Who We Are

- **J. Scott Van Der Meid:** Associate Dean of Study Abroad
- **Darren R. Gallant ‘08:** Assistant Director of Study Abroad
- **Wanda Weinberger:** Assistant Director, Brandeis-Led Study Programs
- **Alisha Cardwell:** Study Abroad Advisor
- **Andrew McGeoch:** Senior Department Coordinator

Our Mission

*The mission of the Office of Study Abroad at Brandeis University is to help all students take advantage of the opportunity to live and learn in a new and different cultural context. The staff of the Office of Study Abroad work to ensure that students have access to educational experiences that foster their development as global citizens. We strive to provide students with opportunities to develop the skills required to address the challenges of our increasingly interconnected world.*
Agenda

- Program choice
- Eligibility requirements
- Billing, financial aid and scholarships
- Application process
- Resources and support for both students and families
What is study abroad?

Study abroad is the opportunity to earn academic credit toward a student’s degree off-campus for a semester, year, or summer.

Why should my student study abroad?

- Complement and expand upon academic studies at Brandeis
- Personal growth
- Gain exposure to cultures or languages that are different than their own
- Career benefits
More than 300 study abroad programs are approved by Brandeis, in about 65 countries!
Types of Programs

Approved Programs
- Programs vetted and assessed by Brandeis for:
  - Academic quality
  - Health and safety support
  - On-site support and engagement

Program types:
- Direct enrollment
- Study center
- Internship
- Field study

Find a link to the database at: http://www.brandeis.edu/abroad/yearsemester/index.html
Brandeis-Led Study Abroad Programs

Brandeis in The Hague

• Students study in The Hague, the center of diplomacy and international peace.
• For all majors—especially for those with an interest in human rights, social justice, global studies, and international law.
• Spring and summer options.
• Internships in the spring semester.
• Led by Professor Gaskins and Professor Stimmel.

Brandeis-India Science Scholars Programs

• Students study at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, the “Silicon Valley” of India.
• For high-achieving science especially students in Chemistry, Computer Science, Math, and Physics.
• Spring semester only.
Brandeis-Led Study Abroad Programs

Brandeis in Copenhagen

• Students earn 8 credits in the summer studying Economics in Copenhagen, Denmark.
• Partnered with DIS Denmark.
• Fulfills ECON requirements with new perspectives on economic issues in Scandinavia/Europe.
• Led this year by Prof. Redenius.

Brandeis in Siena

• Earn 8 credits in the summer studying Studio Art and Art History courses in Siena, Italy.
• Partnered with Siena Art Institute.
• For anyone interested in art, not just Fine Arts majors/minors!
• Led this year by Prof. Wardwell.
Year or Semester Abroad Eligibility Requirements

- 3.0 GPA
- Good Academic/Judicial Standing
- Junior or First-Semester Senior Class Standing
- Foreign language requirements
Earning Credit Abroad

- 16 general elective credits
- Students can earn elective credit, fulfill general university requirements, and/or fulfill major/minor requirements

- Earning major/minor credit
  - *Decision of Study Abroad Liaison in department*
  - *Approved once students return from abroad*
Four Points to Know About Finances

1. Students continue to pay Brandeis tuition and required fees while abroad.

2. Nearly all financial aid and grants are transferable to a study abroad semester or year.

3. Non-tuition costs (room, board, etc.) will be billed to the student directly from their program; this cost may vary depending on where they go and what is included. Students should also be budgeting for costs their program doesn’t include like flights, visa fees, meals (if not included), etc.

4. Scholarships are available!
Summer Study Abroad

- Why study abroad in the summer?
  - Jump ahead academically and earn Brandeis credit
  - Fulfill general university requirements or major/minor requirements
  - Start a new language or continue previous language studies
  - Gain valuable experience in an internship or through research
  - Learn something new!

- Programs last 5-12 weeks; students usually earn 8 credits.

- Students pay a $400 off-campus study fee to Brandeis and all other charges directly to the program.

- Students can study abroad over the summer anytime after their first year!
Application Process & Deadlines

- Most students will have two applications to complete:
  - Brandeis application
    - Essay
    - Proposal of courses
    - Recommendation (only for select programs)
  - Program application
    - Varies depending on the program

- Deadlines:
  - Brandeis application for the following Fall, Spring, and Academic Year: February
  - Brandeis application for the Summer: March
  - Program application: Varies
Resources & Support Provided

- Advising appointments
- Study Abroad Ambassadors
- Abroad101.com evaluations
- Study Abroad events
- Website: www.brandeis.edu/abroad
- Support while abroad including emergency management alongside program
- General updates to family members (with permission from student)
- Program support
Health, Wellness, and Safety

- Family portal on our website
- Pre-Departure Workshop
- Re-Orientation Workshop
- Monitoring of global activity related to safety daily
- Program supports: orientation, 24/7 on-site support, international insurance
Family Portal
http://www.brandeis.edu/abroad/families/index.html

Information for Families

This page is a portal to a large amount of useful information for families of Brandeis students. If you can’t find the information you’re looking for, please feel free to contact us.

Common topics relevant to families:

Resources for Families:
There are many helpful resources for families available to you. We recommend reviewing the website of your student’s study abroad program as many will have a parent/family section with helpful information. There are also resources online and while not every aspect of each one applies for your student, they can still be helpful. A recent publication, “A Parent Guide to Study Abroad” or the Spanish version “Guía para padres sobre estudios en el extranjero” published by the Institute of International Education, is one place to start.

Health & Safety:
Prior to going abroad, students and their families should access the potential health and safety risks that may come with study or travel abroad. Please see the Health and Safety page for more information. Families should contact their student’s study abroad program to learn about the safety protocols currently in place for that program. Additionally, the U.S. State Department has valuable country-specific information at http://travel.state.gov.

Passports and Visas:
Your student is responsible for ensuring he/she has all the proper documentation needed to travel to and stay in his or her host country as a student. Their study abroad program will be one of the most helpful sources of information on exactly what is required. Please encourage them to begin the application process early. More information is available at http://travel.state.gov.
How to Help Your Student Plan for Study Abroad

Your student’s first year at Brandeis
- Chat about study abroad as a family.
- Visit the Brandeis Study Abroad website: www.brandeis.edu/abroad
- Start reviewing the family portal.
- Browse program options by major.
- Consider summer study abroad, including Brandeis-led programs.

Your student’s second year at Brandeis
- Encourage your students to schedule an appointment with study abroad staff.
- Speak as a family more specifically about study abroad plans. Thanksgiving break and Winter break is a great times to discuss.
- Review finances together. Encourage your student to seek out scholarships.
- Applications deadlines for the following fall, spring, and year are in February. The summer deadline is in March.

Post-acceptance & Pre-departure
- Contact student’s program for logistical questions.
- Walk through finances with your student.
- Encourage self-sufficiency for your student while arranging logistics - they’ll use it while abroad!
- Plan how and when you and your student will communicate with each other while abroad.
Questions?

Feel free to contact us:

abroad@brandeis.edu

(781) 736-3483

Connect with us on social media:

@BrandeisAbroad

/BrandeisAbroad

@BrandeisAbroad

Instagram

One of the world’s wonders. So surreal.
#macchupicchu #brandeisabroad