

# Study Abroad Newsletter

Fall 2016 Issue

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STUDY ABROAD

LAMAR UNIVERSITY



# Message from the Director's Perch

As the reflections in this edition of the Study Abroad Newsletter show, interactions with local people frequently provide traveling Cardinals with their most enduring study abroad memories. Whether they were in Paris, Heimaey Island, or a village in southern Italy, last year's study abroad students again and again found that when we strike up a conversation with a local person the rewards can be incredible. We may gain insights into what it is like to live in another part of the world or we may end up being directed to "the best" place in town for crepes. Perhaps most importantly, we may realize that regardless our different nationalities and languages, we are more alike than different.

No one said any of this is easy – you try ordering food at an outdoor market in Italian! – but when we put ourselves out there, our reward is often a great adventure. We may even, as Shelby did, end up hiking up a volcanic outcrop with a professional handball player and his friends while keeping watch for the Northern Lights. The "study" part of study abroad is central to the study abroad experience, we're earning credit after all, but in many ways the time we spend abroad outside of the classroom or guided tour is just as important. The more people we get to know from other places, we feel the distance between those places getting smaller and smaller.

That said, we don't necessarily have to leave campus for that distance to shrink. The Office of Study Abroad is making a big effort to join our study abroad alumni and international students together under the #GlobalLamar banner. We have many flags, many languages, and yes, a few differences, but we're all Cardinals, and that's more than enough to start a friendship.

Enjoy the Newsletter, have a great start to the semester, and we'll see you at one of our upcoming fall events!

## CNU-WILL

Winter for International Learners & Leaders

January 2-18, 2017

### Program Details

- Korean Language and Cultural Activities
- Visiting Research Institutes of World-wide Repute
- Application Deadline : September 30, 2016
- Registration Fee : USD 400 (from partners)  
USD 800 (from non-partners)
- Scholarships for Tuition, Accommodation and Cultural Activities

For more information, stop by the Office of Study Abroad in Wimberly 215 or email [bcrossley@lamar.edu](mailto:bcrossley@lamar.edu)

Spend 2 weeks this winter in Daejeon, South Korea, at our partner Chungnam National University (CNU). Students will stay in the dorms and have a meal plan provided for them by CNU. The only additional cost is airfare and the registration fee (if you are accepted). Students must submit applications before September 30, 2016.

## Top 5 Cafes to Visit in Paris

By Emily McCall

### 1. Angelina's Tea House

The shop and dining area were gorgeous and the sweets were amazing, but the best thing by far was their hot chocolate.

Address: 226 Rue de Rivoli

### 2. Berthillon Glacier

This sweet shop was adorably tiny, but it had some of the greatest ice cream I had ever tasted.

Address: 29-31 Rue Saint-Louis en l'Île

### 3. Ladurée Royale

An upscale bakery with a lovely interior and even lovelier sweets. This shop, in my opinion, makes the best macaroons in all of Paris.

Address: 18 Rue Royale

### 4. Café Le Luxembourg

Located directly across from the beautiful Luxembourg Gardens, this café offers a fine view and a very impressive cheese plate.

Address: 58 Boulevard Saint-Michel

### 5. A La Tour Eiffel

This café was just across the street from where my study abroad group was staying and served as a nice place to hang out and have dinner. Their croquet-monsieur was simply wonderful.

Address: 96 Rue du Commerce

# An Icelandic Study Abroad Experience

By Shelby Strickland

Leading up to my study abroad trip to Iceland many people told me it would change my life. I didn't believe anyone until I experienced studying abroad for myself. I can now confidently say venturing to another country changed my perspective on life and offered opportunity I wouldn't have experienced otherwise.

The food, beauty of the landscape, and people I encountered were all amazing. But what I enjoyed most about studying abroad, aside from learning an abundant of information about the country I visited, was living like a local and taking advantage of our evening free time to explore the cities and towns where we were staying. By doing so I was able to meet many incredible college-aged students who would hang around town or were staying in the same hotel that we happened to be staying in.



A waterfall located on the Seljalandfoss Hike. Photo by Dr. Sarah Schwartz

There was one person in particular that I and a few other students met, who was a professional handball player from Heimaey Island. After chatting with him in our hotel, we learned much about what young Icelanders do in their free time.

One evening, a few students and our new Icelandic friend traveled to the top of the large mountain where we encountered a breathtaking view of the entire island and part of the mainland. Here we sat and talked for hours about Icelandic culture and what it's like to be a young adult in Iceland.

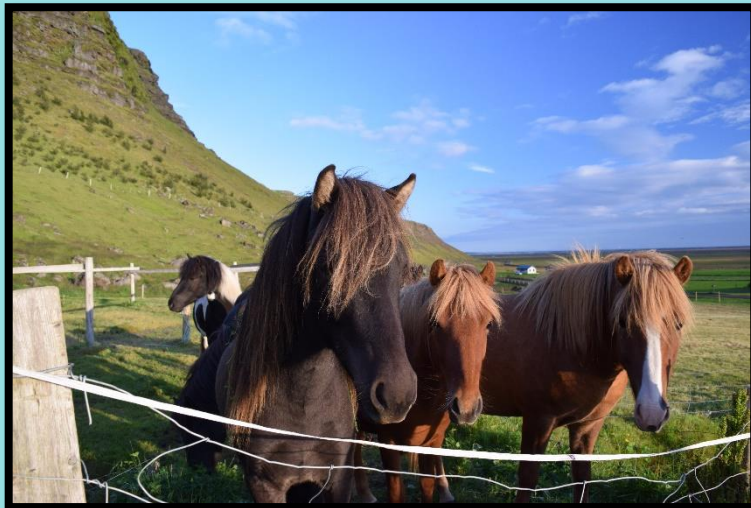


Photo of Icelandic horses by Dr. Sarah Schwartz.

Reading textbooks and reviewing PowerPoints of what a culture is like is incomparable to experiencing the lifestyle of that particular culture firsthand. I left the top of the mountain more impacted than I could have ever imagined. I'll always remember the conversations held abroad that grew me as a person and broadened my perspective on how much bigger life is than we tend to think.

A mountain looks over Heimaey Island and it was on the top of that mountain that I reached a turning point in my study abroad experience.

What will you experience when you study abroad?

# Exchange Programs: Present and Future

Lamar University has exchange agreements with universities in four different countries. Students pay tuition and fees to Lamar University, but take classes at the partner institution. Most of our partners offer a variety of classes in English every semester. To find out more about these amazing opportunities, stop by the Office of Study Abroad.

## Current

### zeppelin university

bridging  
business culture politics

LU students have the opportunity to study Communication, Political Science, and Social Sciences at Zeppelin University. The university is located in Friedrichshafen, Germany, on Lake Constance which sits at the northern foot of the Alps; not too far from the Austrian and Swiss borders.



Universidad Veracruzana

Universidad Veracruzana (UV), LU's partner in the recently completed 100,000 Strong in the Americas grant project, is our first bilateral exchange partner in Mexico. Students who are able to attend classes taught in Spanish can join the UV's 70,000 students studying Arts, Biological & Agricultural Sciences, Economics, Health Sciences, Humanities, and Technical Sciences & Engineering on the main campus in Xalapa or at one of four other campuses in the State of Veracruz. Students without sufficient Spanish ability can take language immersion classes for an additional fee.



Chungnam National University (CNU) is located in Daejeon, South Korea, also known as 'Asia's Silicon Valley'. Daejeon is surrounded by mountains and gives students the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities during their free time. Students can study a variety of subjects in English such as Biology, Chemistry, Political Science, Engineering and more.



서울과학기술대학교  
SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Located in Seoul, the capital of South Korea, Seoul National University of Science and Technology (SeoulTech), is a fantastic opportunity for students in Engineering, Computer Science, and Ceramics majors to spend a semester or academic year abroad. With mountains, museums, palaces, and historical districts, there is always something new to see or do in Seoul.



Located in Rennes, France, ESC Rennes is an internationally accredited business school. Any undergraduates or graduate students with a major or minor in business can spend a semester or academic year studying business courses in English. Students also have the opportunity to take a French language or culture course.

## Future

UQAC  
UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC  
À CHICOUTIMI

French immersion has never been so close – or so affordable! L'université du Québec à Chicoutimi, a branch of the University of Quebec, the province's largest public university system, offers French language classes for all levels during the regular semester and summer. Chicoutimi, located about two hours north of Quebec City, is ideally located for exploring the Canadian outdoors.



# “Communicating” in Italian

By Sakurah Fisher

From walking up and down mountain villages to swimming in the Mediterranean Sea, my study abroad experience in Italy was an adventure that I will never forget. Every day was jammed packed with tours and exciting activities related to my Industrial and Organizational Psychology course, including long walks through beautiful historical towns and intimate interactions with local business owners. Despite my exhaustion and aching feet, being able to interact with the native people, eat the delicious food, and soak in the gorgeous scenery, made every moment of this journey life-changing.



Photo by Lauren Graham taken on the coast of southern Italy.



A man shops for fresh vegetables at a local Italian market.  
Photo by Taylor Blount.

One of the most educational parts of the trip was learning how to communicate with the local people. For the most part, the Italians we met were familiar with English and were able to communicate with us, especially in the larger cities such as Naples and Rome. But when we journeyed south to the region of Calabria, a part of Italy well off the typical tourist itinerary, we encountered a unique little communication challenge! Our group had a translator who helped us communicate with business owners and university students during class activities, but like all study abroad students should, my classmates and I took advantage of our free time to venture on our own to order food and shop at the local markets. Alas, despite our struggles with speaking Italian, we quickly

overcame the fear of the not being able to communicate. The locals were friendly and even attempted to speak English back to us, which created an enjoyable experience, much to my relief!

Sampling the exquisite Italian food was another activity I really enjoyed! While visiting the bed and breakfast hotels and restaurants for lunch and dinner, we would be at the table for over an hour, still eating the appetizers and only the first course. The meals start off light with fried zucchinis and pachuto, then the main courses begin flowing in, such as lamb, pasta, meatballs, lasagna, and potatoes. In Italian culture, family time is important, which is why it is normal to take up to four hours when dining. We even had the opportunity to help prepare a five-course meal at a family owned restaurant, which provided us an intimate understanding of the pride and hard work that come with each plate served.

## “Communicating” in Italian continued...



About the author: Sakurah Fisher is a sophomore majoring in Psychology. She spent 10 days in southern Italy in the summer of 2016.

Beyond food and communications, what I may have enjoyed the most was the ancient beauty that lay on every corner of Italy. From the small village of Squillace to the great city of Rome, every inch seemed to hold a story in history. Being there felt surreal. We visited many beautiful Catholic churches, medieval buildings, and walked streets that were thousands of years old. Pompeii and Rome are ancient cities that have constantly been covered in my history classes, but to be in the presence of the Coliseum, Mount Vesuvius, the Forum, St. Peter's Basilica, was an experience that I cannot describe.

Staring at Michealangelo's art and eating authentic gelato still feels a dream. Italy is a country that I have heard about and known since I was young, but nothing can quite compare to physically being there. Visiting a foreign country and being able to learn its culture and interact with the people was a great challenge that has given me the confidence to step outside of my comfort zone. Studying abroad was the greatest decision of my college career and I cannot wait for another opportunity to travel again.

## Generation Study Abroad

Lamar University has been selected to receive \$7,500 to support new study abroad scholarships. These funds are part of LU's commitment to the Institute of International Education's (IIE) Generation Study Abroad initiative to increase the number and diversity of students who study abroad by the end of the decade. LU will match this funding, to make a total of six \$2,500 student scholarship awards. These scholarships can be used by students toward costs related to study, service learning, or internships abroad between Fall 2016 and Summer 2017. LU was one of only 14 colleges and universities in the U.S. selected by IIE to receive these funds!

Lamar University will use the IIE Generation Study Abroad Scholarships to help make study abroad opportunities accessible to all students, especially those who are typically underrepresented in U.S. study abroad. Students applying for a Generation Study Abroad Scholarship should meet a diversity indicator: Pell Grant recipient, first-generation university student, underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, students with disabilities, athletes, or veterans. The core idea behind the funding is to find diverse students who would otherwise not be aware of study abroad, help them find a program relevant to their academic goals, and provide them funding support to make it happen.

Do you or a friend meet any of these diversity indicators? If so, come talk to us in the Office of Study Abroad! More information about the scholarship can be found online at:

<http://www.lamar.edu/studyabroad/student-information/study-abroad-scholarships.html>





# Program Spotlight

Spring Break 2017

## Ireland

Dates: March 9 – 18, 2017

Course: GEOL 4301 – Geography of Tourism

Program Fee: \$1,450 + Airfare + Tuition & Fees

Included: Accommodations, transportation in country, breakfasts, excursions, & intl. health insurance



While traveling through Ireland and Northern Ireland, students will experience several forms of tourism including Culinary, Heritage, Dark, and Event-based Tourism. Students will study these tourism-types during the Spring semester, but over Spring Break they will come to life through visits to Blarney Castle, Bunratty Castle, the Cliffs of Moher, Belfast's Titanic Museum, Cork's English Market & Food Tour, and Dublin's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Students will also participate in Pop Culture Tourism when they visit several Game of Thrones filming locations in Northern Ireland.

Contact: Dr. Sarah Schwartz  
sschwartz@lamar.edu

## Guatemala



Dates: March 10 – 20, 2017

Course: SPHS 4350/5350/6360

Program Fee: \$1,500 + Tuition & Fees

Included: Roundtrip airfare, transportation in country, accommodations, breakfasts, excursions, & intl. health insurance

Journey to colorful Guatemala during Spring Break with the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences! The program will be hosted by the Centro de Audicion y Adiestramiento Fonético (CEDAF), a private institution in the capital dedicated to the care of Guatemalans who have hearing difficulties. The program will spend a full week visiting the clinic, working alongside a staff of social workers and audiologists. No Spanish language experience is necessary. Planned weekend excursions will go to the city of Antigua, full of pastel colors and colonial architecture, to the indigenous villages surrounding the breathtaking Lake Atitlan, and the magical and mysterious mountain market town of Chichicastenango.

Contact: Dr. Vinay Manchaiah  
Vinaya.manchaiah@lamar.edu

# Upcoming Events

## August

- 30<sup>th</sup> Study Abroad Table**  
Setzer Center  
11am – 1pm
- 31<sup>st</sup> Study Abroad Table**  
Setzer Center  
11am – 1pm

## September

- 1<sup>st</sup> Travel 101 Info Session**  
Setzer Student Center Rm 210  
11am – 12pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Welcome Back Reception**  
Library 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
4pm – 5:30pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Global Lamar Homecoming Meeting**  
Wimberly 215  
2pm – 3pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Photo Contest Submission Deadline**  
Email to [bcrossley@lamar.edu](mailto:bcrossley@lamar.edu)
- Tuesdays & Wednesdays in September**  
Study Abroad Table  
In front of Family & Consumer Sciences  
Building across from the Library  
11am – 1pm

## October

- 11<sup>th</sup> Study Abroad Fair**  
Dining Hall Lawn  
11am – 1pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Parade**  
Arrive by 11:30am to join Global Lamar in the parade.

## November

- 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> International Education Week**  
(Tentative dates and times)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Guest Lecture (TBD)**  
Lamar Room, Library 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> International Scholarship Workshop: Gilman, Fulbright, and Boren**  
Location TBD  
2:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> International Current Events Panel**  
Location and time TBD
- 16<sup>th</sup> Lamar Language Fair**  
Location TBD  
11:30am – 1:00pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> Career Connections: How to become an English Teacher Overseas**  
Location TBD  
3:00 pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> International Film Night**  
Communication Building Rm. 103  
7:00 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Get to know the Cardinals Beyond Borders Program**  
Location TBD  
2:30 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Cardinals Return Home: A student Panel on the Study Abroad Experience**  
Dishman Art Museum Auditorium  
4:00 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> Career Connections: Transitioning from Study Abroad Student to Diplomat**  
Location TBD  
1:30 pm

## Contact Us

### Office of Study Abroad

Wimberly 215

8 am – 5 pm

Monday – Friday

[studyabroad@lamar.edu](mailto:studyabroad@lamar.edu)

409-880-7013 / 7516

[www.lamar.edu/studyabroad](http://www.lamar.edu/studyabroad)



GlobalLamar

