

SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR STUDY ABROAD

The German Department wants to encourage Northwestern students to take advantage of opportunities for study and internship in German-speaking countries. Studying and working abroad can be among the most important and exciting dimensions of any student's undergraduate experience. Unfortunately, study abroad often involves additional expenses, which, as we know, discourage otherwise well-prepared and eager students from participating in the beneficial programs. The German Department has thus established a Scholarship Fund for the purpose of providing assistance with the additional expenses in the hope and expectation that such a fund will allow students to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities that await Northwestern students abroad.

How Study Abroad has Helped our Students

Students in the German Department have benefited immensely from study abroad. For many students, their experience abroad has not only been a major part of their education but also a crucial factor in their determination of a career. We are thus including six testimonials for some recent majors and minors in the department, who emphasize how study abroad played an indispensable role in their collegiate experience and helped launch their post-graduation work and study.



Filippos Analitis: Museum Curator

I enrolled at the University of Heidelberg, where I think I have found my calling as a student of Art History and future museum curator. I am enrolled in a BA program and just finished my first semester with courses in "Ikonographie, Form und Stil, Auguste Rodin, and Positionen zeitgenössischer Fotografie." You may remember that I was hell-bent on studying medicine. The CBYX program led me to Heidelberg and to a 5-month internship working with a professor researching motorcycle helmets and head injuries.... As I think back, the courses in the German department provided the impetus for me

to venture off to Germany. I knew I liked German; but what I have experienced has many more dimensions than I ever imagined. The best thing I can recommend is: Come and experience Germany and Europe yourself! It will far exceed your expectations.



Senka Hadzimuratovic: Corporate Communications

I completed a one-year internship in corporate communications at the headquarters of Novartis International AG, located in Basel, Switzerland. Novartis is a global company that uses English as its first language of operation, and all communications originating at the corporate level are written first in English. There is, however, a large German-speaking population across the organization, including senior management. My work with the Branding & Corporate Publishing team, therefore, also requires an advanced working knowledge of German. It has proven

especially useful for communications projects in which I work exclusively with native German speakers, such as the organization of our employee volunteer initiative, Community Partnership Day, in Switzerland. I feel much more comfortable knowing the language spoken all around me. It has fostered many relationships important to me, professionally and personally. My German knowledge has opened many doors for me. I couldn't be more of a proponent of learning the language. From a professional standpoint, it is almost essential for those seeking employment experience in German-speaking countries. But most importantly: learning German opens your eyes to a fascinating, rich culture and people in a way that is utterly impossible without grasp of the language.


Julie Dawson: Translator and Researcher

After graduation, I moved to Berlin on a Fulbright scholarship. I loved life in Berlin and wanted to stay. I began working as a translator for a small translation company. Although I didn't have a translation background, I quickly learned the ropes, thanks to a secure foundation in German. After four years, I began traveling east. Again I was amazed how useful German was. When my brother and I did a 3-month cycling trip through Poland, Ukraine, Russia and Kazakhstan, it was my German that helped us out 9 times out of 10, not English. Now, after 2 years of living in Romania, I have

become accustomed to the enormous historical influence Germany had over eastern Europe. There are German-minority communities in Romania, Moldova, Russia, Kazakhstan, and the regions of the former Austrian-Hungarian empire. Currently, I am a Peace Corps volunteer in Sighisoara or Schäßburg, as it was called for 800 years by the Germans that settled it. Once again, I find myself being grateful for my German background. In this town, German is one of the "native" languages: the most elite school is taught in German, most cultural and political figures know German as well. Though I teach English (and German to 1st graders), the projects I am most passionate about involve Jewish heritage of the area. I've been spending lots of time in archives working on a project—and once again I thank my stars—most of the information is in German.


Chris Rotzien: Finance

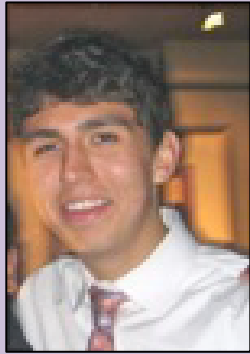
I graduated with a double major in Economics and Political Science and a Minor in Business German. I began working in the greater New York City area for a diversified global reinsurer, head-quartered in Zürich, Switzerland, called Swiss Re-Life and Health America, Inc. I am the Assistant Vice President responsible for reinsurance of Mergers and Acquisition transactions. There is no question that my background in German language helped me get this job. I've always signaled my strong German background to potential employers by listing the international

Business German proficiency exams I took at Northwestern alongside the German minor on my resume. It worked in my favor at each step of the application process. When I joined the company, it became clear that there is a premium placed on "global citizenship." Among the many candidates hired into the management-training program, those with multiple languages are the norm, those with multiple passports are hardly uncommon. Also, sprich Deutsch! It is a constant reward for me and should feel that way for lifelong students of any foreign language.


Melanie Bower: "Travelzoo"

I took two years of German as a freshman and sophomore at Northwestern before spending a year abroad via the Junior Year in Munich program. I initially opted to learn German instead of Spanish or Italian for business reasons: in Europe the leading industrial markets remain Great Britain and Germany, and I thought it would be helpful for me professionally down the road. This has been the case. My German skills have always benefitted me professionally. I was an au-pair for a German family in the Chicago region. I did an internship at a PR firm that had German clients. And I was hired at

Travelzoo (www.travelzoo.de) in London as one of the first employees because of the multiple languages I spoke (I am a native speaker of English, fluent in French, and an advanced speaker in German), which covered all the markets into which *Travelzoo* wanted to launch internationally. Thanks to my German I've been quickly promoted within the organization into a senior pan-European role because I am able to quality-check content and communicate with employees in all our European markets. I was based in London for 2 years, have been in Paris for 2 years, and am looking to transfer to Munich by next year in order to refresh my skills and re-integrate into the culture I fell in love with over 10 years ago as a student.



John Cacharani: Master's Student of Migration and Intercultural Relations

I began studying German after I went to Germany during the Spring Break of my freshman year. I had spent that entire year listening to my friends extol and praise the German department at Northwestern. Initially, my aspirations were limited to fulfilling a language requirement. However, after getting to know many more of the professors and students through innumerable German department events, I was hooked. I spent the summer following my sophomore years studying at the University of Bayreuth, where I realized that I wanted to continue my studies in German and Germany after graduating from NU. I am graduating Northwestern with a minor in Business German. Next year, I will begin a two-year Master's program studying European migration and intercultural relations in Germany, Norway, and then travelling in central Europe and Africa, while completing my thesis. I would never have had the motivation or the opportunity to spend the next two years of my life studying in a field that I am passionate about if it were not for the German department at Northwestern.

Scholarships for Study Abroad

The German Department has established a program for German-language destinations that allows students to apply for scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1000. Scholarship funds can be used to support either study abroad or internship experience. Examples of use for the support funds include program fees, internship application fees, and travel expenses. Students can apply for the fellowship at any point in their undergraduate education. Applications include three items: a statement of purpose, which includes a description of their financial situation; a letter of recommendation from a faculty member with whom the student has taken a class; and a recent transcript. Students may also solicit additional letters of recommendation from non-academic letter-writers and from study-abroad advisers.

The scholarship committee is composed of two faculty members from the department and two NU alumni who have been active in the undergraduate German program. The committee makes its decision on the basis of a variety of factors. The primary factors are the cogency of the rationale for studying abroad (or entering into an internship program) and strong indications (based on transcripts and letter of recommendation) that the student is capable of accomplishing the goals described in the statement of purpose. The committee also looks at issues of need as they are reflected in the statement of purpose. The aim of the committee is to make study abroad and participation in internship programs a central part of our student's educational experience.

A Brief List of Options for Study and Internships in German-Language Destinations

Undergraduates in all majors are encouraged to complement their Northwestern experience with a period of study in Germany, Austria or Switzerland. Students return from their international experiences with greater maturity, stronger German skills and new perspectives on their studies and future professional goals. The department has affiliated with a broad range of programs so that students in all fields of study can study abroad and earn credit towards their degrees.

The year-long **Lewis and Clark Program in Munich** fosters full integration of students into German university life. Program courses prepare students for direct enrollment in courses at the university or at the prestigious Technical University (*TUM*). Over the course of the year, students acquire an intimate acquaintance with Munich's rich cultural and social life. Housing in the *Studentenstadt* (student city) allows our students to meet and easily interact with German and international students.

Many of our students opt for a semester or year of study with one of our three affiliated IES programs. Located in southwestern Germany close to the French and Swiss borders, the **IES Freiburg** program allows students to experience life in a medium sized university town. Students report that the town is small enough to feel at home, but also big enough to always have something to do. Life in university housing encourages students to acquire new

culinary skills while socializing with other students. The **IES Vienna** program targets Bienen music students but is also open to students in all other NU schools and colleges. The program offers courses in music theory and history and provides opportunities to work on performance techniques and chamber music. A significant number of courses in history, politics and economics are offered in English, creating the possibility for students without a strong background in German to study abroad. The **IES Berlin** program gives our students an opportunity to live in one of the most dynamic cities in Europe. The program facility is centrally located in *Mitte* within walking distance of many of the most famous attractions and program courses allow students to acquire an intimate knowledge of German history, culture and politics. Field trips to historic sites in and around Berlin help introduce students to the cultural wealth of the city.

Northwestern's affiliation with the **Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH)** allows students in engineering and the sciences to study at one of the most prestigious technical universities in Europe. Students enroll in engineering and science courses as may also participate in research projects with professors. Housing in dorms with other Swiss or international students allows students to easily meet and interact with other international students.

Students often decide to use their summers productively and participate in both affiliated and unaffiliated programs. Our **Renewable Energy: Policy and Development (Bonn)** program provides a five-week introduction to German energy policy and initiatives in renewable, sustainable, sources of energy—wind, solar, biomass, geothermal—and energy conservation in a European and global context. Field trips include a visit to the European Commission headquarters in Brussels and a short study trip to Berlin where students will visit important historic sites and interact with representatives from key governmental and private agencies.

For students in engineering and the sciences, NU's **Finding Nano: Nanotechnology & Culture in Germany** (Munich) program takes advantage of the high tech importance of the Technical University of Munich in offering a mix of course work and excursions as an introduction to the trans-disciplinary field of nanotechnology. This program provides the unique opportunity to visit nine different research technology centers in Germany to get a behind-the-scenes look at German technological culture, highlighting possible career opportunities.

A good number of our students also participate in German **University Summer Language programs**. These low cost programs allow our students to interact with other international students while working on their language skills. Morning language instruction is complemented by afternoon cultural and recreational activities. There are courses during June, July, August and September.

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