

A nighttime photograph of the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The Opera House's white, sail-like shells are illuminated from below, and the Harbour Bridge's steel structure is lit up against a dark blue twilight sky. The city lights of Sydney are visible in the background.

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:

10/3/10

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.**

