PRE-HEALTH TRACK & STUDY ABROAD

Explore the Possibilities...
## Pre-Health Advising & Study Abroad

### Pre-Health Advising
- Misty Huacuja-LaPointe, Director
- Abby Voss, Assistant Director
- Nicole Labrecque-Blue, Program Manager

### Study Abroad
- Allyson Goose, Assistant Director
- Heather Lin, SA Returnee (student)
- Amy Dushkin, SA Returnee (student)
AGENDA

- Pre-Health and Study Abroad: Potential Course Plans
- Study Abroad and health professions application
- International Healthcare Experience
IS IT POSSIBLE TO STUDY ABROAD AND BE PRE-HEALTH?

YES!!!

**We do not advise taking pre-health pre-requisites abroad.**
IS IT POSSIBLE TO STUDY ABROAD?

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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#### Summer study abroad

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**Summer study abroad**

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**This is the hardest course sequence to choose. This timeline could hinder your academic performance, MCAT results, or ability to participate in extracurricular activities (health or non-health).**
WHEN TO STUDY ABROAD

· During the Academic Year
  · Fall of Junior Year
  · Spring of Junior Year
  · Fall of Senior Year
  · Apply to Brandeis by mid-February of the year before you go

· During the Summer
  · Any summer during your Brandeis career
  · Apply to Brandeis by mid-March of the summer before you go
DECISIONS, DECISIONS!

- Deciding when to go
  - Course scheduling needs
- Financial needs
  - Brandeis aid mostly travels with students during the fall, spring or year
  - Summer scholarships are available but limited
  - World of Work (WOW) grant through Hiatt as a non-credit alternative
- When do you need to be in the US for exams and interviews?
- GPA needs
  - Courses taken abroad don’t factor into your Brandeis GPA. Will losing a semester on campus take away an opportunity you need to boost your GPA?
TYPES OF PROGRAMS

- Direct enrollment: take most of your classes alongside students from the host country

- Study center: take courses designed for a student from abroad. Courses will be taught in English, or they may be in the foreign language with lower expectations of fluency than for native speakers.

- Internship-based program: complete an internship for credit while also taking classes as a university or study center

- Field-based program: classes may be in various locations in the community and you’ll do an independent study project at the end
APPLICATION ENHANCEMENT

- Cultural Competence (Defined by the AAMC)
  - Demonstrates knowledge of social and cultural factors that affect interactions and behaviors; shows an appreciation and respect for multiple dimensions of diversity; recognizes and acts on the obligation to inform one’s own judgment; engages diverse and competing perspectives as a resource for learning, citizenship, and work; recognizes and appropriately addresses bias in themselves and others; interacts effectively with people from diverse backgrounds.

- Communication Skills
  - Learn to navigate and communicate across cultural boundaries.

- Appreciation of multiple perspectives
  - There isn’t always just ONE right answer...

- Humanistic side of medicine
  - Relating to and engaging patients can lead to better physician patient interactions.
VIEWS ON HEALTHCARE

- Compare and contrast healthcare in the US and abroad.
- Gain awareness of how different cultures view medicine and health.
- Understand that working with diverse colleagues and patients can promote diverse solutions (treatment plans, preventative care, community outreach).
- Available (lack of) resources impact how services can be delivered. How can creative solutions enhance care and services provided?
INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE

BENEFITS

• Compare US healthcare system to healthcare systems abroad.

• Immersion into a different culture.
  • Gaining cultural competency

• Exposure to global health issues.
  • How do different cultures and countries view health?
  • How are healthcare services delivered?
  • Are different cultures receptive to services provided by US volunteers and healthcare professionals?
INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE

CAUTIONS

• May be asked to provide clinical services.

• Medical school model abroad.

• Medical schools view on doing more than qualifications allow.

• International experience should not be your only healthcare experience.
RESOURCES


University of Minnesota -- [http://www.healthcareers.umn.edu/online-workshops/gaps/index.htm](http://www.healthcareers.umn.edu/online-workshops/gaps/index.htm)