

GLOBETROTTER

GLOBAL AMBASSADORS

NOVEMBER 2020 · ISSUE B · VOLUME I



International Education Week

IEW EVENTS

A featured event from each day
(more events at link in right article)

Monday November 16th, 9 am
Perspectives from the Global South: Education, Democracy, and Equity after COVID-19 w) Buccus & Korzh

Tuesday November 17th, 1 pm
Expedition Mongolia: Climate Change and The Last Nomad w) David Sattler

Wednesday November 18th, 12 pm
Korean cooking class w) WWU Visiting Scholar Dohun Kwon!

Thursday November 19th, 11 am
Careers in International Education seminar w) Sora Friedman

Friday November 20th, 8 AM
World premiere of Andre Robert Lee's documentary "Confronting the Living History of the Civil Rights Struggle"

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK: NOV 16-20

International Education Week (IEW) is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State. Inaugurated by President Bill Clinton in 2000, IEW celebrates the importance and benefits of international education in the U.S. and around the world. Today, IEW is celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide.

Since its inception in 2000, IEW has been a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences.

IEW's focus has always been to promote awareness and understanding of our world's diverse cultures both abroad, as well as within our own campus community.

IEW's mission is particularly relevant in 2020, which has been rocked by global health concerns and travel restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now more than ever, we should come together and celebrate the importance of international education and the global ties shared by WWU students, staff, and alumni around the world.

We encourage members of the Western Washington University community to participate in our virtual events.

Learn more about International Education Week at: <https://global.wvu.edu/international-education-week-0>



STUDY ABROAD IN PERSON!!

The US Department of State has removed their 'Global Health Level 4 Do Not Travel Advisory' and continue to provide a list of countries it considers relatively safe from COVID-19 and other elements. The EdAbroad office has received permission from the university to allow students to study in State Department Level 1 (Exercise Normal Precautions) and Level 2 (Exercise Increased Caution) countries. Study abroad in Level 3 (Reconsider Travel) and Level 4 (Do Not Travel) countries is still not allowed. US Department of State Travel Advisories.

Of the list of State Department Level 1 and 2 countries, EdAbroad has partners in **Thailand and Vietnam**. While we have partners in some of the other Level 1 and 2 countries, those countries are not letting travelers from the US enter.

While the programs our partners are offering in both countries are cost-effective and have courses in English, ample support to students, warm weather, and delicious food, you'll need to keep in mind that you would be studying abroad during a pandemic. While the State Department indicates that these countries are managing the pandemic well, there may be times where the government of your host country calls for isolation to protect their communities. It's also possible you could contract COVID-19 while abroad and while it's possible that you could contract COVID-19 in the US, you'd have to consider what it would be like to manage that illness away from home. Students who decide to study abroad this winter term will need to be resilient, mature, calm, adaptable, and independent and have healthy coping mechanisms when circumstances become stressful.

We've compiled a list of which program sites are offered by our provider partners, as provider organizations tend to offer more student support. Review these options and reach out to an Education Abroad advisor immediately if you're interested in learning more.

LINK FOR MORE: <https://studyabroad.wvu.edu/node/962>



OFFICER SPOTLIGHT-- ROMANE BEEHARRY

Hi everyone! My name is Romane Beeharry, I am from Mauritius and I am the Budget Coordinator for the Global Ambassadors. I am a senior majoring in Political Science and Economics, and I am super excited to be graduating this year.

I spent most of my youth growing up in the United Arab Emirates. My favorite part about living in Dubai was that I got the opportunity to meet a ton of people from different cultures and nationalities, and some of my best friends today. I also miss living there because I grew accustomed to the Middle Eastern culture and it's just a completely different world to experience.

One of my favorite things about Global Ambassadors is that it allows me to meet people who have a passion for travel and who sometimes are from different cultures. It's great to be able to share that international experience with others.

VOLUNTEERING ABROAD; HOW TO PROTECT

BY ELLIE POTTS

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH!!
HAVE YOU CONSIDERED VOLUNTEERING ABROAD
BEFORE? HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KNOW...

In February, I had the opportunity to travel to Cambodia and Vietnam to visit *Friends International* and learn about the Child Safe movement. *Friends International* is ranked one of the top NGOs in the world, and while there, I spent time learning about global mistakes made when volunteering, working, or studying abroad, as visitors come with good intentions but may leave negative impacts. I learned about how a traveler can protect children and marginalized communities when abroad, and how to avoid voluntourism. I would like to share the 7 tips I learned while at *Friends International* in Phnom Penh: <https://friends-international.org/>



1. Children are not tourist attractions - let's not treat them like they are.
2. Volunteering with children feels good but could be harmful - look for better ways to help them.
3. Children pay a price for your generosity - don't give to begging children.
4. Children should not be at work instead of school - report child labor.
5. Sex with children is a crime - report child sex tourism.
6. Professionals know best - call them if a child needs help.
7. Keep our planet ChildSafe - protect the environment

More on the 7 tips:

<https://thinkchildsafef.org/7-tips-for-travelers/>

It is important to recognize that as travelers, we may have unknowingly made these mistakes before (For example, taking pictures of kids or others without their permission, posting pictures with kids in foreign countries representing saviorism, or purchasing items from begging children at markets when they should be in school). However, the best travelers reflect and grow from their experiences. Learning about the do's and don'ts of volunteering abroad can help you recognize how to prevent future mistakes.

When considering volunteering abroad, ask yourself -
Am I staying long enough to make an positive impact? Am I putting my professional skills to use in the best way possible? Does the program I'm considering limit child nourishment or cultural connection? Could I do this work at home instead? Does this position require cultural awareness/knowledge of a culture I am not proficient in?

Volunteer impact varies by program, but in-depth research is vital to make a positive impact in any situation abroad. Look for programs that do not involve directly working with vulnerable communities. Instead, help systemically; such as working on an organic farm, building infrastructure and schools, or teaching languages in formats that do not enforce/reinforce neocolonialism. This can be safer for you and the communities you serve, and can put your skills to better use!



JEREMY'S BUCKET LIST-- GLAMOROUS DUBAI

Dubai, a city of just over 3 million people, is the capital of the wealthy **United Arab Emirates**, a nation jutting off the Arabian peninsula. That wealth is evident in a city full of amazing architectural achievements. The city's skyline is crowned by **Burj Khalifa**, the world's tallest building, and an icon in Islamic architecture. On the waterfront is the **Burj Al Arab**, a sailboat shaped Arab hotel described as a "seven-star hotel." Other stops worth visiting are **Palm Jumeirah**, **Dubai Creek**, **Dubai Miracle Garden**, the numerous **beaches**, and the boundless **Arabian Desert** outside the city limits. While Dubai is an expensive place to visit, if you can manage a day or two there, whether as an extension of another trip or as a layover to another place, it is worth your while to explore the glamorous city of Dubai!

Study Abroad Programs available in nearby Sharjah:

<https://www-sa.terradotta.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ProgramDiscovery&search=United%20Arab%20Emirates>



A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello readers,

I hope you enjoy the second issue of the Globetrotter! We worked hard to get this one out in a timely manner, and hope this is full of useful information! Make sure to especially check out what International Education Week is about, and see if you can participate in an event or two!

I am still looking for contributors! I had to coerce someone to submit a photo, and was unable to find an international student to interview. Please reach out to me if you would like to be featured, or if you want to join the amazing staff writer Ellie in writing articles for this! Thank you.

Safe Travels,

Jeremy Caldeira

Jeremy Caldeira
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PHOTO OF THE MONTH

The Parthenon, taken on the 2018 Honors summer study abroad program in Athens, Greece

-Jason Sasser

If you would like to have your photo featured as photo of the month, please send your photo with a caption up to 100 words to caldeij@wwu.edu



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@globalambassadors_wwu



IMPORTANT DATES

November 16-20:

International Education Week
Check the front page for more info!

November 17th:

Critical Language Scholarship Due
"The Critical Language Scholarship is a summer study abroad program for students to learn languages essential to America's engagement with the world. There are 15 languages, including Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese! Learn more at <https://clscholarship.org/>

November 18th, 12 pm:

LinkedIn-For Beginners and Up
Learn how to create an effective profile and maximize the benefits of this profile. Visit WWU career center website for more info

January 1st, 2020

Deadline for ISA Bangkok
Study in-person in Bangkok for spring quarter 2021. Program runs from Mid April to late June. English courses are available in a wide variety of disciplines. Visit the WWU EdAbroad site for more details.

February 1st, 2020

Wildland Studies, Thailand
Study marine ecosystems in Thailand from March 25-May 8, 2020. Visit the WWU EdAbroad website for more details.