup with group, etc.)
- Be aware of the time difference in your location
- Know program dates
- Discuss excursion plans
  - Where do you plan on visiting?
  - How do you plan on traveling?
- Plan how to send money in an emergency
- Make a list of contact information in case of emergency
  - Program director/university coordinator/study abroad advisor/financial aid officer (both at the home and at the abroad university)
- At least one other family member should have a passport in case of emergency



## IMPORTANT BANK/MONEY INFORMATION

- Inform your bank that you will be using their cards abroad
- Someone else should be able to access your financial accounts while you are studying abroad (in case you lose your card or documents)
- Foreign ATMs don't show balances, so having online access to your bank balance is necessary
- Be aware of exchange rates on cash when creating a budget, and when deciding how much cash to keep on hand
- Research the local cash culture (Is having cash necessary for every day, how much)
- Decide what types of money you will want to have available for everyday, large purchases, and emergencies.
- Common types of money include:
  - Foreign Currency (Cash)
  - Traveler's Cheques
  - Credit Cards
  - Debit Cards
  - Travel Money Card
  - \*There are pros and cons that may vary depending on your country

## UNDERSTANDING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

The exchange programs at BGSU are unlike the other programs offered and are organized in a way that gives students more independence and personal responsibilities, such as applying for university housing at their partner institution or managing a budget for expenses such as rent, groceries, SIM cards, etc. While Education Abroad seeks to structure all its programs in a way that is clear and accessible to all students and families, exchange programs require students to take on more individual responsibility for complying with the bureaucratic regulations of their host country. It is important for students to be aware of the documentation needed to apply for visas, open bank accounts, apply for housing through their host institution, and be knowledgeable about flight regulations. Education Abroad is not responsible for passport application, visa appointments at embassies, or housing policies at host institutions. We are certainly able to point students in the right direction and advocate on their behalf, but successful exchange students will make sure to plan ahead to complete all the steps needed to secure legal visa status and accommodation in their host country.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

Education Abroad, International Programs and Partnerships 301 University Hall

edabroad@bgsu.edu

419-372-0479

[www.bgsu.edu/edabroad](http://www.bgsu.edu/edabroad)

# Winter Chills: Escape the Cold with Education Abroad!

Education Abroad & International Programs and Partnerships

University Hall 301  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, OH 43403

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 19—MOVIE DAY, 10am-4pm  
University Hall Room 301, free soft drinks, snacks, and movies!

January 2-23—Winter Session

January 3—BGSU vs Bemidji State Hockey Game

January 9—New Year's Lunch, 12pm-2pm  
University Hall Room 301

January 21—Martin Luther King Day, no classes

January 28—Spring 2019 classes begin

February 14—Spring Expo, 11am-1pm, BTSU Room 201