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We’ve moved!

The International Office can now be found on the third floor of the Center for Liberal Arts. Stop by to say hello, get some information, or just marvel at our new (and roomier) offices.

Upcoming Events

- Sept 5 – Study Abroad Fair, 4:00-6:00, the Dug Out
- Sept 5 – Peace Corps information session, 6:30, CNS C102
- Sept 9 – Non-Org: May Term Travel Courses, 12:00-1:00, Davidson Room
- Sept 10 – IWU Exchange programs info session, 4:00-5:00, CLA 305
- Sept 12 – “Taking the Road Less Traveled,” 4:00-5:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library
- Sept 12 – International Film Series (IFS): “Life for a Child,” 7:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library. For a full list of IFS movies, visit iwu.edu/IFS
- Sept 18 – International Studies (IS) Welcome Picnic, 4:30, John Atrium
- Sept 19 – Welcome Back reception for study abroad students, 4:30-6:00, State Farm Hall. RSVP to abroad@iwu.edu

(deadline on back)

International Office
Center for Liberal Arts, 3rd floor
PO Box 2900
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
Phone: 309 556-2770
Fax: 309 556-3727
abroad@iwu.edu

We’ve moved!

Through the generosity of Betty Ritchie-Birrer (’47), IWU now has an endowed scholarship fund to support study abroad.

Raised on farm in Maroa, Illinois, Betty Ritchie-Birrer now lives in Springfield, with her husband Ivan Birrer. Together, they share a love for travel and learning—a passion she wants to share with IWU students now and in the future.

The competitive, need-based scholarships will range from $1000 to $5000, and students receiving an award commit to documenting and sharing their study abroad experience during and/or after participation.

Applications for the IWU Study Abroad Scholarship can be found on the Study Abroad website (iwu.edu/studyabroad) or in the International Office.

Meet Jacquelyn LaMaire

Say hello to Jacquelyn LaMaire, IWU’s new Study Abroad Advisor. Jackie joins the International Office this fall to fill in while director Stacey Shimizu is in England with the London Program.

Prior to joining the IWU community, Jackie, a Michigan native, attended Central Michigan University and completed graduate studies at Arizona State University. Jackie has studied in Florence and Macerata, Italy, and also worked abroad, teaching English in Busan, South Korea.

Stop by and see Jackie on the 3rd floor of the CLA, or send her an email at jlamaire@iwu.edu to get the answers to all of your study abroad questions.
Program Highlight

Arcadia in Cuba

American study abroad students can study in Cuba again!

In 2004, the Bush administration put into place regulations that restricted study abroad in Cuba, effectively closing almost all US study abroad programs there. Now, as a result of changes made in 2011 by the Obama administration, US programs are beginning to reopen in Cuba.

Among them is Arcadia University’s program in Havana. Offered in partnership with the University of Havana, the program involves full Spanish immersion, with US students taking courses alongside Cuban students.

The core course, “Cuban-American Relations: Past and Present,” is taught by faculty of the Centro de Estudios Hemisféricos y sobre Estados Unidos and provides an introduction into the historic and socio-cultural background of Cuba.

In addition to the core course and a course in the Spanish language, students choose two elective courses from the vast array offered by the University of Havana.

Tips on Volunteering Abroad

Why volunteer abroad?

Of course, those who volunteer are interested in service—in using their skills and talents to help others. So, the question might be, “Why volunteer abroad?”

For some, particularly those who have studied abroad, volunteering overseas is a way to build on that experience. For others (those for whom a semester abroad is difficult to fit into an academic schedule), volunteering abroad provides a flexible way to gain international experience.

For all volunteers, though, engaging in some sort of service activity abroad is an incredible learning experience—one that helps you better understand international issues and the challenges facing people in other countries and cultures, but that also helps you learn more about yourself.

Here, then are some things to consider if you think you might want to volunteer abroad.

They are adapted from the International Volunteer Programs Association (IVPA) website (www.volunteerinternational.org).

1. Consider your reasons for wanting to become an international volunteer.
   - What people, events, and experiences have led to your interest in volunteering abroad?
   - What do you hope to get out of the experience?
   - What do you hope to contribute?
   - How do you see international volunteering affecting your life?

While there is not just one “right” reason to volunteer abroad, it is important to realize that different motivations can lead to different types of service. Be careful about wanting to “solve other people’s problems” or “fix things”; this attitude can negatively affect communities and disempower local people.

2. Think about the type of volunteer organization with which you want to work. Is it a government agency, a for-profit tourist agency, a non-profit or non-governmental organization (NGO), a religious group?

In some cases, government programs are intimately tied to a government’s foreign policy initiatives, so you would need to decide whether you can stand behind these policies.

A for-profit agency might or might not contribute part of their profits to the long-term sustainability of a community and its resources. It would be important to find out who benefits the most from the for-profit agency—the volunteer, the local community, or agency staff.

Program Details

Language Prerequisite: 4 semesters of Spanish or the equivalent
Language of Instruction: Spanish
Credits: 4-5 courses, 16 credit hours (≈ 4 IUW units)
Course Options:
- Core course (required)
- Spanish language (required)
- 2-3 electives from any department at the University of Havana (2-4 credit hours each)

Housing: dormitory-style housing provided by Arcadia in the Vedado area of Havana.

Highlights: Students will have the opportunity to take part in two excursions—to Santiago de Cuba and to the 4 cities of Santa Clara, Sancti Spiritus, Trinidad, and Cienfuegos.

Is the sending organization faith-based or secular? Determine what role, if any, religion or spirituality plays in your motivation for volunteering abroad and whether the organization has an evangelistic agenda.

3. Consider the cost of volunteering abroad.
   - What are your budget constraints?
   - Would you be willing to fundraise if you were given some support by an organization?
   - If there is a program fee, what does it cover?

Most of organizations that offer international volunteer opportunities charge volunteers a fee, in order to cover their year-round coordinating and operational costs. Many also need to raise funds to contribute materials and other resources to the overseas project.

A host community generally will not have the extra resources to house and feed you. If they had the funds to pay a stipend, they would probably hire a local person instead, someone who speaks the language, understands the community and culture, and is more inclined to stick around.

These are just a few suggestions. For more, visit the IVPA website. And remember: for many people, volunteering abroad is only the first act in a lifelong commitment to working for social justice and seeking to end poverty and hunger.
Study Abroad: “There and Back Again”

Bilbo Baggins’ memoir title provides an apt way for us to welcome home the 67 students who studied abroad last spring/summer and to wish our departing study abroad students a hearty bon voyage as they set off for their time abroad.

So, wishing safe travels to:

Kemi Adeleye  Madagascar
Alyssa Aiello  England
Meridith Beird  Morocco
Jessica Beringer  Spain
Helen Brandt  France
Stephanie Carlson  England
John Cordan  England
Dung Do  France
Patrick Domke  Ireland
Annika Ewaldz  Germany
Josephine Fairall  Denmark
Rebecca Fiedler  England
Lauren Henry  Denmark
Kara Hogan  England
Jordan Hosier  Chile
Eric Hyla  England
Britta Jacob  Scotland
Malika Kavadi  England
Amanda King  Australia
Michael Kistner  Scotland
Kristen Kupstys  UAE
Anna Leeson  England
Anastasia Lowenthal  England
Justice Macklin  England
Corinne Martin  Scotland
Grace McCartney  England
Nickolas Miller  England
Chloe Morris  England
Sydney Muchnik  England
Ngoc Giao Nguyen  Germany
Mary Nicholas  Austria
Annette Rauch  Spain
Gavin Schroeder  New Zealand
Taylor Sharp  Japan
Charlotte Silver  South Korea
Wade Steinke  England
Lorraine Tezak  England
Kyla Thomas  England
Andrea Tucci  Austria
Victoria Viola  Italy
Michelle Wong  England
Genevieve Alexander  Germany
David Allen  Spain
Emily Bailey  Ireland
Graham Boden  Japan
Rachel Branson  Russia
Rae Brattin  South Africa
Elise Brubaker  England
Lauren Burke  Ireland
Chris Caliva  New Zealand
Kathryn Cannon  Argentina
Dominique Castle  Spain
Patrick Cavanaugh  Netherlands
Jake Clemens  England
Ellen Cornelius  New Zealand
Manh Dao  Uganda
Ashleen Davey  France
Nicholas Desideri  Mexico
Megan Dickey  Spain
Kristina Dolak  Czech Republic
Mary Evans  Spain
Jeremy Duffee  England
Ryan Dyar  Scotland
Rebeccah Erickson  Denmark
Nathan Evans  Morocco
Dylan Fischer  England
Kate Fitzgerald  England
Katherine Ford  Spain
Christine Gawron  Bolivia
Christopher Grills  Austria
Erica Hoey  England
Bradley Jenisch  Spain
Antonia Jurkovic  Russia
Erin Kelley  Denmark
Melissa Kinsella  Spain
Alexander Lang  New Zealand
Jennifer LeRose  Denmark
Gisel Lopez  Spain
Rachel Marquardt  Austria
Shannen McCrory  New Zealand
Isabel Moon  New Zealand
Jason Murphy  Spain
David Myers  Ecuador
Grace Nafziger  Spain
Robert Norman  Italy
Alison Novakow  Italy
Samantha Olson  Italy
Victoria Palacios  Spain
Kristyn Paradis  Spain
Katherine Pavich  Spain
Callie Phipps  Spain
Ian Powers  Australia
Megan Rogers  France
Dana Rotz  New Zealand
Michael Roy  Austria
Angela Ruggles  England
Stephanie Schwingle  Spain
Tara Simpson  Italy
Ariel Smith  Belgium
Zachary Smith  Spain
Emily Steele  Belgium
Conor Stevenson  Italy
Ethan Szpara  Spain
Caitlyn Trevor  Czech Republic
Erin Wachtel  Spain
Veronica Watson  Switzerland
Molly Whittaker  France
Xinlin Xu  England

International Fast Facts

(Courtesy of IIE’s Open Doors report)

• New international student enrollments nationwide have increased by close to 40% over the past 5 years, with 228,467 international students starting their studies in the US in 2011–12.

• The total number of international students studying in the US has hit a record high of 764,495.

• In the US, the number of students studying abroad has tripled in the past two decades, with just under 274,000 studying abroad in 2010–11, the most recent year for which data are available.

• And yet only 14% of BA students currently study abroad during their undergraduate programs.

IWU Fast Facts

• This year’s entering class of international students (49) is more than double the number that entered five years ago.

• IWU now has 106 international students on campus from 21 different countries.

• Over the past 5 academic years, 1156 IWU students have studied abroad on a semester, year-long, or May Term program.

• In 1995–96 (the first year for which we have numbers), only 28 students studied abroad for a semester or year. Now, an average of 130 students spend a semester or year overseas.

• Close to half of all IWU students study abroad, either on a semester/full-year program or through a May Term travel course.
IWU welcomed its largest class of international students this fall—49 students from 14 countries—bringing the total number of international students to over 100.

Please join us in making these new students part of the IWU family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emmanuel Ahonkhai</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>Moyoniuoluwa Ajayi</td>
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<td>Hansheng &quot;Jason&quot; Chen</td>
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<td>Samuel Davies</td>
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<td>Oaruru Fujita</td>
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Above: (Top) At a host family dinner, new international students Martijn Van Dooren, left, and Ruomeng Zhang, center, helped clean sweet corn for dinner with alumnus Jim Mullins ('03) and his family.

(Middle) A panel of current students answered questions for new students during International Student Orientation.

(Bottom) International and MALANA students at the pre-orientation Karaoke Night

Below: Iyin Ajayi ('14) with owl pillows made as welcome gifts for new international students.

(All photos by Marc Featherly)