

Promoting International Experiences

Resume Descriptions: You may want to include information about international experiences on your resume. This information can be helpful when applying for graduate school, volunteering, or employment opportunities. Here are a few examples...

In the “RELATED EXPERIENCE” section of your resume:

Volunteer, House of Resurrection, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, Spring 2011

- Provided child care and interacted with children diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.
- Organized, implemented and supervised structured recreational activities.
- Prepared and served balanced meals.
- Completed home improvement projects such as painting and yard work.

Vice President, International Affairs Club, College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph, MN, Spring 2010 - Present

- Plan and coordinate the club’s monthly “speaker series.”
- Assist the President in leading/facilitating monthly club meetings.
- Plan, organize, and implement activities for annual campus “Festival of Cultures.”

As a separate category, you can describe your language skills...

LANGUAGE SKILLS: Proficient in reading, writing, and speaking Spanish.

To emphasize study/education abroad, include your international experience under the “EDUCATION” section...

Bachelor of Arts, St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN

Expected May 2012

Major: Biochemistry GPA: 3.37/4.0

Honors: Presidential Scholarship

Study Abroad: South Africa, Spring 2011 (Courses in South African literature, politics, music and culture)

Include information as part of “INTERESTS” section of their resume:

Interests: Foreign travel (Brazil, Spain, and Estonia), Amnesty International, Spanish Club

For use in Graduate School Applications:

- 1) Use if appropriate as part of the Personal/Statement Essay: provide specific examples/stories
- 2) Evaluate (in terms of growth/learning) and describe significant “life changing” experiences, and how this fits with future goals.

Correspondence/Interviewing/Networking Suggestions:

- 1) Provide specific scenarios/stories to illustrate what you’ve learned, what’ve you experienced, how you’ve changed: independent thinking, problem solving, flexibility, adaptable, interested in learning about and interacting with individuals from other cultures, “thinking on your toes,” interpersonal skills, communication skills, etc.
- 2) If language skills are important/required for the position, be prepared to conduct part of the entire interview in that language – it might happen!
- 3) If the interviewer doesn’t ask specific questions about your study abroad experience, you can incorporate examples from your study abroad experiences to reflect what you gained/learned.

EX: Tell me about a time when you encountered a problem or stressful situation and how you solved that problem.

Response: When I studied abroad in South Africa, I became separated from my group when we were exploring Port Elizabeth. At first I didn’t know what to do, but then I...

Career Resources for Working & Volunteering Abroad

International Job Resources for U.S. Citizens

<http://www.csbsju.edu/Career/Students/Jobs--Internships/International-Employment-Links-for-US-Citizens.htm>

- The link to **GOINGLOBAL** is a fantastic resource for international job or internship searches.

Career Services has a variety of resources (websites and print sources) available for CSB/SJU students looking to work, intern or volunteer abroad. We can help answer questions you may have with regards to applying for internships and employment.

- Asia
- Australia
- Canada
- Europe
- Latin America
- Multiple Country Job Search Websites
- Teaching Abroad
- Visas, Passports, Living Abroad, etc.

For general information, please read the “Strategies for Living & Working Abroad”:

<http://www.csbsju.edu/Documents/Career/workinglivingabroad.pdf>

How To...

Visit this site for more information about ways that Career Services can help you resumes and internship/job search strategies: <http://www.csbsju.edu/Career/Students/HowTo.htm>

- Resume and correspondence
- Interview Preparation
- Networking

Internships & Jobs:

Visit this site for information on internships and job listings including CSB/SJU’s E-link!

<http://www.csbsju.edu/Career/Students/Jobs--Internships.htm>

International Volunteer Opportunities After Graduation

<http://www.csbsju.edu/Career/Students/Volunteering/International-Opportunities.htm>

This site includes a variety of resources to help you find international volunteer opportunities.

NEXT VOLUNTEER FAIR – October 31, 2012, CSB

Career Services:

CSB Center	Academic Services Building	(320) 363-5707
SJU Center	Mary Hall #10	(320) 363-3236