Illinois State University
Study Abroad

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Introduction

• Discuss the experiences of students studying abroad.
• Discuss what difficulties students face while studying abroad.
• How can the study abroad program at Illinois State University be improved.
ISU Students Who Study Abroad
(On average 800 students per year)
More Women Than Men at ISU Study Abroad

Source:
ISU Study Abroad Programs

• The study abroad program at Illinois State University is affiliated with over 50 colleges and universities in over 30 countries. They include: Australia, Austria, Brazil, China, England, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Scotland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, and Taiwan.
Interviewee Profile

Sex: 4 females, 1 male
Majors: 2 language majors, 1 politics, 1 early childhood education
1 education
Year in school: 2 juniors, 1 senior, 1 sophomore
Why Students Study Abroad

• Expand their proficiency in a language
• See another part of the world
• Gain experience to help them succeed in the job market after graduation.
Difficulties

- Money management problems
- Transferring credits
- Homesickness
- Safety anxiety
- Time management problems
- Navigating in a foreign country

But overall, experience abroad was a success, and they were able to reach many of their personal goals.
Suggestions for Improving the Study Abroad Program

• Stipends/grants for students studying abroad
• More chaperones to help the students with navigation and safety concerns
• Mini-courses to learn time and money management skills
Conclusion

• The main conclusion of our research was that ISU has a successful study abroad program that helps students reach many of their personal and professional goals, but some improvements can be made.