



UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Education Abroad Program



Photo by Laura Tirman

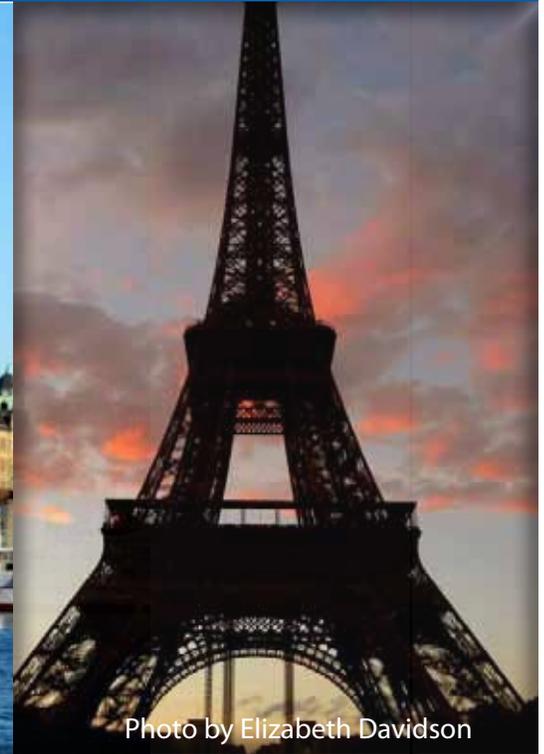


Photo by Elizabeth Davidson

Dear all UCSB EAP Globetrotters,

The UCSB EAP office is pleased to present you the second edition of Gaucho Globetrotter, our quarterly newsletter tailored specifically to UCSB students studying abroad! This issue includes various student study abroad experiences as well as tips on how to make the most of your study abroad adventures! For those of you who are finishing your time abroad, we look forward to welcoming you back to UCSB next quarter!

Yours Truly,

**Maya Chupkov (Israel Fall 2012)
Newsletter Coordinator**

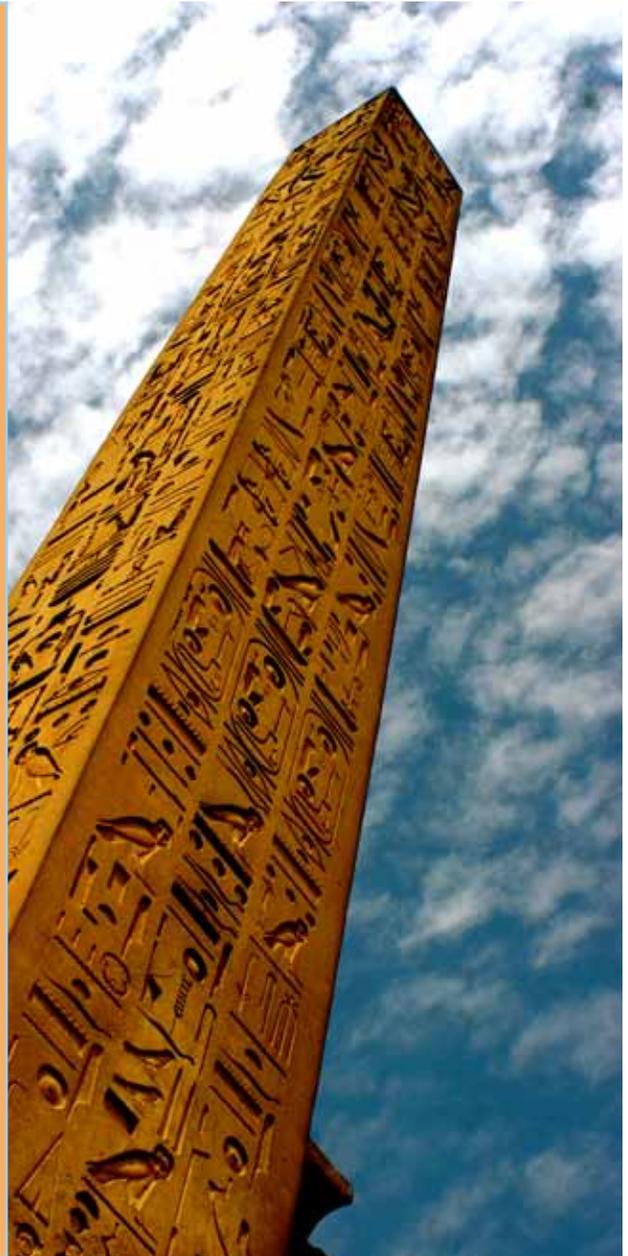
Photo by Stephanie Salem

The Job Hunt: 6 Ways to Make Your Study Abroad Experience Count!

By Britney Schroeder

We've all heard that employers love to hire students who have studied abroad but it's going to take more than just updating your resume to get the job. Here are some tips for how to use your study abroad experience to your advantage:

1. Note the "soft" skills you acquired. Besides bringing up improvement in another language, it is important to mention how studying abroad improved your confidence and adaptability.
2. Prove your problem solving skills. Studying abroad challenges you in many ways. Find a specific story from your experience that challenged you followed by how you overcame it. Problem solving is one of the biggest characteristics employers look for.
3. Highlight your academic success. This is important because it shows your work ethic, but also how you adapted to an educational system different from your own.
4. THINK. Ask yourself questions. What skills did I learn? What obstacle did I overcome? How did I grow as a person both academically and personally? Who did you meet? What cross-cultural boundaries did you overcome? Did you improve your time-management skills by balancing school and a part-time job?



Do You Want To Go On Another Study Abroad Program With EAP? Stephanie Went To Both Senegal and Bordeaux!

By Stephanie Shannon

I decided to do two different programs in French-speaking countries for my year abroad because I wanted to become fluent in French. Being able to study the French language in Senegal, and then in France was a very diverse experience. In Senegal the language has taken on its own form, often intermixed with Wolof, the native language of Senegalese people. They also speak slower than the French do. It was hard leaving warm, tropical Senegal after being there for four months to enter the dead of winter in Bordeaux, but I was able to expand my course selection and experience life with French University students. It was also interesting to compare and contrast life in a developing country and a developed one, especially when one of the countries was the former colonizer. I would recommend doing two programs to anyone who wants to make the most of their study abroad experience and experience an array of cultures.

Internship Spotlight: Bologna!

By Jessica Chan

I'm a senior here at UCSB who studied abroad for a year in Italy. I spent my summer at the Pre-Intensive Language Program in Florence and then two semesters at the University of Bologna at the Accademia di Belle Arti. I currently work at the UCSB EAP office as a Peer Advisor. While abroad I interned for university credit with two different professional artists as a studio assistant. This experience was extremely rewarding and educational; I see my internships as invaluable to my student career and influential on my plans for the future. I also volunteered in a coordinator position at the local main library working with young Italian children. In the second half of my year abroad I worked at a Bologna high school teaching Italian students English through lessons about American culture. In my free time I babysat for several families. All these experiences allowed me to immerse myself in the community and really become a part of the city landscape. Going abroad is an amazing opportunity to boost your resume as well as get hands-on learning experiences that would be hard to find at home!

Comparing Housing Options When Studying Abroad

By Eric Uslander

What's the best way to experience home cooked food in another country? Live with a host family.

Want to experience nightlife in another country? Live in an apartment full of young locals.

In both cases, you will be in a situation in which your hosts will continuously want to show you their culture and their lifestyle. In my case, I got to enjoy both scenarios. My immersion program in Santiago, Chile included a home stay experience for the first month of my trip, also giving the option to either extend for the rest of the semester or to arrange my own housing after the first month. During my homestay it was extremely helpful living with a Chilean family during the beginning stages of my experience. The situation allowed me to refresh my Spanish and to learn about Chilean customs. I wanted to do nothing but explore the city when I first arrived in Santiago. However, it was really nice to know that at the end of the day, there would be dinner waiting for me at home.

After the first month was over, and I had acclimated myself to the city a bit, I found an apartment in the heart of downtown Santiago with three Chilean guys around my age. I found myself going back to visit my former host family most weekends for dinner and to catch up, but I was really happy to once again have the independent lifestyle that I was used to.

When I moved in with my new roommates, they showed me so many of their favorite parts of Santiago. I don't think there were any "discotecas" left for me to see by the end of my trip. Cooking for myself, having friends with similar interests, and being in the presence of other young people were all huge pluses to living in my own place with local Chileans. Although I had a great time living with friends, I truly appreciated the benefits of my home stay. It made the transition period in the beginning more comfortable. Additionally, the experience put me in the position to meet and befriend a family who were willing to share a home with me.

Graduate School and Volunteer Opportunities Abroad!

By Natalie Gibbs

So now that you have returned from studying abroad, you might have caught the 'travel bug' and be thinking, "How can I go back?" Well, other than studying abroad again – especially if you're a Senior – the ways to do that are to consider either pursuing Graduate study or volunteering abroad. This section will focus on two graduate schools and two volunteering opportunities. When considering graduate study, there are many things to consider, but two are the most important.

- 1) Whether the degree you obtain abroad will be accepted upon return to the U.S. – this might depend on if the program is more research or "taught" based.
- 2) Whether the funding package you are offered will be worthy enough to consider going abroad.

An excellent university is located in Glasgow, Scotland: the University of Glasgow. I mentioned it first because it is one I am personally considering since I spent my time abroad in England. It is one of the oldest universities in the world and is in the largest city in Scotland. Its History department is among the best in the United Kingdom, and is especially known for its Medieval History MA program. This program is one year (full-time) in length. Because the university is known for its research, most programs are research-based. The entry requirements include a 3.0+ GPA, a short statement of purpose, 2 letters of recommendation, a copy of your transcript(s), a copy of your BA/BS Degree, and a copy of page 1 of your passport. The annual tuition is between £5000-6000 (about \$8,500-10,000). The application dates are different from the U.S., whose deadlines are usually about a year in advance, for to enter in Fall 2014, the deadline is July 25.

Another interesting university is located in Istanbul, Turkey: Boğaziçi University. Istanbul, formerly Constantinople, formerly Byzantium, is one of the most historically important, and largest, cities in the world. The university is the first American university outside the U.S., and is the highest-ranking university in Turkey. Its programs range from the Sciences and Engineering to Literature and History. The cost for a program in the Arts and Sciences department is ~960 TKR (\$440) per semester and the deadline to apply for the Fall 2014 term is April 24. The requirements to apply to the MA in History program are TOEFL scores, GRE/GMAT scores, 2.7+ GPA, 2 letters of recommendation, a copy of your transcript(s), and a statement of purpose (max: 4 pages). The process also includes a written exam and an oral interview, which take place in mid-May and can be done from the U.S. via email and Skype, respectively. All classes are taught in English, but of course learning Turkish will be a necessity for living in Istanbul, the country's cultural heart.

Now let's think about an option for volunteering abroad. One such option is the Germany Conversation Corps. This program is geared more toward those looking for a short-term opportunity, for the program is 1-3 months long. The program costs ~\$1450/month to join, but the requirements are basic, for you just have to be 18+ and be a native English speaker. The program sends you to a German host family, and you "tutor" them in English for ~15 hours/week. You will be provided with teaching materials and access to an online ESL lounge, but you're expected to cover all of your expenses, including your flight, except your meals and health/accident insurance. This is a great – but expensive - way to volunteer in Europe, have a flexible schedule, and have lots of time to travel.

5 Considerations I Took When Choosing My Program

By Cynthia Chin

1. **Traveling:** I got the travel bug and wanted to check as many countries off my “Places to see” list as possible so I ended up studying in Europe. In comparison to Asia, Latin America, Africa, and especially Australia, traveling from country to country was definitely the easiest and the cheapest in Europe. I did keep in mind, however, that it is easier to travel between countries in every other continent than in North America...

2. **Academics:** Although this may not be at the top of most students’ priority list whilst abroad, academics played a significant role in my decision to go to the University of Leeds in England. The university actually played a bigger role in my life abroad than I had initially thought. I knew the education systems at universities around the world would be very different from our unique quarter system at UCSB, so I made sure to do my research before choosing Leeds.

3. **Weather:** This is an aspect of living in another country that not a lot of students take into great consideration. Since I didn’t care too much for sunbathing, England was the perfect place to study abroad and allowed for my tan to fade. How did I realize that this was important? Weather is the one topic that will never, ever stop coming up in conversation.

4. **Shock Value:** Many students study abroad in order to experience a culture vastly different from their own. How important is this to you? I considered that this is the one time I can go anywhere in the world where, maybe, I’d greet with a kiss on the cheek instead of a handshake and the toilet is a hole in the ground, but know that there will be others in the same boat right there with me. Having said this, I personally didn’t mind not having this aspect of studying abroad.

5. **Geology and geography:** I love to spend my time on rolling hills and rocky mountains. I do, occasionally, like to hit the waves, but I never cared to ride in deep powder (da pow pow). Thank the lord I didn’t end up in a flat, land-locked country.

How did you choose YOUR program?