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## Study Abroad Newsletter - October Edition

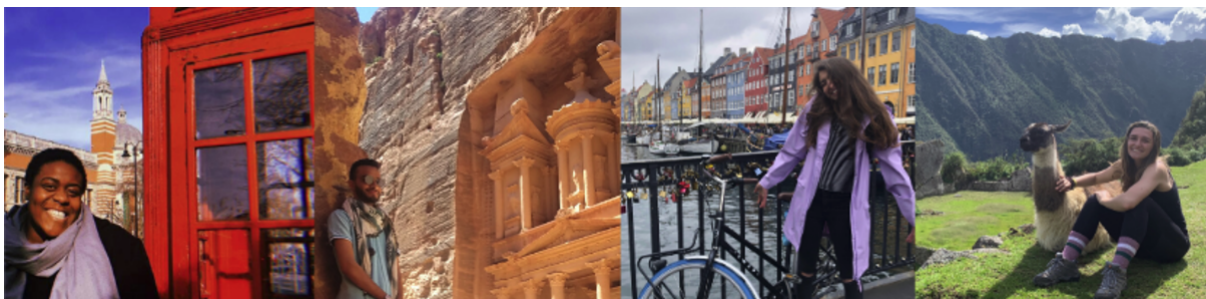
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*Keeping you up to date and connected with our office and the world!*



## **WHAT'S NEW IN** *Study Abroad?* ✈️



**UPDATE FOR SPRING 2021  
APPLICANTS**



As you know, many uncertainties still surround the immediate prospects for Spring 2021 study abroad. OSA asks that our students remain flexible during this time. Though we continue to be hopeful, we highly recommend that our students have plans in place for all possibilities. This includes multiple study abroad applications in different locations as well as plans for what GW courses you may want to take should study abroad not be a possibility this Spring. These backup options will help you ensure you have all options open to move forward. Additionally, the OSA recommends refraining from submitting deposits until you understand your program's refund policies. These payments are not refundable by GW at this time.

## OSA SPRING 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN OCTOBER 15

Calling all Spring 2021 applicants! OSA Scholarship Applications will be opening soon on October 15th and will close on November 15th. Please visit our website through the link below to learn more about the available scholarships, and starting October 15th, apply for the scholarships on GW Passport! As a reminder, space is limited and scholarships are not guaranteed. We encourage students to seek additional external scholarship opportunities through their program and other sources.



OSA Scholarship Information



## STUDY ABROAD ADVISING - VIRTUAL FOR FALL 2020

Even with a virtual semester, our advising team continues to be available for student meetings and appointments. Are you an applicant or interested student and have questions about the study abroad process? Are you a returnee student and need support or have questions about the transfer credit process? Interested in having an advisor meet with your student organization, club or group? Set up a virtual meeting with your study abroad advisor or one of our peer

advisors, or visit our advisors virtual offices for resources and information!

## STUDY ABROAD PEER ADVISORS (SAPAs)

In addition to our full-time advising team, our office also offers peer-to-peer advising. This is a great way to learn what the study abroad experience is really like from the student perspective! Each year, we have a new group of high-achieving and outgoing study abroad alumni volunteers who are trained to help newly interested students with the study abroad process. Get to know what studying abroad is really like from students who have gone through the process themselves!

You can schedule virtual appointments on our website to meet with a SAPA and discuss the study abroad experience and steps to study abroad!



Meet with a SAPA



## CALLING ALL STUDY ABROAD RETURNEES!

Virtual Lessons From Abroad Conference will be taking place this October!

If you studied abroad in the past, you are invited to this free, nation-wide event available to all students who have studied abroad in recent semesters, and in particular, for those who were abroad in spring 2020 and had their programs interrupted by COVID-19. The virtual conference will take place over the course of two weekends in October - October 9th/10th and October 16th/17th. Each day will consist of a variety of different sessions and opportunities for students to connect each day and unpack, re-frame, and market their study abroad experiences.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the conference, feel free to reach out to [lessonsfromabroadvirtual@gmail.com](mailto:lessonsfromabroadvirtual@gmail.com).

Learn More on LFA's Facebook Page

## GW'S INCOMING EXCHANGE PROGRAM

*"My name is Anete Biķe and I am just beginning my exchange year at GW as part of my BA at Sciences Po Paris, joining online courses from my home city Rīga in Latvia. I am majoring in Political Humanities with a Transatlantic regional concentration, hence I was very excited to find out my home institution nominated me to pursue an exchange year at GW to gain another perspective on the different discourses of Western society throughout history. I am most excited for my classes in the fields of International Security and Gender and Sexuality studies - the intersection of which is something that attracted me*



*to GW in the first place - as it is something I wish to pursue later during graduate studies. While there are certainly many challenges with courses being online, I am lucky to have this extraordinary opportunity to learn and give the input of someone living on the Eastern border of the Western world "on an American campus" while remaining engaged professionally and in my community back home. "*

**Anete Biķe, Exchange Student from Sciences Po Paris**  
**Academic Year 2020 - 2021**

[Learn More about our Incoming Exchange Program](#)

[Want to Study at Anete's University? Learn How!](#)



## HOW GLOBAL BACHELOR'S HELPED ME PROFESSIONALLY

"I am a recent graduate of the Elliott School and the Global Bachelor's Program (GBP). Through GBP, I studied abroad in Shanghai, China, and Sydney, Australia, and interned full-time at the U.S. Embassy in Quito, Ecuador. After graduation, I am pursuing a career in trade policy at the Association of American Publishers and a graduate degree in International Business from GWU. GBP helped me to stand out as an applicant with



extensive international experience and connected me with a network of people around the world who continue to support me on a personal and professional level."

**Nadia Mathis**

**BA International Affairs and Asian Studies '20**

[Learn More about the Global Bachelor's Program](#)



## STAFF & RETURNEE SPOTLIGHT



### **ALI GAVIGAN, PEER ADVISOR**

*Overcoming the challenges of studying abroad in the time of COVID.*

"Experiencing a global pandemic while studying abroad was the last thing I expected to happen when I boarded my flight to Australia this past January. As the pandemic began to feel more and more real in mid-February, it was very strange to be so far away from home as things were different in Australia than what I had heard about other countries. I saw other American students get sent home by their home universities midway through the semester. I constantly wondered if the same would happen to me and when. Although I was living in fear of the unknown, in some ways it made my abroad experience better. My friends and I decided early on that we would live everyday to the fullest while in Australia. We didn't take a single moment for granted, even when we got notice that we had to return home within a week. Being abroad when a pandemic hit gave me even more confidence about my independence as I was able to navigate the earlier stages from the other side of the world."



[Meet the Peer Advising Team](#)



# UPCOMING EVENTS



All OSA events for the Fall 2020 semester will be virtual, WebEx events. Register to any of the below events AND MORE with the link below.

[View all & Register to any of the October Events](#)

## GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP Q&A

Are you a Pell Grant Recipient interested in studying abroad? Join us and a panel of Gilman Recipient Returnees to learn more information about the Gilman scholarship and preparing your essays. Whether you're interested in studying abroad Spring 2021 or a subsequent semester, this is a great way to learn more about an amazing scholarship opportunity and start planning early! All are welcome! [RSVP with the WebEx link above.](#)

**Date:** Thursday, October 1st, 2020

**Time:** 12:30 - 1:30PM EST

## STUDY ABROAD RETURNEES: RESOURCES, SUPPORT & STAYING INVOLVED

Calling all study abroad alumni! Trying to figure out how to stay connected to the abroad experience or just want to connect with others in the same boat as you? Join us for this event led by other returning study abroad students to highlight opportunities on campus and beyond to keep your international interests alive! [RSVP with the WebEx link above.](#)

**Date:** Thursday, October 8th, 2020

**Time:** 4:00 - 5:00PM EST

## STUDY ABROAD 101 INFO SESSION

Join us for our October edition of our Study Abroad 101 info sessions. Learn all the ins and outs of studying abroad -- the application process, financing opportunities, transferring credits, and more! If you're interested in studying abroad, this session is a must! Additional sessions will be held throughout the Fall semester! [RSVP with the WebEx link above.](#)

**Date:** Tuesday, October 13th, 2020

**Time:** 12:00 - 1:00PM EST

## GW GLOBAL BACHELOR'S PROGRAM INFO SESSION

The GW Global Bachelor's Program is GW's multi-destination, multi-semester, study abroad program for a

select group of highly motivated students in CCAS, GWSB and ESIA. Join the following webinars to learn more! [RSVP with the WebEx link above.](#)

**Cohort Location:** Belfast, Northern Ireland

**Date:** Tuesday, October 20th, 2020

**Time:** 5:00 - 6:00PM EST

**Cohort Location:** Shanghai, China

**Date:** Tuesday, October 27th, 2020

**Time:** 5:00 - 6:00PM EST

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## ***MISSED THE STUDY ABROAD FAIR IN SEPTEMBER?***

*No worries! We recorded everything for you! Watch any session you were interested in with the link below!*

[Study Abroad Fair 2020 Recordings](#)

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## **FOLLOW THE ABROAD EXPERIENCE!**



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