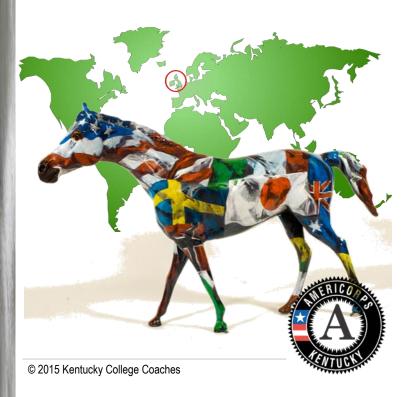
Study Abroad



Have you ever considered studying abroad?

- Local entrepreneur Dr. Lyons studied biochemistry and brewing in Ireland before starting his Alltech business here in KY. He has now branched out into brewing beer and distilling fine spirits.
- * Ceramic engineering is big business in KY. Industrial opportunities are available at Toyota, Ford, Schott Glass and others. Ceramic building materials and decorative ceramics are also big business for KY. One of the finest places in the world to study ceramics is Limoges, France.
- * China was the US' second largest trading partner; Mexico was third. Learning the language and the culture is an important step to securing business with these countries.
- * Maybe you'd like to study in a place that is (personally) part of your heritage.
- * Whatever the case you may want to explore and plan for studies in another country, including school affiliations, and ways to help finance this option.

Consider this list of reasons to spend part or all of your time at a foreign university.

1. Learn the language first hand

This is one of the most effective ways to learn a language. Immerse yourself daily seeing and hearing the language and culture in its true context.

Travel and see first-hand your surroundings as part of your experience.

Travel on weekends and breaks to see, hear and taste more of the country and nearby attractions you may never travel to on a one-time basis.

3. Live the culture.

When you study in another country you can experience the food, the language, the fashion, and the people. Students who experience cultural differences can better understand where cultures diverge as well as where they are the same.





4. Develop skills and experience that a classroom setting can't provide.

Being immersed in an entirely new cultural setting is scary at first, but it's also exciting. It's an opportunity to discover new strengths and abilities, conquer new challenges, and solve new problems. You will encounter situations that are wholly unfamiliar to you and will learn to adapt and respond in effective ways.

5. Make friends around the world

While abroad, you will meet not only natives to the culture in which you are studying, but also other international students who are as far from home as yourself.

6. Learn about yourself

Students who study abroad return home with new ideas and perspectives about themselves and their own culture.

The experience abroad often challenges them to reconsider their own beliefs and values. The experience may perhaps strengthen those values or it may cause students to alter or abandon them and embrace new concepts and perceptions. The encounter with other cultures enables students to see their own culture through new eyes.

7. Expand your worldview

In comparison with citizens of most other countries, Americans tend to be uninformed about the world beyond the nation's boundaries. Students who study abroad return home with an informed and much less biased perspective toward other cultures and peoples.

8. Change how you study and learn

Study abroad is probably different than your current routine. New environments will give you a chance to take courses not offered at your home campus. A routine at a foreign campus will likely challenge you as well..



9. Enhance your employment opportunities

Less than 5% of US undergraduates ever study abroad? The US continues to invest in companies around the world. A US employer or an international employer may view a student who has studied abroad as independent, self-motivated, willing to embrace challenges, and able to cope with diversity in both problems and opportunities.

10. Enhance the value of your degree

Take courses not offered stateside. Boost your language skills. Perhaps add a second major or minor without taking many more courses at your home campus.



Tips

- Find out if the school you want to attend has a foreign studies option.
- Find out costs and potential student aid for your program.



- Find out academic prerequisites for a foreign year or two abroad.
- Does the program you are interested in have any students you can talk to for suggestions on making the most of the opportunity.
- Do area churches or community clubs have any options (i.e. Rotary Club Exchange Students, Sister Cities Program., etc.
- Think about a budget for this opportunity. Planning is key for success,



KEEP CALM

AND

THINK ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD

Get to know another culture ... get to KNOW YOURSELF

If you have any questions, see your college coach, **Liz Neill** in the "Gear Up Office" (3110) or email: **elizabeth.neill@madison.kyschools.us**