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*"I hope that I keep searching inside myself in order to become a better person for society. Challenging myself to become more knowledgeable, to use critical literacy in the classroom, and to start acting out for the community is what has evolved from this trip." Lara Donnelly, Elementary and Special Education Major, Jamaica Service Program*

# Study Abroad in Education



"Studying abroad pushes a student to get out of his or her comfort zone to experience another culture, language, environment, and education system. It teaches students to appreciate difference and diversity firsthand, and enables them to recognize and challenge assumptions and stereotypes they may have held about others. In our globalized market, employers increasingly want to hire graduates who have studied abroad—noting their abilities to creatively problem solve in unfamiliar situations and adaptability within culturally diverse environments. Studying abroad has undoubtedly made me a more effective educator and better-informed citizen."

*Dr. Kristin Cook, Associate Dean in the School of Education*

## *Study Abroad as an Education Major and . . .*

- Observe different methods of teaching
- Learn about the academic system of another country
- Explore diverse areas in the field such as environmental education
- Understand current global issues in education
- Experience world events through the perspective of another culture
- Acquire knowledge of different countries to share and develop in the classroom
- Enhance your portfolio by demonstrating your independence, flexibility, and willingness to take on new challenges and experiences



*Jacqueline Brosky, Alexis Higgs, and Sarah Hare, Education Majors, Roehampton Summer School, London, England*

## *Plan ahead . . .*

As an Education major, you will want to **carefully plan** for your study abroad experience. Spring of sophomore year is the best time to study abroad for one semester. Students can also complete part of their Student Teaching abroad during the Fall of their senior year. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that education majors meet with their Academic Advisor and the Faculty Liaison during the freshman year.

- Begin planning at least a year in advance of your study abroad program. Meet with the Study Abroad Advisor and talk with faculty and students who have studied or taught abroad. It is never too early to start planning!
- If you are interested in a particular area of education, inform the Study Abroad Coordinator and your Faculty Liaison in your meetings so that they may help you find the best program based on your needs.
- Set some goals. There are many partners and programs abroad that offer education courses. Make sure to consider your long-term academic and professional goals. The best program for you will depend on what you hope to gain from your experience and what your post-graduate plans may be.
- **Start saving now!** Consider saving for your time abroad when setting your spending priorities today.
- With proper planning, study abroad can help you prepare for the next step after college whether it is pursuing a higher degree or starting a career in the field of Education.

## *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/>



*Kara Atwell,  
Education  
major, Winter  
Abroad  
KIIS Maya  
Mexico program*

## *Next steps?*

### **Study Abroad Information Meetings and Highlight Sessions**

Not sure how to start? There are general information tables and meetings held in the fall. See the OSAIL website for details or contact the office directly.

### **The Study Abroad Fair**

This annual fall event held in September 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 Office for Study Abroad & International Learning in McGowan Hall 280 to learn more about the program and application deadlines. Talk with your Academic Advisor and the Faculty Liaison for study abroad information regarding your major. Learn which 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 winter program during or a summer program after freshman year and then plan for an additional experience later.

### *Sophomores*

As an education major, **spring of sophomore year is the only time to spend a semester abroad.** Please work closely with the Study Abroad Advisor and your Faculty Liaison to see what plan is best for you. Students may also choose to do a summer or winter break program sophomore year.

- **The application to study abroad during the spring semester of sophomore year is due in the fall of freshman year.**

### *Juniors*

For education majors, it is not possible to spend a semester abroad junior year. If you would like to study abroad at this time, you should plan for a winter or summer break program.

### *Seniors*

Senior year is a great time for education majors to have a learning abroad experience—as a student teacher! Students can complete part or all of their Student Teaching abroad during the fall semester of their senior year. Winter study abroad is also an option. Students will need to work closely with the OSAIL and the Education department.

## *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 OSAIL 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 Bellarmino partners and programs.** As the School of Education and the OSAIL work together, specific recommended programs may change. Check with the Study Abroad Coordinator for the latest information.

## *Can I fulfill graduation requirements?*

### **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, and Social Science requirement. There are always options for this course in the semester programs as well as summer and winter programs. Occasionally approval is granted for the Theology elective requirement.

**Major requirements:** Education courses are offered in English at many of our partner universities. Some institutions have a broader selection than others and they are listed on this page. With advance planning, you may be able to earn credits for your education major. If possible, plan on taking some elective credits in education that are not offered on campus so that you may enhance courses 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 Education 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 education courses offered at BU bilateral partner universities abroad. Some 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.

If you choose not to take Education classes abroad, you may fulfill your semester abroad with General Education requirements. Please consult the Faculty Liaison or OSAIL for more information.

## *Bilateral Exchange Partners\* with Excellent Education Options:*

### Semester Options:

**Australian Catholic University:**  
Melbourne, Australia

<http://www.acu.edu.au/international>

**University of Notre Dame Australia:**  
Fremantle, Australia

<http://www.nd.edu.au/for/futurestudents/international-students>

**Curtin University:**  
Perth, Australia

Curtin has Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary Education Programs.

<http://international.curtin.edu.au/>

**Leeds Trinity University of:**  
Leeds, England

<http://www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/international/study-abroad>

**University of Helsinki:**  
Helsinki, Finland

<https://www.helsinki.fi/en/studying/how-to-apply/exchange-studies>

### Student Teaching Options:

**Linköping University:**  
Linköping, Sweden

<http://liu.se/utbildning/exchange-students?l=en>

**Zürich University of Teacher Education:**  
Zürich, Switzerland

<https://phzh.ch/en/Services/International-Office/>

\* For the most updated partnership options please check with the Office for Study Abroad & International Learning.



*"For the first time in my life, an educative experience has forced me to find meaning and answers to questions that were not just hand-fed to me..... I happen to believe that liberation in a classroom is found in making a classroom a democratic place. Thank you all for making this a democratic class and allowing and even pushing us to own the experience in Jamaica." Delana Hill,*

## *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 most sites, you can access course catalogs for these institutions online or in the OSAIL. Students who have many electives will have greater flexibility in their choice of schools. Students who have a second major may also choose to focus on that subject area while abroad.

### ISEP Exchange Partners with Recommended Education Options:

#### **Artevelde University College, Belgium**

<https://www.arteveldehogeschool.be/en/en/node/1074>

#### **Masaryk University, Czech Republic**

<http://cic.muni.cz/en/>

#### **University of Botswana**

<http://www.ub.bw/home/sd/1/sec/6/dep/26/International-Education-and-Partnerships/>

#### **University of Eastern Finland Joensuu & Kuopio, Finland**

<http://www.uef.fi/esite/intstudyprog/>

#### **University of Jyväskylä, Finland**

<https://opiskelu.jyu.fi/en>

#### **University of Johannesburg, South Africa**

<https://www.uj.ac.za/internationalstudents/>

#### **Universität Bielefeld, Germany**

<http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/International/IO/>

Additional funding may be available for German language in Germany study prior to this semester, which runs from April – July.

## *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 choose to do general education courses, courses in the major or elective courses. See the information box on this page for more details.

## *Student Teaching Abroad*

Students can complete part or all of their Student Teaching abroad during the fall semester of their senior year in Sweden or Switzerland. Talk with the Faculty Liaison and the Study Abroad Advisor to learn more. The deadline is during the fall semester of junior year.

## *International Internships and Service*

In addition to summer/winter options listed on this page, there are many international internship and service opportunities available. International Studies Abroad (ISA) (<http://studiesabroad.com/experience/>) has a wide variety of programs in many countries, including Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Spain, and England. Internships and Service-Learning through ISA may be taken for credit with appropriate approval. Please consult the OSAIL for more information on these programs.

## *Top summer and winter destinations specifically for Education majors:*

### **Education Program in South Africa**

Organized by the OSAIL and the EDUC Departments with our Partner in South Africa Nelson Mandela University, this program offers students the opportunity to practice their profession in an international environment. This three-week program takes place in May 2021, 2023, and 2025.

### **Education Program in Dominican Republic**

Organized by the EDUC Department and Athletic Training/Exercise Science Department, this program offers students the opportunity to practice their profession in an international environment. This ten-day program takes place in July.

### **CC-CS**

[www.spanishstudies.org/education](http://www.spanishstudies.org/education)

CC-CS offers a Practicum in Education in Seville, Spain where students work as English Teaching Assistants.

### **CCSA**

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

CCSA offers summer and winter options in English speaking countries. There are courses in a variety disciplines, including education, in these programs.

### **CIEE**

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

CIEE provides summer options around the globe. The academic focus of the programs will depend on the location.

### **KIIS**

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

KIIS offers summer options in non-English speaking countries. Most programs are conducted in English.