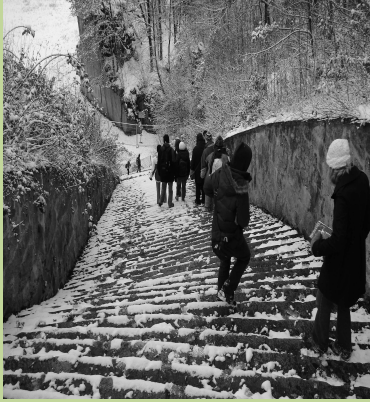




# Thinking about Graduate School Abroad?

September 19, 2009



- **Get into Graduate School**
- If you are considering going to graduate school right after graduation, it's important to research options and gather information to help you in the decision-making process. It's never too early to start the research, but during your senior year you will want to shift into gear!
- **Application Process...**
- Application materials should be obtained at least one year prior to beginning Graduate School. Always check with schools for deadlines which may vary widely.
- **Graduate Exams...**
- You will need to find out which graduate admission exam is required for your programs of interest. Use practice tests and guides to study.
- **Applications and Essays...**
- Most Graduate school applications generally include a personal essay. Focus on two Goals: Be persuasive & Personal! Draw from your study abroad experiences and let them know why you would be a good fit.
- **Recommendations and Resume...**

## FIND A PROGRAM ABROAD THAT FITS:

- Begin your search with one of the standard Directories of Graduate programs abroad.
- [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- [www.International.GradSchools.com](http://www.International.GradSchools.com)
- <http://www.princetonreview.com/graduate-school.aspx>
- [www.gradschoolsabroad.com](http://www.gradschoolsabroad.com)
- [www.degreesabroad-cis.com](http://www.degreesabroad-cis.com)
- [www.degreeabroad.com/search.cfm](http://www.degreeabroad.com/search.cfm)
- [www.study-in-europe.org](http://www.study-in-europe.org)
- Other resource:
- <http://www.istc.umn.edu/programs/graduate/moreInfo.html>
- Also, talk with faculty for good programs in your area of interest.
- **International Fellowships and Financing:**
- Rotary Scholarships funding for one year
- Rhodes scholarships
- US-Ireland Alliance Fellowships
- <http://www.grad.umn.edu/fellowships/>
- <http://www.gradschools.com/Article/Graduate-Fellowships/1676.html>
- Alternative sources of Funding:
- [http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective\\_students/Financing/other.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/Financing/other.html)
- Financing Abroad:
- [http://www.salliemae.com/international/us\\_students/](http://www.salliemae.com/international/us_students/)
- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- [www.iefc.org](http://www.iefc.org)
- [www.internationalscholarships.com](http://www.internationalscholarships.com)
- [www.iefc.org](http://www.iefc.org)
- [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)



## BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL-ORIENTED STUDY AT GRADUATE SCHOOL IN THE US

- The perspective of intensive study of an academic discipline or conducting research on the country/area/language of interest without leaving the US
- Incorporate your study abroad experience into studies
- Contribute to internationalization in US education and intercultural links at all levels of society
- Combine studies with career exploration
- Stay close to support networks of family and friends

## IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER BEFORE COMMITTING

- Future job requirements (is this degree helpful?)
- Foreign language requirement
- Changing majors/fields
- Time and finances needed to finish the degree
- Commitment to more independent study and research with minimal supervision
- Financial aid opportunities and conditions (e.g., Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships)
- The desirable components of a high-quality institution and program includes but are not limited to:(1) a rich and broad offering of area studies courses in the geographic or thematic areas of interest; (2) diverse foreign language offerings (particularly in the less commonly taught languages); (3) outstanding faculty mentoring;(4) opportunities for pre-dissertation research; (5) strong support for the preparation of research proposals for dissertation research. These are five key components that lead to successful graduate training and preparation for a career in international and area studies.



## HOW DO YOU EXPLORE THESE OPPORTUNITIES?

Resources to consider in learning of academic training for international career in the U.S.:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps/career.html> (Office of Postsecondary Education, US Department of Education)

<http://iris.ed.gov/iris/ieps/programs.cfm> (The International Education and Foreign Language Studies domestic programs)

<http://www.istc.umn.edu/educators/newcomers/degreePrograms.pdf> (USA programs in International education are included in this list of world-wide options)

<http://www.ipsl.org> (International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership)

Web sites of the federally-funded Title VI National Resource Centers for programs in specific geographic areas

