

STUDY ABROAD GUIDE

for Academic Advisers

How Academic Advisers Can Help Their Students To Gain Global Experience



Educational Programs of
GLOBALINKS
LEARNING ABROAD

Studying abroad is one of the most beneficial things any college student do – for themselves, for their career, for the world that they will soon be entering upon graduation. In the global society we live in, it has become essential for young people to have an understanding of other cultures and international awareness. Whether a student chooses a semester or year abroad, undertakes an internship, pursues a graduate degree or participates in a summer short course, they will come away with a significant advantage career-wise and a once-in-a-lifetime experience that's never more in reach than during their college years. This resource guide will give any academic adviser a background in study abroad, why it's important, how to advise students, and how to promote it on campus and within their faculty department.

The Role of Academic Advisers in Study Abroad

Academic advisers can play a vital role in the study abroad process with their students by:

- Promoting awareness
- Advocating the benefits
- Encouraging participation
- Planning study abroad into students' academic programs
- Helping faculty members with curricular integration
- Partnering with campus study abroad offices and specific study abroad programs

How Academic Advisers Can *Help Promote* Study Abroad

Study abroad can be used as an effective recruiting tool for academic departments.

On Your Campus:

- Discuss the idea of study abroad with your advisees every chance you get – early planning in a student's curriculum plan is the key
- Get to know your campus International Programs/Study Abroad office and staff – most want to reach out to academic departments, but often are time-challenged
- Encourage your students to attend your campus' annual or bi-annual study abroad fair
- See if faculty and/or academic adviser training is offered in study abroad at your campus
- Give a presentation or staff an information table at campus events like freshman orientation, homecoming, parents' weekend, campus tour stop, etc
- Access professional resources via NACADA – there is a Study Abroad Interest Group

Ways to Promote Study Abroad to Your Students

- Student email list-serv announcements
- Links on your academic department website
- Class announcements or presentations
- Bulletin boards, departmental libraries
- Announce or present at students clubs and societies
- Utilize study abroad alumni in your department
- Use as a recruitment tool for future majors
- Use social media to reach students, such as Facebook and Twitter



How Study Abroad Can *Help Your Students*

Adding an international experience to their resume during college can help in many ways, such as:

- Makes students more employable – study abroad experience on a resume is a defining advantage versus students who don't incorporate overseas experience into their education
- Gain access to international job and networking contacts
- Meet fellow students from countries and cultures around the globe
- Enables students to take courses not offered at their home university
- Access to learning or further studying a foreign language
- Expands problem-solving and cross-cultural communication skills, increasing self-confidence and showing they can do absolutely anything they put their mind to
- Enhances applications to graduate school, medical school or other professional programs

Questions about Study Abroad

Who can study abroad? Sophomores, juniors, seniors, graduate students. It's never too late to plan an overseas program.

What majors can study abroad? There are programs for ALL majors

Do students need to know a foreign language? Absolutely not. All programs with GlobalLinks Learning Abroad are in English-speaking countries and/or are taught in English.

Can students still graduate on time? Absolutely, as long as they plan well in advance and meet with their study abroad and academic advisers on campus.

How can students afford to pay for study abroad? See the detailed section below – there is more funding, loans and scholarships available than they may think

What types of programs are available? There are many: semester and year abroad programs; international internships, summer or January short-term programs, and graduate-school programs too.

Where can students study? All over the globe – Australia, New Zealand and Fiji in the South Pacific. In China, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand in Asia. And in Europe, throughout the United Kingdom, plus Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands and other destinations.

When should students apply to study abroad? As early as possible, but a good rule of thumb is 4-8 months in advance of when their intended program departs for overseas. A year out is not too soon, either.

How do students *afford* study abroad?

In today's economy, the question is not "Can they afford to study abroad?" – The question is "Can they afford not to study abroad?" In fact, an international experience is never more affordable than it is during their college years.

As long as they enroll in a credit-bearing program (all programs with GlobalLinks Learning Abroad are credit-bearing) and receive financial aid, then that aid can be applied to their program costs. Their university may also have special loans, grants or scholarships available too.

Plus, GlobalLinks Learning Abroad offers numerous scholarship opportunities. Early planning and research is key to avail themselves of the thousands of dollars available to.

Scholarships – Millions in Funding Available

There are literally millions of dollars in scholarship funding to support studying abroad. A sampling of programs available are listed below.

- AustraLearn has exclusive scholarships, such as travel grants, and there are university-sponsored scholarships from many of the Australian and New Zealand schools featured in this guide. Learn more at www.australlearn.org/scholarships
- The Foundation for Asia-Pacific Education – a non-profit organization that provides scholarships for students studying in the Asia-Pacific region of the world. Learn more at www.asia-pacificfoundation.org
- Other scholarships – check with their university study abroad office. Many more scholarships may be available, depending on where, how long and what type of program they wish to complete abroad

Next Steps – Students Should:

- Visit their college's study abroad office for important information details, forms and procedures at their home campus and helpful advice.
- Set goals for their study abroad experience such as what type of program they want to attend and how long, where they want to go, if they want to study a language, and what major or minor requirements they wish to fulfill abroad
- Research program options applicable to their major and interests at their study abroad office and program websites.
- Attend a study abroad fair, if their campus holds one to speak with program representatives and get information
- Meet as early as possible with their academic or faculty advisor, to plan an international experience into their curriculum, particularly if they are in a rigid academic program
- Plan how they will finance and pay for their study abroad program
- Discuss their plans with their family and loved ones

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD

Programs of GlobalLinks Learning Abroad

GlobalLinks Learning Abroad offers education abroad programs throughout the world through the AustraLearn, AsiaLearn, and EuroLearn programs. Semester/year abroad, internships, short courses (summer or January), and degree programs are all available.

Our first study abroad program, AustraLearn, is one of the older and well-known study abroad programs. Its sister programs of AsiaLearn and EuroLearn also bring a strong reputation to our now worldwide set of programs available to North American students.

We are focused on both students' professional and personal development which is why our longer term study abroad programs all offer a Bridging Cultures Program (in-country) to help them adjust and gain the most from their experience. We encourage volunteerism in all of our programs and offer our own on-site academic mentors in addition to campus-based tutors for students who need extra support. Mid-semester excursions, short-term programs and weekend travel ensure students will experience your destination to the fullest. Our end of program workshops and alumni connections help students grow even more from their experience abroad.

Destinations and Programs:

AustraLearn

- Offering programs in Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji
- Semester/Year Abroad at over 30 universities
- Summer/January Short Courses – topics include Leadership Development; Marine Science; Ecotourism; Australian Studies; Aboriginal Studies; Film Production and Photography
- Degree Programs (Bachelors, Masters, PhD, Teacher Education)
- Internships in any academic field
- Custom-Designed Programs – Internships, Faculty-Led Short Course Programs

AsiaLearn

- All programs taught in English - no foreign language skills required
- Semester or year abroad in China, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, and Thailand
- Summer programs in Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, and South Korea

EuroLearn

- All programs taught in English
- Semester or year abroad in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Italy, and the Netherlands
- Summer abroad in England or Scotland
- Research semester abroad at 12 universities throughout continental Europe with the EuroScholars program

Student Testimonials

“Study abroad gave me a huge boost of confidence and helped me mature in ways I never would have if I had stayed home. It also expanded my world views such that I realize the importance of traveling and international relationships.”

- A. Hiddinga, University of Wyoming

“My study abroad experience has opened my mind to what else is out in the world besides what I am familiar with in the United States. Learning in a different academic system was challenging at first, but I feel like I can better adapt to new and unfamiliar things now than I could before.”

- T. Feehan, Duke University

“Study abroad will allow me to have an ‘edge’ in interviews, be they work-oriented or otherwise, because of the fact that I truly lived on my own and did well on the other side of the world. Overall I am different as a person, now unafraid of change and new situations.”

- E. Bredon, University of Minnesota
– Twin Cities

Contact Us to Learn More

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1-800-980-0033

Program Guides for Students and Your Office

You can order or download any of our program guides by simply visiting <http://globallinksabroad.org/programs/guides.htm>

GLOBALINKS LEARNING ABROAD — Four Points of Focus

With more than 20 years of experience sending students abroad, Globalinks Learning Abroad provides the most comprehensive services to prepare students for a successful abroad experience.

Students are our work, our passion and our obligation. We are a trusted partner in international education because of how we do our work each and every day.

Globalinks Learning Abroad offers programs throughout the world under the AustralLearn, AsiaLearn, and EuroLearn program streams. No matter what direction you're going, we are your guide. We utilize a unique 4-point philosophy to manage your study abroad experience. It is through these points that we provide you the personalized support you need to achieve your study abroad goals.

#1 - Personal Program Selection and Planning

- **Personal counselors:** Our staff have studied abroad and are experts on the universities on which they advise. You will always have our personal attention.
- **Academic planning:** We help you select subjects and obtain credit transfer.
- **Location & Housing:** Find your perfect match in our wide range of university locations and housing options.
- **Minority Students/Special Interests:** We offer support to ALL students – please ask us!
- **Financial Consultation:** Budget planning, payment plans, financial aid transfer, and a wide range of scholarship options.

#2 - Orientation and Preparation

- **The MyLearn On-Line Website & Process:** Through our MyLearn technology tool students receive easy to complete enrolment information, a comprehensive to-do list and all pre-departure details.
- **Comprehensive Orientation Materials and Webinar:** You will receive fully detailed information by mail, in a group on-line session and some useful travel gear too!
- **Airline Ticket Assistance:** Both group and individual airline tickets.
- **Immigration Visas & Passports:** We will help you get the right documents.
- **Family Connections:** Consultation with parents and advisors is expected and encouraged.

#3 - Cultural Integration – Living and Learning Abroad

- **On-Site Orientation or Culture & Adventure Programs:** Activities and sessions vary by destination and degree of cultural differences you may experience.
- **Travel & Excursions:** We offer semester break trips and travel discounts, plus our host institutions all have excellent weekend and day programs.
- **Volunteering:** Participate in a pre-organized Service Learning Introduction program or get involved in the local community while abroad.
- **Guaranteed Housing:** We guarantee excellent prearranged accommodation.
- **Language Development:** We have on-site language instruction/immersion in our foreign speaking destinations and also encourage foreign language study in our English-speaking destinations.
- **On-site Resident Directors:** Available to students 24-hours-a-day through toll free numbers and/or walk in service.
- **On-Site Academic Mentors:** At your campus to help you with your academic success.

#4 - Reflection and Application of the Experience

- **“Beyond Study Abroad” Meetings:** On-site group sessions (or online information) debriefing the experience and creating a springboard for your return home.
- **The EnCompass Alumni Program:** Stay involved when you return home through various activities and connections to other alumni.
- **Future International Educator Award:** If a career in International Education interests you, complete the EnCompass Program and apply for this award!
- **Program Evaluations:** Evaluate your experience for future students.
- **Resume Building and Review:** We will send your resume to a Professional Resume Consultant for a review and critique.
- **Alumni Handbook:** Includes useful information on reverse culture shock, career search, and going abroad again.
- **Transcript services:** We send official transcripts and grading conversions to your university plus a copy to you. You may also apply for your credits to appear on a US Transcript from our well-respected School of Record, University of Minnesota- Twin Cities.

No matter the direction you take, we are the International Educational Organization to help you achieve your goals. As your compass and guide, we will help you select, prepare and launch the right experience giving you the tools you need and helping you make this the most amazing journey of your life.