From Aberdeen to Zagreb

The Basics of Studying Abroad at IWU

Jenny Strobel, AustraLearn
Bill Dwyer, IES Vienna
Pamela Solowski, Ecuador
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Why students study abroad

- To improve their language skills.
- To gain a new perspective on their academic field of study.
- To experience another culture and other viewpoints, and to learn more about their own country and culture.
- To conduct an independent research project in another culture.
- To become more prepared to work in a global economy.
- To learn more about themselves—their beliefs, values, and abilities.

Amy Burns, AustraLearn
Some numbers

• In the past 5 years, 674 IWU students have studied abroad on semester, summer, or academic year programs.

• Over the same period, 546 IWU students have participated in an international May Term travel course.

• So, since fall 2005, a total of 1364 students have studied abroad—or over 50% of each graduating class.

Angela Rumsey, SIT Uganda
Marie Julien, DIS Denmark
Where they have been...

- Since fall 2005, IWU students participating in semester, academic year, and summer programs have studied in 43 countries/regions.
- The majority (over 70%) have studied in Western Europe.
- But 58% have studied in a country where English is not the official language.
Where students can study

- IWU offers semester-length study abroad opportunities in over 75 countries/regions and in hundreds of locations.
- A sample list of locations includes...
  - Argentina — Australia — Austria — the Balkans — Belgium — Bolivia
  - Bonaire, Southern Caribbean — Botswana — Brazil — Cambodia — Cameroon
  - Chile — China — Costa Rica — Czech Republic — Denmark
  - Dominican Republic — Ecuador — Egypt — England — Fiji — France — Germany
  - Ghana — Greece — Hungary — Iceland — India — Indonesia — Ireland — Italy
  - Jamaica — Japan — Jordan — Kenya — Madagascar — Mali — Mexico
  - Mongolia — Morocco — Nepal — New Zealand — Nicaragua — Northern Ireland
  - Oman — Panama — Peru — Poland — Portugal — Rwanda — Russia — Samoa
  - Scotland — Senegal — South Africa — South Korea — Spain — Switzerland
  - Taiwan — Tanzania — Thailand — the EU — the Netherlands — Tunisia — Tunisia Turkey — Uganda — Vietnam — Wales

- Note: IWU prohibits studying abroad in any country for which the State Department has issued a travel warning.
Types of programs

- **Center or “Island” program**: Students study with other US university students at an academic center. (May Term courses mainly follow this model)

- **Experiential program**: Students engage in field-based research and study

- **Hybrid program**: Students take some courses with other US university students and some course at university with host country students.

- **Direct Enrollment program**: Students study with a university with host country students.
Study abroad at IWU

• 2 IWU programs (London, Madrid)
• 2 exchange programs (Al Akhawayn University, Morocco, and Keio University, Japan)
• 1 one-way agreement (Pembroke College, Oxford University)
• 11 affiliated programs
  - Arcadia
  - AustraLearn
  - Central College
  - CIEE
  - College Year in Athens
  - DIS
  - IES
  - IFSA Butler
  - SACI
  - SIT
  - Universidad Internacional (summer only)
• May Term travel courses
  - Vary from year to year

Morgan Wetzel, CIEE Seoul
When students study abroad

- The traditional time for studying abroad is in the fall or spring semester of your junior year—or for that full academic year.
- But, it is also possible to study abroad at other times
  - First-year students can study abroad through IWU’s May Term program or on a summer program.
  - The IWU London is designed specifically for students in the first semester of the sophomore year.
  - Affiliated programs are suitable for students in the sophomore, junior, and even senior year.
  - Depending on the major, it is even possible for students to study abroad their final semester at IWU.
  - Many of our affiliates offer summer study abroad programs.
What students study abroad

- Through our affiliates, we have programs that suit just about every course of study.

Mike Feeney, SIT Southern Cone  
Becca Segal, IES Nantes
What students study...

- For example ...
  - The IWU London Program is specially designed to meet General Education requirements.
  - Programs in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Germany, Spain, Africa, Australia, and South East Asia focus on the environment—ecology, sustainability, conservation.
  - Affiliates in Chile, London, Denmark, and Africa offer special programs in the health sciences; and starting in spring 2012, sophomore students in our School of Nursing can study in Barcelona with the IWU Spain Program.
  - Vienna, Milan, Amsterdam, Copenhagen and Australia provide courses for music majors; London, Ireland, Scotland and Italy have programs art majors.
  - Business-focused programs are available in Spain, the EU, Italy, Australia, Denmark, China, and elsewhere.
  - Opportunities for parliamentary internships in England, Scotland, and Ireland — plus most of our affiliates offer for-credit internship opportunities in all disciplines.
Earning academic credit

• All study abroad coursework comes back to IWU as units toward graduation (elective coursework).

• Students can, with the approval of the appropriate department chair/program director, also receive credit toward major, minor, and General Education requirements.

• A 2008 survey showed that over 60% of semester study abroad students earned credit toward their major and over 51 percent earned credit toward their General Education requirements.

Margaret Kocher, IES Chile
The cost of studying abroad

- **STUDY ABROAD IS AFFORDABLE!**
  - IWU tuition + program costs (room, board, fees) + “expected costs”
    - May Term Travel Course costs vary, but generally range from about $4500 to $6000
  - All financial aid, including scholarships/grants, can be applied to one semester of study abroad.
  - There is additional aid available from all of our affiliated programs and from other external sources.

Stephanie Panozzo, IES Beijing

Amy Burns, AustraLearn
The application process

- To learn more...
  - Talk with someone in the International Office or May Term Office
  - Explore the IWU Study Abroad website
  - Attend our fall and spring Study Abroad Fairs
  - Talk with professors

- Complete the appropriate IWU application for approval to study abroad.

- Complete the program application and submit it to the International Office.

Stephanie Urban, Arcadia London
Questions?

Jessica Jacoby, CIEE Warsaw
Renee Scherer, SIT St. Petersburg

Cat Smith, CIEE London