Global Ambassador Internship Program

Engaging Returned Study Abroad Students Through On-Campus Activities

Global Ambassadors

Students complete activities at their own pace throughout the academic year.

Required activities for all participants:
• Complete the fall program training
• Serve as a past participant for their program & assist with two pre-departure orientations
• Submit an online evaluation of the internship

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Promote Study Abroad in Person
• Volunteer with the Fall Study Abroad Fair or serve on student panels in department or college activities
• Complete 15 classroom visits

Personal and Professional Development
• Attend the Minnesota Study Abroad Re-Entry Conference or Market Your Experience Abroad workshop
• Plan and lead a monthly discussion meeting

Share Resources and Advice
• Provide photos and/or interview for the web and program materials
• Review web and printed materials for their specific program

Connect with the International Community
• Join a cross cultural discussion group or become an international buddy to incoming international students
• Assist in Small World Coffee Hour with marketing, welcoming and demonstrations

Internship Activities

Global Ambassadors have represented 113 different countries and nearly 200 programs.

From 2008 to 2012, more than 300 students have been Global Ambassador interns. During the 2011-2012 academic year, interns have reached out to over 250 classrooms across the Twin Cities campus to share their experiences and to encourage others to seek out their own study abroad opportunity.

Students have the opportunity to create their own activities for the internship. Some independent activities have been:
• Being a student buddy with an international student from China
• Representing their study abroad host country at the World Festival in Middlebrook Hall

Monthly Discussion Meetings focus on a different topic and are chosen and facilitated by the interns. Past topics have included:
• Interning abroad and defining the experience to future employers
• The trials and tribulations of learning a language abroad
• Discussing the experience of living with a host family

Participant Reflections

I was amazed at the different ways to incorporate my study abroad experience into my resume. I am much more confident in marketing my study abroad experience to employers now, especially those who may not necessarily see the value in studying abroad.

The classroom visits were very valuable for developing public speaking skills.

I thought the classroom visits really aided in my personal development because it made me really reflect and articulate what experiences impacted me the most.

I learned many different skills and techniques that I know that I can pass on to other students who are studying abroad.

The panels and orientations allowed me to pass on what I learned abroad to other students, which will hopefully make their transition easier.

This experience really helped me develop a sense of empowerment regarding my experience abroad, in that I am more comfortable discussing my trip when asked the question “so how was studying abroad?” (My previous thought: WHERE DO I BEGIN?!)