

# Tips for writing your Study Abroad essay

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1. Visit Study Abroad website and research the offerings:
  - a. From the course description, highlight the features of the course that appeal to you or that you are most curious about
  - b. Highlight the names of the instructors
2. Learn basic facts about the country/countries/cities you will visit during the course:
  - a. Location on a map, neighboring countries
  - b. Languages spoken
  - c. Popular tourist destinations versus destinations the class will experience.
  - d. Visit <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>
3. Consider any connections between your CURRENT courses (Foundations, first course in your major, CORE course, etc.) and the Study Abroad location/theme
4. (If you have time!) Meet with the faculty sponsors regarding your choices. Example questions to ask them:

What level of language proficiency should applicants have?

Where will we be housed (guest houses, home stays, hotels, hostels, etc.)?

How will we travel there, and what kind of traveling will we do in country?

What are some interesting customs in this region?

What are some of the most common religions practiced?

Why did the faculty members choose this location?

5. Use your writing resources
  - a. Review ALL the sample essays, not just the “good” one. Each has strengths worth learning from.
  - b. Use the Writing Center to help you plan, draft, revise and edit your paper.
  - c. Utilize your free Grammarly Premium account before submitting!