

# GLOBETROTTER

GLOBAL AMBASSADORS

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## International Education Week

**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK**  
**--BY GABE ROTH--**

Hello students! In a bit of exciting news, this year's International Education Week (IEW) is right around the corner! IEW is a joint initiative by the U.S. Departments of State and Education, promoting study abroad programs and encouraging students to broaden their perspectives on issues affecting the global community. This year it will run from Nov. 15-19, and will provide a chance for our campus community to join with like-minded institutions across the nation to promote and celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. On Western's campus, events are organized by the [Institute for Global Engagement](#) and the office of [Language and Culture Programs in Outreach and Continuing Education](#).

Returning students may also remember the many wonderful engagement opportunities hosted online last year on Western's IEW website when most school activities were virtual. This more flexible format was so popular that Western will continue to provide online options this year, as well as some exciting in-person content. Highlights of the week's events include a special Western Abroad 101 Info Session, Peace Corps Trivia and Information, Critical Conversation webinar, and a Global Spotlight series. Global Spotlight events are designed to share information about specific countries from the joint perspective of international students from the country and WWU students who studied abroad there. Students can feel free to visit the [updated website](#) to see all workshop and activity details.

\*As a reminder, please note that some events will require signing up in advance. Those interested in more information regarding International Education Week, should email [karissa.ringel@wwu.edu](mailto:karissa.ringel@wwu.edu).

## MEET AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT --MAREIKE ROHLOFF--



Hey everyone! My name is Mareike and I am an exchange student from the Georg-August University in Göttingen, Germany. I am majoring in political science, and plan to teach politics in school or pursue an academic career. I might also become a politician :)

At my high school, I participated in two short exchange programs to German neighboring countries, those being France and Poland. After school, I took a gap year and worked as a Teaching Assistant in an elementary school in Namibia. This gap year taught me how much you can learn about yourself and your home country when visiting different places. However, going to WWU is my first foreign study experience - and my first time in the United States.

I have always wanted to learn more about the United States since a lot of political scientists I've heard of were US citizens. In addition, I heard that the professor-student relations are much closer and that the learning environment is very friendly. When I discovered that WWU is a partner university of Göttingen, I applied for the exchange program. So far, I am more than happy with my choice. Being so close to the Pacific on the one side and beautiful mountains and huge forests on the other side of the town, I appreciate Bellingham a lot. I am also very flattered by the openness and kindness of my friends, classmates and professors - and the bus drivers. Thank you for the warm welcome, WWU!

The next country on my travel bucket list is probably Egypt since I would like to learn more about its history and visit a friend in Alexandria.



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

# **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK SOCIAL MEDIA TAKEOVER**

**FEATURING ELLIE POTTS & CEDRIK PELKA**



**HELLO GLOBETROTTERS!  
BE SURE TO CHECK OUT  
THE INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT  
@OURWESTERN TO SEE  
GLOBAL AMBASSADOR  
OFFICER ELLIE POTTS &  
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
CEDRIK PELKA  
DISCUSSING  
INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION WEEK! THEY  
WILL BE DISCUSSING  
WHAT IEW IS,  
EXPERIENCES STUDYING  
ABROAD, AND CEDRIK'S  
EXPERIENCES IN THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
INTENSIVE ENGLISH  
PROGRAM (IEP) HERE AT  
WESTERN.**

**CEDRIK IS FROM ESSEN, GERMANY, A TOWN WITH  
600,000 CITIZENS, LOCATED IN THE WESTERN  
PART OF GERMANY. HE IS HERE FOR THE FALL  
2021 QUARTER TO ENHANCE HIS ENGLISH SKILLS.  
WITHIN HIS IEP COHORT, THERE ARE STUDENTS  
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, INCLUDING  
GERMANY, JAPAN, KAZAKHSTAN, MEXICO, AND  
COLOMBIA. THE GLOBAL AMBASSADORS HAVE  
GOTTEN THE PRIVILEGE TO MEET MANY OF THEM  
AND WILL MISS OUR FRIENDS WHO LEAVE AT THE  
END OF FALL QUARTER.**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING A LANGUAGE  
ABROAD? TUNE IN DURING INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION WEEK TO LEARN MORE!**



## OFFICER SPOTLIGHT --GABE ROTH--

Hello, my name is Gabe Roth. I am originally from White Salmon, WA, but I have been living in Bellingham since the start of the 2021-22 academic year. I am a third year student at Western, and my major is History and Social Studies. I am particularly interested in Eastern Mediterranean history, especially that of the Eastern Roman Empire and the later Ottoman Empire. I recently joined the Global Ambassadors officer team, and currently my primary focus is writing for the Globetrotter.

I had the opportunity to participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange program during my junior year of high school, through which I spent ten months in the city of Izmir studying at a local Turkish high school. Whilst there I was able to visit numerous local historical sites such as Ephesus and Laodika, which helped fuel my interest in the history of that region. Additionally, I plan to continue my adventures abroad during college. I have already applied for the State Department's CLS summer program in Ankara, Turkey, and I also plan to apply for a direct exchange in Lyon, France, later this year. Thus, I would like to offer a warning to anyone interested in studying abroad; once you get started, you'll never want to stop!



## IMPORTANT DATES

### **International Education Week**

November 15th-19th

*Check out the WWU EdAbroad website for more info on all the events you can participate in!*

### **Peace Corps Trivia & Info Session**

November 18th, 5:00pm

*Come learn from Abby Senuty, WWU's Peace Corps recruiter, about what the Peace Corps is and about through a fun game of trivia! Prizes will be awarded as well!*

### **Save the Date**

December 2nd, 6-8pm

*Make sure to check your email, as this upcoming event will have a limited amount of space.*





## **BLOG: MAKING FRIENDS THROUGH ERASMUS IN PORTUGAL**

...I first learned of Erasmus, this haven for European university students with wanderlust and a desire to have fun (while getting paid to do it), at a party. I couldn't escape Erasmus after this. API offered to pay for the Erasmus Life Lisboa (ELL) trip to Sintra, and it was here that Erasmus really started making a difference. This trip presented ELL as a fun-loving organization bent on bringing people with different backgrounds together in the universal language of **party**. It aspired to break down barriers that we often tend to build up so easily, and create lasting friendships. I made good friends on that trip, and only continued to make more friends as I purchased the ELL card, and attended walking tours, trips to the mountains, and social events galore. So, it was fitting that one of my last excursions would be lead by ELL. It was even more fitting that my guide, Jorge, was the same one I had for the Sintra trip. I had rolled down a hill at a national palace with him on that trip, and this time, we plotted on how we would extort our *Fransechinas* from the waitress after waiting over an hour...The number of friends from different places I've made at Erasmus events are numerous. Germany, Russia, France, Italy, Slovenia, Lithuania, Belarus...Spain, Poland, even Zimbabwe. My network of friends has grown to become multinational, a network I know I can rely on if I ever choose to travel or study again in Europe (and there is nearly a 100% certainty that will happen). ELL has opened up my world, and I will forever be thankful for their contributions to the meaningfulness of my study abroad experience...



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

Hello readers,

I hope you enjoy the November edition of the Globetrotter! Make sure to check out all the cool events going on this week for International Education Week. Additionally, one of our officers, Ellie, is taking over the @Ourwestern Instagram account this week with one of our international students, Cedrik! Make sure to check that out and give them lots of love.

Be on the lookout for an email about an upcoming event that will have a limited amount of space. All of the officer team is super excited about this event, and we hope you will be too.

As always, reach out to me if you want to get involved.

Safe Travels,

*Jeremy Caldeira*

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