

Florida Lessons from Abroad Conference

Lee's Chapel
April 5, 10am-3pm

Photo From Ecuador
Study Abroad



STETSON
UNIVERSITY



The David and Leighton Binker
CENTER for
INTERNATIONAL
LEARNING

Details about Florida

Lessons from Abroad

The Lessons from Abroad Conference offers different perspectives from international students and students who have studied abroad. Each presentation discusses elements about studying abroad and the experiences of the presenters. The Florida Lessons from Abroad Conference coordinators created this event for others to gain insight about life abroad and to allow others to share their thoughts about it.



Presentation Schedule

Time Session Title Room Number

10:00am **Conference Begins** **Lee's Chapel**

10:10am-10:20am **Welcome and Greetings** **Lee's Chapel**
President Christopher Roellke, PhD
Provost Elizabeth Skomp, PhD

10:30am-10:45am **Significant Learning Experience** **Brown 234**
Presenters: **and Personal Growth as a**
Faten Elkafrawy **Fulbright Exchange Student in**
the US

This narrative presentation will allow attendees to gain insights into the power of cross-cultural exchange, personal resilience, and the transformative potential of international education.

Presenters: **A glimpse into the world of** **Sage 239**
Aaryanna Kania **International Business &**
Mingzhe Ma **Culture**

Presenters represent both returning study abroad students AND international students. Both presenters will discuss their perspectives on intercultural experiences, through their different perspectives and backgrounds. Together, these presenters experienced the same study abroad program in Greece, but came away with varying experiences.

Presenters: **Independence Internationally** **Brown 140**
Logan Warren

This presentation examines the lessons that come from both short-term study abroad and semester exchange programs as the presenter has participated in both. Questions about interacting with people who don't speak your language, how to deal with jet lag, and why one should choose to study abroad will be discussed.

Presentation Schedule

Time Session Title Room Number

10:50am-11:05am **Comparing Short-term and** **Brown 234**

Presenters: **Long-term experiences and**

Zain Malik **adaptability**

Akintoye Oyedola

Zain took part in a long-term study abroad program in Japan, and Akintoye studied-abroad for a short-term program in Europe. These two presenters will discuss culture shock, adapting, and individual takeaways from both experiences.

Presenters: **Branching Out: My Story** **Sage 239**

Fabiana Gomez **of Growth**

Using the image of a tree as a visual, the presenter will explain how a tree is a metaphor for growth. Not only does one grow in an external setting, just as tree branches do, but they also grow within themselves in an internal setting, just as tree roots spread underground.

Presenters: **A Transformative Journey:** **Brown 140**

Larissa Miki **Unleashing Growth through**

Ohotaguro **Cultural Exchange**

The presenter will share how their experience moving to a different country fostered a process of self-discovery and, ultimately, led to a change in their mindset. By sharing their personal experiences, the presenter advocates for a mindset that promotes growth, encouraging individuals to step out of their comfort zones for transformative experiences.

Presentation Schedule

| <u>Time</u> | <u>Session Title</u> | <u>Room Number</u> |
|---|---|--------------------|
| 11:10am-11:25am | Building Connections Through an Immersive Experience | Brown 234 |
| Presenters: Megan Mabito | | |
| <p>The presenter will discuss insights gained during a program in the Dominican Republic. The program participants worked with the Kerolle Initiative, lead by Dr. Kerolle, in efforts to give back to the community of Bella Vista, Sosua, Dominican Republic and also to the surrounding Bateyes. There is a phrase in Haitian Creole, "Tout moun se moun," which means "all humans are human." Connection is a strong part of humanity that allows us to connect through language, food, music, culture, and in the small interactions we have with people that can bring us together as humans.</p> | | |
| Presenters: Jalynn Small | Arrivederci! | Brown 140 |
| <p>The presenter will examine the intercultural experiences during a study abroad program in Italy studying nutrition and dietetics. Arrivederci, a word that means to see you again, a word that became synonymous to the hospitality and cultural significance of the Italian region.</p> | | |
| 11:30am-11:45am | How to navigate another country | Brown 234 |
| Presenters: Zaikeria Patha | | |
| <p>In spending time with 5 indigenous Mayan communities in the heart of Chiapas, Mexico, the presenter understands what it means to live in another country. The discussion will focus on experiencing a Mayan ritual and attending classes in a second language.</p> | | |

Presentation Schedule

Time Session Title Room Number

11:30am-11:45 **Stetson Study Abroad in** **Sage 239**
Presenters: **Innsbruck, Austria:**
Joe Owen **Changing Students' Lives**
 for Nearly 50 Years

Stetson's presence in Innsbruck dates back into the 1970s, including a tragic event that occurred on January 15, 1979 when three Stetson students were killed in an avalanche on a mountain high in the Alps above Innsbruck. While this was an awful tragedy, in this presentation, the presenter will describe how it has positively impacted many alumni/ae from Stetson University and has had a very positive impact on the current Innsbruck Study Abroad program.

Presenters: **Working in one of the** **Brown 140**
Caroline Bobo **Largest Labs in**
 Madagascar

This presentation will examine the experience of working in one of the largest labs in Madagascar. From culture shock to language barriers, the presenter was able to build lifelong friendships and memories that will last forever. Misaotra betsaka! (Thank you very much!)

11:50am-1:00pm **Lunch** **Stetson Room**

1:10pm-1:25pm **From a social project to a** **Brown 234**
Presenters: **university: How language**
Isabelle Sanco **learning can change a life**
Keis

This presentation will tell the story of how getting into a social project for language learning purposes changed the life of a low-income student from Brazil, sharing that experience and the step-by-step process it took to be a student in the U.S.

Presentation Schedule

| <u>Time</u> | <u>Session Title</u> | <u>Room Number</u> |
|--|---|--------------------|
| 1:10-1:25 | Evolving Abroad | Sage 239 |
| Presenters: Kaci Kruglewicz | | |
| <p>This presentation will examine ways to maximize personal growth while abroad, highlighting special moments, and emphasizing the importance of utilizing travel as a means of exploration - of the country, of the culture, and of the self.</p> | | |
| Presenters: Alana Caballero Rivera | The Passport Chronicles: Challenges & Triumphs in Study Abroad | Brown 140 |
| <p>The presenter will unravel the intricacies of their study abroad experiences in Bulgaria and England, offering vital insights for those considering studying abroad. Empowering future study abroad participants with a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities they may encounter, ultimately to enrich their own journeys.</p> | | |
| 1:30pm-1:45pm | Navigating Horizons: Insights from a First-Gen Explorer | Brown 234 |
| Presenters: Peyton Summers | | |
| <p>In this discussion, the presenter will talk about the experience of being a first-generation college, and study abroad student. Conquering collegiate barriers isn't the same as international barriers, however; the good news is, there is something new to learn, and learning new things is exciting!</p> | | |
| Presenters: Gabriel Moorer | Deaf and Dialect | Sage 239 |
| <p>The presenter will discuss Deaf Culture from around the world, the differences of hand signs, and how signing relates to culture. Starting with brief introduction of the history and begin what is language in deaf perspective, and how American Sign Language (ASL) differs from other countries.</p> | | |

Lunch

Lunch is provided by Chartwells.

Lunch will be served in boxes for students to pick up and take to a table.

There will be a brief presentation about the career benefits of studying abroad and the marketable skills gained through international programs. The STAR approach will be presented using handouts for all participants. How and where to highlight your global experience on your resume will also be discussed. Followed by small group discussions of resumes and cover letters.

Presenter(s):

Kate Learch, Director of Study Abroad, University of North Florida

Sergio Kelsor, Study Abroad Advisor, University of North Florida

Melanie Smith, Assistant Director of International Learning, Stetson University



Presentation Schedule

| <u>Time</u> | <u>Session Title</u> | <u>Room Number</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1:30pm-1:45pm | Do you like Two Sides of a Study Abroad Story | Brown 140 |
| Presenters | Monique Silva Dias & Elisa Mullisi | |

From the perspective of a first-generation student and international student from Brazil, the presenters participated in a study abroad program at an International Conference to learn about Mexico's business landscape. The discussion will focus on bonds formed with individuals around the world and give knowledge about best practices about intercultural relationships.

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|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1:50pm-2:05pm | Saying "I'm Sorry" | Brown 234 |
| Presenters: | | |
| Jackson Radzimski & Noah Kellerman | | |

The presenters will discuss the unique case of the Australian Civil Rights Movement, from the perspective of two Americans fortunate enough to learn firsthand the struggles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia. The general theme of what equality means to minorities around the world will be top of mind for the discussion.

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|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Presenters: | Valparaiso: A Reactive Experience in Adventure and Art | Sage 239 |
| Courtney Cormier | | |

Because Chile was not the presenter's intended study abroad location, the need for readjustment became the primary focus. The presenter found solace in a beautiful city covered in art and the surrounding mountains, and through making connections with like-minded people.

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|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Presenters: | Japan | Brown 140 |
| Anuket Goins | | |

The discussion will focus on how impactful and eye-opening it is to travel to another country and meet new people from different cultural backgrounds. Sharing intercultural experiences from different perspectives reveals how even though we have these differences, we are all surprisingly alike.

Presentation Schedule

Time Session Title Room Number

2:10pm-2:35pm **The Room Next Door** **Brown 234**

Presenters:

Reagin Gallagher

The presenter will examine the aerospace concept that there is no difference from 10,000 to 100,000 miles, other than the time it takes to get there. The human condition has an incredible ability to adapt and evolve, and everyone who has studied abroad (or is planning to) is putting this beautiful quality of human nature to the test.

Presenters: **Somehow I Managed** **Brown 140**

Shaun O. Smith

The presenter invites participants to delve into the intricacies of confronting fear while traveling internationally. The session will offer tools to recognize and manage reasonable fears, empowering students to embrace travel as an uncomfortable catalyst for personal growth by navigating challenges with resilience and confidence.

2:40pm-3:00pm **Closing Remarks** **Lee's Chapel**

3:00pm **Dismissal** **Lee's Chapel**

Campus Map



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Study Abroad and International Student Pictures



Raffle

To enter the raffle, write your name legibly on the line below. Tear off this section from the page (based on dotted lines) and take the entry to the check-in table. Winners will be announced during lunch and closing remarks. You must be present to win.

Culture Credit

Stetson University students: Get a stamp for each session that you attend. You must receive three stamps in order to receive one culture credit. Take your form to the welcome table at Lee's Chapel, to scan your ID and to get your credit.

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Name and Stetson-ID:
