

What Do You Hope to Gain From Your Experience Abroad?

Thinking about your goals as you are planning your international experience will help guide your selection of programs, but also help to make your experience abroad more meaningful. Please plan to review your ideas when you meet with us in planning your time abroad.

Decision Factors

What are the most important factors for you when choosing a study abroad program?

Location, cost, coursework, homestay, volunteer opportunities, cost, etc.

Academic and Professional Learning

What would you like to be able to say that you now know or can do academically or professionally, when you return from your international experience?

Improve language skills, learn more about major—business or other major outside of Carlson, gain valuable experience interning abroad, fulfill liberal education requirements, increase knowledge base of norms and cultures in another country and the educational system, as well as political, economic or social systems, conduct field research

Examples:

- 1) I can carry on a conversation in French with a native speaker.
- 2) I understand more about investment banking in Hong Kong.
- 3) I fulfilled my other humanities requirement in Florence by learning about Michelangelo's *David*.

Abilities

Which skills would you like to strengthen in your time abroad?

Confidence, self-direction, problem-solving, dealing with ambiguity, critical thinking skills, flexibility, working with adversity, to name a few.....

Attitudes and Awareness

Considering the many different perspectives you may be exposed to, how do you wish to stretch your own thinking to grow in your time abroad?

Intercultural awareness and competence, awareness of global issues, ability to evaluate competing perspectives on global issues, interest in community service/involvement, appreciation of difference, awareness of one's own culture and values, new perspective on the U.S. and its role in the world....These are some ideas to get you started.

Examples:

- 1) Learn how U.S. policy affects the host country I am studying in.
- 2) Experience a different classroom environment and how I work best.
- 3) Adapt to a new daily routine and culture with roommates or host family.

These are examples to help you in your own planning and goal setting. Please feel free to discuss your ideas, concerns, and questions when you meet with us.

We also encourage you to follow up with us when you return to discuss your experience and to share your time abroad at a reentry event.

Decision Factors

What are the most important factors for you when choosing a study abroad program?

Academic & Professional Learning

What would you like to be able to say that you now know or can do academically or professionally, when you return from your international experience?

Skills & Abilities

Which skills would you like to strengthen in your time abroad?

Attitudes & Awareness

How do you wish to stretch your own thinking during your time abroad?