Things to Consider for Study Abroad

There are many factors to take into consideration when choosing a program such as type of program, location, and coursework to name just a few. In order to help with this process, the Education Abroad Office has compiled a list of questions for you to consider when reviewing program options.

Before deciding on a program, please consider the following:

1. Studying in Non-Traditional Locations can increase scholarship eligibility and be cost effective!
   - Asia - Thailand, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Japan, Nepal, Bhutan, Mongolia, South Korea
   - Africa - Morocco, Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal, Tunisia, Madagascar, South Africa
   - Middle East - Turkey, Jordan, Oman, UAE, Israel
   - Eastern Europe - Czech Republic, Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Turkey, Poland, Latvia, Estonia
   - Northern Europe - Iceland, Greenland, Sweden, Finland, Norway
   - South America - Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina
   - Central America & West Indies - Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Turks & Caicos Islands

2. Compare Cost of Living around the Globe!
   - Access to more scholarship funding!
   - Cost of living is less in small cities vs. large cities
   - Consider Cost of living around the world
   - Check out our Cost Effective Programs list!

3. Scholarships are available for studying Critical Need Languages:
   - Arabic (all dialects)
   - Japanese
   - Chinese (all dialects)
   - Russian
   - Korean
   - Turkic (Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkish, Turkmen, Uzbek)
   - Swahili
   - Persian (Farsi, Dari, Kurdish, Pashto, Tajiki)
   - Indic (Hindi, Urdu, Nepali, Sinhala, Bengali, Punjabi, Marathi, Gujarati, Sindhi)
   - Bahasa Indonesia

4. Program Options by Major
   - Major Advising Pages - Program Options by Major
   - Are there certain language skills that will improve my job outlook?

5. Reviewing my Degree Evaluation in Web4U and completing courses for the following abroad:
   - Major
   - Minor
   - International Studies Minor
   - GURs
   - Honors/Fairhaven
   - Internship/Service Learning
   - Research/Field Study
   - Electives

6. What are my Goals for this experience?
   - Gain/Improve Language skills
   - Field Study/Research
   - Resume Builder-Internship
   - Service Learning

7. Do I prefer a:
   - Large city or Small town
   - Large or Small University
   - Outdoor Field Study Experience

   - Who do I want to study abroad with?
     - International students
     - A mix of US & International Students
     - Primarily other US/American students
     - Other WWU students

   - The benefits of different housing options?
     - A homestay family * better language skills!
     - In an apartment with international students *access to local culture & international friends!

   - The benefits of how long I am abroad?
     - *Better language skills & investment value the longer I am abroad!
       - Year
       - Semester
       - Quarter
       - Summer

8. My Graduation Timeline?
   - How flexible are my Depts. with study abroad?
   - Do I have a “tracked” major that may limit me?
   - Students can go abroad their last term if available based on major!
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