

# GLOBETROTTER

GLOBAL AMBASSADORS

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## MEET AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT --LYNN SEUCHTER--

I'm Lynn Seuchter from Germany. I've lived in Duisburg, a city in Western Germany, my entire life, but my home university is TU Dortmund. After I finish my studies at home, I will be a Special Education teacher.

In order to do that, I take English and German classes at home. I currently speak five languages (English, German, French, Spanish, and Portuguese), all of them more or less fluent. So far, I've been to 14 countries: Germany, the US, the UK, the Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, France, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy and Georgia.

My #1 place that I want to go to but have not have the chance yet is Iceland. Other than traveling, learning languages, and meeting new people, I love to hike or bike in nature or read a good book. My favorite part about Western is the people I've met here! Everyone is super nice, and I feel very welcome!





# CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

**LEARN A LANGUAGE ABROAD FOR FREE!  
--BY GABE ROTH--**

Western students interested in studying diverse, less commonly known languages should consider applying for the U.S. State Department's Critical Language Scholarship Program (CLS) Program. This fully funded program offers undergraduate and graduate level students a chance to delve into learning about their target language and host country with classes for students at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels to give all participants the best experience possible. With more than a dozen languages offered, ranging from Arabic to Urdu, students will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of languages not commonly taught in the United States. Best of all, the classes taken through the CLS program count for college credit, and the entire program is paid for by the State Department, making it an affordable option for all students looking interested in taking advantage of this amazing experience!

Additionally, students who wish to study critical languages abroad for a semester and/or academic year should consider applying for the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship's Critical Language supplement/award, which offers eligible applicants up to \$8,000 in financial aid to help them study critical languages abroad.

Students interested in studying abroad can always reach out to the Education Abroad Office for advice regarding scholarships. Students can also find potential scholarship resources through the WWU Fellowship Office.

**Follow us on Instagram!**  
**@globalambassadors\_wwu**



# HOLIDAYS OF THE SEASON

BY ELLIE POTTS

**THIS OCTOBER, MANY OF YOU WILL BE CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN! HALLOWEEN ORIGINATED IN IRELAND, AS A CELTIC FESTIVAL OF SAMHAIN. THE “CELTS” WHO LIVED 2000 YEARS AGO IN THE IRELAND AREA, CELEBRATED THE NEW YEAR ON NOVEMBER 1ST. THIS TIME WAS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH DEATH, MOVING FROM SUMMER AND HARVEST INTO THE COLD, DARK WINTER. THE CELTS BELIEVED ON THE NIGHT OF THE NEW YEAR, THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE WORLDS OF THE LIVING AND DEAD BECAME BLURRED, AND THE GHOSTS OF THE DEAD RETURNED TO EARTH, AS CROPS WILTED AND DIED. TODAY, THEIR CUSTOMS TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN INCLUDE EATING BARNBRACK (A TRADITIONAL FRUITCAKE), LIGHTING BONFIRES, FIREWORKS, AND STREET PARTIES.**



**IN PORTUGAL AND ITALY, PARTICULARLY THE SMALL ITALIAN ISLAND OF SARDINIA, TRADITIONS SIMILAR TO THE US HAVE BEEN PRACTICED, SUCH AS KIDS GOING DOOR TO DOOR ASKING FOR SWEETS. IN SARDINIA, KIDS MAKE JACK-O-LANTERNS FOR “CONCAS DE MORTU” (HEADS OF THE DEAD). AND IN PORTUGAL, CHILDREN SAY “PÃO-POR-DEUS” (BREAD OF GOD) AT THE DOOR OF THEIR NEIGHBORS NOVEMBER 1ST TO RECEIVE BREAD, TRINKETS, OR CANDY.**

**ACROSS THE ATLANTIC, HALLOWEEN IS CELEBRATED MUCH DIFFERENTLY. IN THE UNITED STATES, IT DIDN'T BECOME THE COSTUME-WEARING, TRICK-OR-TREATING, GHOULISH-THEMED PARTIES UNTIL THE LATE 1900S. TODAY, ¼ OF ALL THE CANDY SOLD IN THE US IS PURCHASED FOR HALLOWEEN. IN THE LAST 10 YEARS, THE AMERICAN HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS OF COSTUMES AND CARVINGS HAVE INCREASED IN POPULARITY IN JAPAN, HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE, AND IN VIETNAM AND THAILAND A VEGETABLE SIMILAR TO A PUMPKIN-SHAPE FOR CARVING CAN BE USED. JAPAN CELEBRATES OBON, A JULY OR AUGUST FESTIVAL FILLED WITH BRIGHT RED LANTERNS TO SHOW ROAMING SPIRITS, AND A TIME TO CLEAN MEMORIALS. CHINA HAS MORE TRADITIONAL DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, INCLUDING THE HUNGRY GHOST FESTIVAL, THE QINGMING FESTIVAL, DOUBLE 9TH FESTIVAL, AND THE SPRING FESTIVAL.**



**IN MEXICO, DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS (DAY OF THE DEAD) IS A MEXICAN HOLIDAY CELEBRATED ON NOVEMBER 1ST THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY TREASURED IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN REGIONS. TRADITIONS INCLUDE CONSTRUCTING ALTARS TO DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS, VISITING GRAVES WITH OFFERINGS SUCH AS CANDY SUGAR SKULLS, SWEET BREADS, AND BOTTLES OF TEQUILA. ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, THE GLOBAL AMBASSADORS WILL BE CELEBRATING THE SEASONAL HOLIDAYS TOGETHER IN MILLER HALL 129 FROM 5-7PM. IN PARTICULAR, WE WILL BE FROSTING SUGAR CANDY SKULLS AND WATCHING COCO TO CELEBRATE DÍA DE MUERTOS! WE ARE EXCITED TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU, WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO CELEBRATE, AND CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR EVENT.**

**SOURCES:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.BUSINESSINSIDER.COM/HOW-HALLOWEEN-IS-CELEBRATED-IN-4-COUNTRIES-AROUND-THE-WORLD-2016-10#ITALY-3](https://www.businessinsider.com/how-halloween-is-celebrated-in-4-countries-around-the-world-2016-10#italy-3)  
[HTTPS://WWW.HISTORY.COM/TOPICS/HALLOWEEN/HISTORY-OF-HALLOWEEN](https://www.history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween)  
[HTTPS://WWW.ASIAMEDIACENTRE.ORG.NZ/FEATURES/IS-HALLOWEEN-CELEBRATED-IN-ASIA/](https://www.asiamediacentre.org.nz/features/is-halloween-celebrated-in-asia/)  
[HTTP://UPBPRODUCTS.CO.UK/2015/10/29/HALLOWEEN-CELEBRATED-ACROSS-ASIA/](http://upbproducts.co.uk/2015/10/29/halloween-celebrated-across-asia/)**



## OFFICER SPOTLIGHT --ASHE HOLM--

Hi there! I'm Ashe Holm! I'm the graphic designer and social media manager for the club. To introduce myself, I grew up on Bainbridge Island and currently live in Bellingham. I am a second year Anthropology major with a concentration in Archaeology and am applying for the museum studies minor as well. In my freetime I like to go out to antique shops and second hand stores to find cool and odd objects.

I studied abroad in Paraguay in South America during my junior year of high school through the Rotary Exchange. During my time there I stayed with an amazing host family and went to a local high school. I was also lucky enough to travel during my time in South America to Patagonia in Argentina and Machu Picchu in Peru. I'm planning on studying abroad again next school year in the UK.

I'm excited to be a part of the club and to meet everyone this year now that we are finally in person.



## IMPORTANT DATES

### Information Session:

Wildland Studies

October 19, 20, 21 5:00 PM

Future Global Ambassadors  
Events:

### Virtual Gaming Night #1

October 18th 7:00pm

ID: 983 5114 8601

Passcode: 76\$5%ty98

### Day of the Dead: Sugar Skull Decorating!

October 28th 5:00-7:00pm

### Virtual Gaming Night #2

November 1st 7:00 pm

### Virtual Gaming Night #3

November 8th, 7:00pm

### Peace Corps Trivia & Info Session

November 18th, 5:00pm



## **BLOG: I GOT 99 PROBLEMS BUT CULTURE SHOCK AIN'T ONE**

*Note: This a short feature that will showcase excerpts from the editor's blog whilst studying abroad in Lisbon, Portugal. He hopes to encapsulate the study abroad experience for those interested in future travels, or want to live vicariously through his past travels. Enjoy!*

"Communication. For me, this is a huge problem! Yes, I live in an apartment building with nine other Americans in the immediate vicinity. Yes, my classes are taught in English, and everyone in them speaks English. Yes, many of the Portuguese around here still speak enough English for me to be able to buy some milk, or ask if I can hitchhike. That still doesn't mean it isn't my biggest problem. I am an English spot in the middle of a blob of Portuguese. I cannot communicate with a majority of the people around me. If I were to want to ask where something was in a store, I could not manage (this has led to aimless wanderings around my local Continente until I finally find the right aisle). I cannot question whether that price quoted to me is actually right (as in when I got scammed by the taxi). I cannot ask a bouncer why they let the person in front for free, but want me to pay (didn't happen to me, but I heard that happens to Americans). I'm essentially mute. Luckily, I've been able to get by so far. But, I'm hoping the Portuguese language coursework that I started this week will help me immensely. I think also that it is respectful for me to learn the language of my host. I want to assimilate somewhat, not be forced to be separate in this way. I have high hopes that this problem will be resolved soon."



## **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

Hello readers,

We hope you have had a great start to your quarter so far! It has been great to see you all in person, whether at the Info Fair, or either of our two in-person events that have happened so far. Don't worry if you've missed them, we still have two more in-person events and a few online events remaining this quarter.

If you're new to the club, this newsletter serves as a resource that provides information on the study abroad experience, resources for studying abroad, and also introduces you to the global community on campus! If you have any questions or suggestions about this newsletter, feel free to shoot me an email. Enjoy reading this!

Safe Travels,

*Jeremy Caldeira*

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