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WHY NOT STUDY ABROAD?

Through study abroad, students have a unique opportunity to develop highly valued intercultural knowledge and to enhance or acquire foreign language skills needed in today’s global economy. They have all kinds of travel adventures. Most return home with greater experience, increased marketability, and a lifetime of memories. Why would you not study abroad?

STUDY ABROAD IS FOR EVERYONE

The Office of International Education (OIE) is committed to serving University of Richmond students of any identity or background. Please see our pages on diversity for information on how a student of color, a student with an LGBTQ orientation, or a first-generation college student can benefit the most from a semester abroad.

SPRING ABROAD – ENJOY THE DIFFERENCE!

Most UR students apply to go abroad in the fall, but did you know…

- If you are interested in studying in Europe, going there for the spring semester means that the weather gets progressively better. If you go for the fall, it gets progressively worse.

- A lot of people don’t realize this but Western Europe is considerably further north than Virginia, so the hours of daylight increase a lot more in spring/summer and decrease a lot more in fall/winter than is the case here. In London, the sun sets at 4 PM in December. But it does not set until 10 PM in June. It’s more fun, and safer, to travel to new places when the sun is up.

- In Europe, there are more breaks during a spring semester than a fall semester.

- You have a lot more time to travel on your own (if you want to) at the end of a spring semester in Europe than after the end of a fall semester.

- Spring-abroad students are more likely to get their preference for housing when returning to UR. Those returning from fall abroad programs come back to much more crowded campus housing.
• Spring-abroad students are more likely to get their first-choice programs. It is more common for fall-abroad students to be channeled into their second choices because they are in a much larger pool of applicants.

• If you want to go abroad with a group of friends, you are much more likely to be successful doing so in the spring.

• Some spring programs start in February, after Ring Dance and Greek recruiting, so you don’t have to miss the life-changing experience of study abroad to take part in these longstanding UR traditions. Such programs include some or all of those in Argentina, Australia, Austria, China, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland and Taiwan.

STUDY ABROAD FAIR SEPT 20

Join us at the annual Study Abroad Fair from 3:00 – 5:00 PM on Sept. 20, 2016 in the Alice Haynes Room of Tyler Haynes Commons. Stop in to meet program representatives, talk to former participants, and learn more about Richmond’s many paths to the wider world.

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION DEADLINES – DEADLINE FOR MOST PROGRAMS IS SEPTEMBER 23

Students who wish to study abroad for spring 2017 or the calendar year need to apply by the appropriate deadline.

Apply by September 2, 2016 for:

• ESADE

Apply by September 9, 2016 for:

• ICCS Rome
• Singapore Management University
• Thammasat BE (Faculty of Economics)
• UGA Cortona
• Alcalá
• Universidad Torcuato di Tella
• University of the West Indies

Apply by September 16, 2016 for:

• Non-UR study abroad program petitions
Apply by September 23, 2016 for all other spring or calendar year programs

Our online application system allows you to begin an application, save it, and return to finish it later.

Remember that study abroad is a competitive process; there are different academic requirements and a different number of spots available for each program. Acceptance decisions are made primarily on the academic fit between the student and the program.

You should select your first-choice and second-choice programs with equal care as many students are approved for the program they have indicated as being their second preference.

One or both of your first or second choice programs must be an exchange/direct enroll program. If only one of your choices is an exchange/direct enroll program, your other choice can be an affiliate program. The reason for this requirement stems from UR’s study abroad philosophy of immersion not only in a foreign culture, but also in a foreign academic system.

OUR BLOGGERS

The OIE always has “foreign correspondents” in interesting locations, providing a student perspective on the study abroad experience. In fall 2016, we’ll have people writing from several different countries. Check it out here.

PROGRAMS FOR SOPHOMORES

The mission of UR’s study abroad team is to send as many students as possible on rewarding experiences abroad. We now offer more programs than ever for sophomores. Speak with a study abroad advisor for details.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY ABROAD

Office of International Education Scholarship – For students applying to Richmond exchange/direct-enroll semester abroad programs only. The spring 2017 deadline is September 30, 2016.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program – The online application deadline for spring 2017 abroad is October 4, 2016.

Bridging Scholarships – For study abroad in Japan. The spring 2017 deadline is October 10, 2016.

Freeman-ASIA – Scholarships for study abroad in Asia. The deadline for spring 2017 abroad is October 13, 2016.
Click [here](#) to read about all your options for study abroad scholarships.

**FINANCIAL AID**

If you are going on a UR semester/year abroad program...

- The same types of assistance for which you may be considered during enrollment at Richmond are available to you for a UR approved study abroad program during the fall and/or spring terms.
- The OIE provides a [travel allowance](#) to defray the cost of your plane ticket
- We can [reimburse](#) you for the cost of a passport, student visa and/or residence permit abroad
- The OIE reimburses up to $200 per semester for [gym membership](#) if exercise facilities are not available at your host institution

**Note for all scholarships & grants:** Total awards from all sources may not exceed the Cost of Attendance established by the Office of Financial Aid. We encourage you to contact the Office of Financial Aid with any questions at [finaid@richmond.edu](mailto:finaid@richmond.edu) or 804-289-8438.