

Study Abroad Application Essay

University policy requires all Study Abroad applicants to write an essay in support of their application. Besides serving as an evaluation tool for Study Abroad placement, the essay permits the applicant the valuable opportunity to examine her or his own reasons for desiring to pursue studies abroad, to quantify the benefits that the student hopes to gain from the experience (both in terms of personal and intellectual growth), and to consider its possible impact upon career opportunities. In addition, the writing of the essay allow the applicant to record expectations of what it will be like to live and study abroad.

Your typed, double-spaced, essay must be *no less* than 500 words in length, and is due with your completed application by the appropriate Study Abroad application deadline. As with any formal work, the essay is expected to be free of errors, and constructed and written in an appropriate manner. Please include your name and Student ID number in the top left corner of the essay.

At a minimum, your essay should present the following:

1. An introductory statement that identifies the roots or source of your interest in pursuing studies abroad.
2. A paragraph that explains your beliefs regarding the general importance or significance of studying abroad.
3. A description of your studies to date within your chosen major, and an articulation of why you believe that your interests will be enhanced by attending your chosen Study Abroad program (e.g., La Salle University's program with the American University of Rome, National University of Ireland, or Universidad La Salle Mexico City).
4. Your expectations regarding living and studying abroad in the country that will be hosting you.
5. How studying abroad will ultimately impact you:
 - Personally
 - Academically, and
 - In your career choices.

Bring your essay towards a conclusion with a paragraph that summarizes the above issues, and then conclude with a succinct statement of why you should be accepted into the Study Abroad program.

Return your completed essay along with your application for the spring semester by **October 26th, 2007** to Melinda Massaro, International Education Coordinator, at the Multicultural and International Center at the corner of 20th and Olney (1923 W. Olney Ave). Thank you, and good luck!