



Study Abroad Handbook

Bennett College
Center for Global Studies

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CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

The Center for Global Studies is located in the Global Learning Center. The center is the site of Bennett's global studies initiative, which is one of the college's four academic cornerstones.

The center oversees all aspects of international education for the college and is designed to promote a global perspective throughout the college community. Although the college has had a long history of international engagement, the current structure of the center represents a reenergizing of the commitment to internationalize the campus, including a greater centralization of international programs.

The Center for Global Studies focuses on the Global Studies Minor and Certificate Program, Study Abroad Programs, International Scholars, International Students, other International Organizations, Conferences, and Programs.

CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES STAFF

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STUDY ABROAD

When Bennett students choose to study abroad, they come to the Center for Global Studies. Through the affiliations of Bennett, students can choose from study abroad opportunities in several countries. Students may take courses overseas for a Maymester, summer, semester, or an academic year. When they return, students should receive academic credit for those courses. Study abroad programs are not all alike and students should work with the Center for Global Studies and their academic advisors to determine what program will be best for them.

When students return from study abroad, they will have a broader perspective on the world, will understand different cultures, will gain self-awareness and confidence, will have an international network of friendships, will acquire foreign language skills, and will be able to use this experience to advance their careers in the future.



QUALIFICATIONS

Study abroad is a privilege at Bennett College and not a right. Bennett reserves the right to deny study abroad to any student who does not meet the qualifications below, or who, in the opinion of the administration is not suited for independent study.

- A cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- Sophomore, Junior, or First Semester Senior
- In good academic and disciplinary standing at Bennett
- In good financial standing with Bennett
- Removal of any incomplete grades before departure
- Demonstrated maturity to study abroad

Some study abroad programs may expect a student to have a higher GPA or have foreign language fluency. The above is considered the minimum expected for study abroad participation. Students should only apply to programs in which they meet the criteria.

Students with learning disabilities are able to study abroad as well. Please see the Center for Global Studies for more information on how accommodations can be made.



OPPORTUNITIES

Affiliations

American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS)

Founded in 1964, the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) has more than 40 years of experience in organizing study abroad programs. AIFS provides study abroad programs in 19 countries: Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Spain, and Turkey.

www.aifs.com

Arcadia University

Building on tradition of over 60 years of leadership and innovation in international education and research, Arcadia University offers study abroad programs for undergraduate and graduate students, special focus study and research programs for freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, academic degree programs, certificate programs, co-curricular learning initiatives, academic research opportunities, internship programs, faculty and student exchanges, and service learning projects. The programs in 15 countries range in length from semester, year, and summer.

<http://www.arcadia.edu/abroad/>

Brethren Colleges Abroad (BCA)

For more than 45 years, BCA has worked closely with study abroad offices, advisors, and faculty from numerous colleges and universities around the country to send U.S. students abroad to 17 countries. Rooted in the values of peace and justice, BCA Study Abroad promotes international understanding, awareness of global citizenship, and academic scholarship through educational exchanges.

www.bcaabroad.net

Central College Abroad

Central College Abroad is a university-based study abroad provider for undergraduate students from colleges and universities throughout the United States. Central offers distinctive programs in eight locations worldwide, including semester, year-long, and summer options. Central College Abroad operates out of Central College, a private liberal arts college in Pella, Iowa.

www.central.edu/abroad

International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)

Since 1979, ISEP promotes academic and cross-cultural learning through its worldwide collaborative network of higher education institutions. ISEP facilitates academic mobility through innovative and affordable exchange and study programs. ISEP offers study abroad programs in 26 countries for U.S. students.

www.isep.org

New York University (NYU)

NYU's study abroad tradition began in 1958. Since then, NYU's offerings of international opportunities has expanded rapidly and includes fully staffed academic centers in eight countries, exchange partnerships with some of the world's most prestigious universities in 18 countries, short term summer programs in 17 countries, and specialized learning programs like film directing and nursing. NYU operates ten programs during the academic year in Ghana, Germany, Argentina, Italy, England, Spain, the Czech Republic, China, France, and Israel.

<http://www.nyu.edu/studyabroad>

School for International Training (SIT)

A pioneer in experiential, field-based study abroad, SIT Study Abroad provides over 60 academically engaging semester and summer programs in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East for undergraduate students. SIT Study Abroad programs examine critical global issues in a specific cultural and geographical context.

www.sit.edu/studyabroad

Tec de Monterrey

The Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), was founded 1943. Currently, there are 32 campuses around the country that make up the Tecnológico de Monterrey Education System. Specifically, the Monterrey Campus in Mexico has received both national and international recognition for providing 65 years of academic excellence to its students. Tec de Monterrey offers international students certificate programs, internship programs, research projects, and university courses taught in English or Spanish.

<http://www.mty.itesm.mx/rectoria/pi/internationalstudents/>

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)-Venezuela Program

The UNC Study Abroad Office and the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History will offer a summer 2012 study abroad program in Higuero, Venezuela, entitled Venezuelan Aspects of the African Diaspora program. The program features courses on African diaspora cultures and cultural politics in the Americas, Spanish Language study at the advanced beginner and intermediate levels, and a comparative course on Blacks in the wider diaspora.

<http://studyabroad.unc.edu/programs.cfm?pk=2036>

Bennett Programs

Bennett Maymester

Bennett has established a Maymester Program in Costa Rica where students take an intensive Spanish course and a course in Sociology for three weeks. <http://www.bennettmaymester.blogspot.com/>

Other Opportunities

Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)

The Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) is a non-profit consortium that has grown since the 1960's to include 63 universities and research institutions in the United States, Latin America and Australia. OTS offers undergraduate students study abroad programs in Costa Rica and South Africa. <http://www.ots.duke.edu/>

Young Women's Leadership Program in South Korea

In 2008, Scranton Women's Leadership Center created a leadership program for young college students from the U.S. Three Bennett students are invited to Seoul, Korea each summer to join twenty Korean-American students, three students from Pfeiffer University, and twenty-five students from Korea. Sponsored by the United Methodist Church, students come together for a leadership seminar, English camp, and a culture trip. <http://www.scrantoncenter.org>



Come by the Center for Global Studies to learn about these opportunities and also to learn about different opportunities including internships and volunteering abroad.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Before applying for study abroad, students should work with the Center for Global Studies in choosing the best program for them. Students should spend time researching the different opportunities before making the decision of where to study abroad. This way, students will not regret this important decision.

How to Apply

1. Obtain a Bennett College Study Abroad Application.
2. Complete the application and turn it in.
3. Once approved, complete an application for a Bennett-approved study abroad program.
4. Turn application in to the Center for Global Studies submission along with the application fee.

Following the submission of the application, students then will hear from the Bennett-approved study abroad program on being accepted or not. During this time, students should begin applying for scholarships for study abroad. Also, students should continue to maintain a good academic and disciplinary standing.



FINANCES

With careful planning, study abroad can be affordable. The cost of attendance will not be significantly different from the cost of on-campus study at Bennett. Expenses of program will vary depending on the location and program. The Center for Global Studies will work with students in creating an estimated budget for study abroad.

Financial Aid

For semester programs, financial aid will transfer to Bennett-approved study abroad programs to help cover the program deposit, tuition, housing, and meals. Students should discuss their financial aid awards with the Financial Aid Office. They should plan early to work with financial aid to ensure the funds are put in place on time for study abroad. Students must be registered for at least 12 semester credit hours in order to receive financial aid while abroad.

Financial aid will not cover air transportation, Passport and Visa Fees, and other personal and miscellaneous expenses.

Scholarships

Below are some scholarships that are available for study abroad including scholarships from affiliations. For an extensive list of scholarships, please come by the Center for Global Studies.

Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship

Since 2000, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship awards eligible students each semester up to \$5,000 to study abroad. Students who are undergraduates, who receive a Pell Grant, who plan to study abroad for four weeks or more, and who will earn academic credit while abroad are eligible to apply. www.iie.org/gilman



Boren Scholarship

Boren Scholarships are funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), which focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security. Boren Scholarships provide up to \$20,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin American, and the Middle East. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. Students who receive the Boren Scholarship are required to work following graduation for one year in the federal government in a position with national security responsibilities.

www.borenawards.org/boren_scholarship

Fulbright Scholarship

The Fulbright Scholarship is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. It was established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress to "enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries." The program allows students to develop an individually designed study and research project or teach English in a country outside the U.S. for an academic year. Graduating seniors and recent bachelor's degree students may apply for this scholarship.

<http://us.fulbrightonline.org/>

Affiliates

AIFS awards more than \$600,000 in scholarships to summer and semester students who submit application materials demonstrating high academic achievement. Scholarships are available for both summer and semester programs.

The College of Global Studies at *Arcadia University* has an extensive scholarship program for study abroad students. Annually, The College distributes hundreds of primarily need-based scholarships ranging between \$500 and \$2,000 for a full year, semester, term, or summer.



BCA offers \$750 scholarships to help cover the costs of a BCA study abroad experience. The scholarships are open to all BCA applicants who meet the requirements and apply by the deadline with the appropriate documentation. Scholarships are available for both semester and summer programs.

Central College Abroad provides scholarship opportunities for semester and year program applicants for both Central College and non-Central students. Students may apply for the Merit and Vance Scholarships. The amount for the Merit Scholarship varies by student and the amount for the Vance Scholarship is \$1,000. Scholarship applications are made after acceptance into a Central College Abroad program.

ISEP awards a few academic year and semester participants the Annette Kade Scholarships. Students may receive \$2,000 or \$1,000 scholarships if they are an ISEP nominee for France, Germany, Austria, or Switzerland. Also, ISEP does a drawing each academic year through STA Travel and awards two students \$500 scholarships for air travel.

NYU does not provide specific study abroad scholarships, but NYU has an agreement established that Bennett students will pay Bennett tuition for NYU study abroad semester programs.

SIT awards around \$750,000 in scholarships each year. Awards generally range from \$500 to \$5,000 for semester programs, and \$300 to \$3,000 for summer programs. Financial need is a primary consideration for all scholarship decisions.

Tec de Monterrey does not currently offer scholarships for international students. However, the tuition for Tec de Monterrey is lower than Bennett's current tuition due to the currency exchange of pesos and dollars.



Fellowships

For students who are interested in careers in international affairs, these fellowships provide not only funding for study abroad, but also provide funding to help students reach careers in foreign affairs.

Institute for International Public Policy Fellowship (IIPP)

IIPP has educated and trained hundreds of Fellows. IIPP's focus is on providing quality education and practice opportunities to minority students beginning in their sophomore year of college. IIPP offers these opportunities through a sequenced six-component program, which includes Sophomore Summer Policy Institute, Junior Year Study Abroad, Junior Summer Policy Institute, Summer Language Institute, Internships, and Graduate Degree in International Affairs.

www.uncfsp.org/IIPP

The Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship

The Thomas R. Pickering Undergraduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship program provides funding to participants as they are prepared academically and professionally to enter the United States Department of State Foreign Service. Juniors are eligible to apply for this fellowship and can receive \$40,000 per year to cover tuition and other costs for their senior year and first year of graduate school.

http://www.woodrow.org/fellowships/foreign_affairs/pickering_undergrad/

Charles Rangel International Affairs Program

There are two major components to the Rangel Program: an International Affairs Graduate Fellowship Program that provides support for graduate school, professional development, and entry into the U.S. Foreign Service, and an undergraduate International Affairs Summer Enrichment Program that provides undergraduates with the opportunity to enhance their skills, knowledge and understanding about U.S. foreign policy. <http://www.rangelprogram.org/>



POLICIES

Credit

In order to receive credit from an approved-Bennett study abroad program, students must acquire permission from their academic department. No credit will be awarded for study abroad courses that have not been pre-approved by the department. Before leaving, students will complete a Transfer of Credit Form and will receive credit for the courses when the Office of the Registrar receives the official transcript from the host institution overseas.

Grades

Students will receive a letter grade for the courses that they take while studying abroad. Students must receive an equivalent of a “C” or better from the host institution in order for the credit to be transferred. The grade will count towards the student’s overall GPA.

Withdrawal

A student, who wishes to withdraw from a study abroad program, must write a letter citing the reasons for the withdrawal. Depending upon the rationale and the time for this decision, the student may not be able to enroll in classes at Bennett College for that semester. The refund policy of the host program will be in effect.

Insurance

All students are required to have health insurance while abroad. Students should check with their current insurance providers as well as with their study abroad program. If there are questions, students may come ask the Center for Global Studies.



Passport

All students going abroad must have a U.S. Passport to leave the U.S. Students can apply for a Passport at the U.S. Post Office. The Center for Global Studies has more information about how to apply for a U.S. Passport.

Visa

To study in a different country, students may be required to apply for a Visa for that country. It is the student's responsibility to determine if a Visa is needed. Students may talk with the study abroad program officer or the Consulate of the host country.

Code of Conduct

While abroad, students must abide by the Bennett College Student Study Abroad and Exchange Conduct Pledge and abide by any policies set forth by the study abroad program. If students violate these rules, they may face disciplinary actions. Students could receive a verbal warning, written warning, or possible dismissal from the study abroad program. No refunds will be made for students who are dismissed.

Pre-Departure Orientation

Students are required to participate in the Pre-Departure Orientation that the Center for Global Studies will give to students who will be studying abroad. The Pre-Departure Orientation is to help students prepare to live and study in a different country.

Students who fail to attend the Pre-Departure Orientation may lose their opportunity to study abroad.



Center for Global Studies
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