

features



AU Study Abroad: Expanding world experiences



BREE GANNON
@AUCollegian

As classes came to a close at the beginning of May, most students were packing their bags to move out of their dorm but some were packing their bags to begin new adventures. This summer, students had the option to explore the world in places such as Costa Rica, Spain and Israel, all while earning school

credit.

Students who participated in the study abroad program over the summer had the option of choosing from nine different countries around the globe. Through the program, students are able to learn, understand and witness first hand different cultures and history from around the world.

The study abroad program can take place over spring break, sum-

mer or during the semester and is available in every major. The program can count toward internships and even core credit.

According to Director of Study Abroad Rebecca Parillo, many students do not think they can afford a study abroad experience or they can not fit it into their academic schedule.

“There are so many options available,” Parillo said. “We have grant money that can help with costs.”

The study abroad coordinators can help students find additional grants, financial aid and scholarships to help cover any additional cost of participation.

Senior Brianna Sargent had the opportunity to travel through two different study abroad programs. Her first trip was with the AU Passages to Israel where she did a 10 hour study tour of the culture, history and Christian roots in Israel.

“The best part about that trip was seeing what was essentially the center of the world for thousands of years continuing to flourish while being situated in the middle of a desert in an area torn apart by war and conflict,” Sargent said.

Sargent also participated in the AU in France program and spent six weeks learning French in a French program at the school IF-APLES. She was also able to explore Paris and experience the art and history of the nation. Sargent also said she was able to celebrate “French style” after the winning of the World Cup and witnessed the Tour de France and the 14 de Juillet, also known as Bastille Day.

About 9,000 miles away, Sophi Cudworth was experiencing the Korean manners during her study

abroad trip to Seoul and Busan, South Korea.

“I think one of the best things that I gained from this experience was definitely the friends that I made,” Cudworth said. “I made so many friends from all over the world and I would not trade any of them for anything.”

Cudworth spent her time in South Korea learning taekwondo, attending cooking classes, learning calligraphy and going to Ohyukdo, a skywalk located in Yongho-dong Nam-gu in Busan.

Elizabeth Grim, a junior Span-

ish education major, spent her summer in Costa Rica where she learned Spanish and the culture of Costa Rica. Grim said she was put into classes of no more than four students and she was able to get to know the teachers and other students on a personal level.

Grim also attended biology labs and learned about the different species of both plants and animals found in Costa Rica.

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SUBMITTED BY TIMBER STOOPS

Timber Stoops spent the summer in Spain through Student Athletes Abroad.

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

STUDY ABROAD

BIXLER HALL: 211
STUDYABROAD@ASHLAND.EDU

For more information visit:
ashland.abroadoffice.net