

“Many study abroad offices actively promote the career benefits of an international education. Unfortunately, these benefits do not happen simply by getting on a plane and landing in a different country. Students have to work for them.”

-Sheila Curran, “Preparing Students to Be Global Citizens: A Career Perspective on Study Abroad”

Nine Ways to Ensure a Career Advantage from Studying Abroad

Before you leave:

1. Learn a foreign language and use these skills to study abroad in a non-English speaking country.
2. Show commitment to the country of interest through taking classes in the language/ history of the country.
3. Engage with international students on campus (perhaps even from the same school/ region to which you will travel).

While you are abroad:

4. Interact with local students and become involved with the community.
5. Practice your language skills with natives of the region.
6. Combine your study abroad experience with an internship, work or volunteer opportunity.

Upon Return to the United States:

7. Show continued interest and commitment to your host country by staying involved in internationally- related activities on campus.
8. Learn how to articulate your experiences, knowledge, and skills gained in a resume and/or interview.
9. Utilize resources within the Career Development Center for further assistance and guidance in developing internationally based future academic and career plans.