



FACT: All good colleges and major universities promote and support study abroad for their students.

FACT: Most employers consider a study abroad experience an important determinant when choosing between two equally qualified applicants.

FACT: Study abroad is for students of all majors, including engineering, education, business and the natural sciences.

FACT: Most study abroad programs offer courses in English and are geared to the academic needs of American undergraduate students.

FACT: Study abroad can be undertaken in a manner that is safe, cost-effective, and allows for on-time graduation with the required courses.

FACT: Study Abroad advisors will help find programs that match a student's academic needs and financial priorities.

FACT: All financial aid applies (except Federal Work-Study) – Additional financial aid is available on a competitive basis from many sources, including UPJ, the University of Pittsburgh, and the Vira I. Heinz Foundation.

FACT: The Congressional Lincoln Commission has recommended that the number of undergraduate students studying abroad should reach 20% by 2010 and 50% by 2050.

WHY STUDY ABROAD?

- **Academic/intellectual growth:** Students develop skills in problem solving and intercultural communication; they gain geographical and historical knowledge; they're exposed to people who process information differently than they do.
- **Professional gain:** Students can make professional contacts, gain a sense of direction for their future career, and gain a broader sense of responsibility in a foreign

academic environment or on an independent research project abroad.

- **Personal experience:** Students may gain an appreciation about what we have here in the United States and they often develop confidence, a strengthened sense of personal identity, flexibility, and creativity. Students learn to rely on themselves and become more independent.
- **Inter-cultural savvy:** Students develop an increased interest in other cultures as they become aware of cultural difference, develop language skills within a cultural context, become more culturally sensitive and accepting.
- **Resume building:** Many employers operate internationally and many areas in the United States have diverse populations. Proven inter-cultural skills and international experiences are an important calling card for prospective employers.

WHO CAN STUDY ABROAD?

- Students of any major
- Students in good standing (usually with a GPA of 2.7 or higher)
- Students AFTER their Freshman year
- Minorities or students from majors typically not associated with study abroad are encouraged.
- Extra assistance and special programs are available to students with disabilities.



HOW DO I GO ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD?

- Begin thinking about it during your freshman year and begin planning a full year before leaving!
- Contact the UPJ Study Abroad Office and schedule an appointment with an advisor!
- Discuss your plans and options with your parents!
- Select one of hundreds of programs in consultation with your UPJ Study Abroad Advisor!
- Complete a process to have the chosen program and credit-transfer guaranteed by the University!

IS STUDY ABROAD SAFE?

- Dedicated Study Abroad professionals will do everything to make study abroad experience as safe and convenient as possible.
- All programs and sites are academically accredited and approved by reputable associations or institutions.
- There are many programs to choose from in locations without a history of trouble and with crime rates far lower than in the United States.
- Whether a country destination is safe for travel is determined **ONLY** by the State Department.
- Students must attend mandatory orientations in preparation for their study abroad experience.
- Students are screened to determine academic readiness and social maturity.

CAN I STILL GRADUATE ON TIME? WILL IT COST ME MORE?

- All study abroad courses count towards the degree and are equivalents of most general education courses at UPJ.
- No time is lost because courses are pre-approved through your academic advisor.

- The UPJ Registrar's Office guarantees beforehand that your study abroad credits are fully transferable.
- While the costs of study abroad programs vary greatly, advisors normally seek to identify programs of comparable cost to a semester or year at Pitt.
- Your state, federal, and campus-based financial aid, with the exception of Federal work-study, will apply to your study abroad experience as long as you participate in a program approved by the Study Abroad Office. There is a special study abroad advisor in the UPJ Financial Aid Office.



UPJ's International Studies Certificate

ALSO CONSIDER an INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE with any major.

- This is an **interdisciplinary program** that is flexibly structured to promote the interests of both the career oriented student and the student emphasizing a Liberal Arts education.
- As a **complement to any major**, the certificate program prepares students for many careers such as Political Science, Public Affairs, International Studies, Foreign Service, International Management, International Communication, and International Business.
- **Double-dip** by having your regular courses and all study abroad count towards the Certificate.
- Your IS Certificate is **recorded on your transcripts** and you will also **receive an official certificate**.
- **For more information, log on to our website at: www.upj.pitt.edu → Quick Index → International Studies**

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

- **Dr. Reinhard Heinisch**,
Director of International Studies
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
 - Phone: 1-814-269-2977 / 2990
 - Drop in: 104C Krebs Hall
 - Email: heinisch@pitt.edu
- **Go to The UPJ Study Abroad Website:**
www.upj.pitt.edu → Quick Index → International Studies
- **Also check out the PITT Study Abroad Office:** www.abroad.pitt.edu



TYPES OF STUDY ABROAD WHAT PROGRAMS ARE THERE?

- There are hundreds of programs and many different ways of studying abroad. The options include: semester and year-long programs, summer programs, travel programs, shipboard programs, service learning programs, internship programs, exchange programs, home stays, work and internship programs, multi-site programs, rainforest research, field work etc.
- As an illustration, UPJ students have gone to Pitt-in-London or on year-long exchange to Australia, sailed the globe on the Semester at Sea, helped build an orphanage in Bolivia, experienced music, culture and arts in Vienna, studied the European Union in Germany, taken language classes in France, Italy, Mexico and Spain, gone to Paris to a special program for business majors....the options are nearly endless.

