

Congratulations to our Fall Study Abroad Scholarship Recipients!

Anita Chomenko CAPA “Vlogger”

This fall I will be in London, where I will be taking on the role as CAPA’s Official Vlogger for the semester. While I’m there, I will also be taking a few media courses and interning. I can’t wait to immerse myself in cultures different from my own and to capture those moments on camera.



Deicy Santizo API-JCU Diversity Scholarship

The API-JCU Diversity Scholarship is open to API students who will be studying at John Cabot University in Rome, Italy. I am incredibly honored and thankful to have been chosen as a recipient of this award for my fall semester at JCU.

The scholarship is aimed towards minority students and offers a full-tuition award for those who apply. In order to apply, candidates must submit an essay discussing diversity in Italy and how this dynamic population shapes Italian society.



Being that the U.S. is so culturally and ethnically diverse, researching Italy’s diversity allowed me to see the many differences between both countries.

As a first generation Hispanic-American student, I am beyond excited to have this opportunity to study abroad in a country rich with history and culture.

Don’t miss our fall Study Abroad Fair!

The world awaits...

Interested in studying abroad? You can choose from over 30 countries around the world, including Italy, Spain, France and Australia. Join us for our study abroad fair where you can speak with our various program providers about your options.

Education majors, be sure to ask about your opportunities to student teach abroad your senior year.

Come and explore a world of opportunities for you to learn abroad!

Spring 2015 Application Deadline:
Sept. 15, 2014



FAST FACTS:

WHEN:
Tuesday, Sept. 9

TIME:
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

WHERE:
SRC Atrium

WHO:
Open to all Rider students



Center for International Education
BLC 124 • 2083 Lawrenceville Road • Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
ADOS Suite • Scheide Student Center • Princeton, NJ 08540



1 / NEW STUDENTS!

The CIE welcomes over 50 new international students from all over the world to the Rider community.



2 / REFLECTIONS

Petra Gaskins reflects on her recent study abroad adventure in China.



3 / STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

International student Zhiying Liao from China shares her experience studying at Rider thus far.



4 / STUDY ABROAD FAIR

Don't miss our fall Study Abroad Fair on Sept. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the SRC Atrium!

CIE NEWS



A Newsletter from the Center for International Education at Rider University

ISSUE 19

September 2014

Rider welcomes new international students



The Center for International Education is pleased to welcome over 50 new international students from all over the world.

This semester, students from France, Brazil, New Zealand, China, Saudi Arabia and more will join the Rider community.

International Student Orientation served as a welcome for the students as they arrived in America, many for the first time.. During orientation, students were assigned mentors to assist them in getting acclimated to Rider. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact the CIE at cie@rider.edu.

The new students also enjoyed a trip to the Statue of Liberty as their first cultural excursion in America.

Thank you to our Orientation Staff for your hard work in making our new international students' transition to Rider enjoyable!

Study Abroad

Student Reflection

Petra Gaskins

Program: The Alliance for Global Education—Globalization Then and Now: Xi'an and the Silk Road
Term: Spring 2014
Location: Xian, China

Why did you choose China as your study abroad destination?
Speaking candidly, I decided to study abroad in China due to the feelings of inadequacy that I experienced during my sophomore year. During that time, not only did I lose several people in my life, but I also committed the mistake of constantly comparing myself to my peers whom I perceived as more insightful and well-informed than me. I wanted a change of pace and decided to study abroad in order to learn more about the world around me, but outside of a traditional academic setting. I chose China because I am highly interested in U.S. foreign policy and the importance of knowing about Sino-American relations.

What was the most challenging part of studying abroad?
The greatest difficulty I confronted was reconciling the familiar and comfortable culture that I grew up in with the new, foreign one. Sometimes, the contrast in culture did not affect me, but other times, I found it very difficult to cope with. For example, as an American, I was accustomed to certain teaching styles and was shocked the first time my Chinese teacher criticized and embarrassed me in front of my class; the way I dealt with such situations involved thinking about the reasons such behaviors exist and, in this case, my teacher simply wanted to motivate me more.



Petra teaches local Chinese students a traditional American dance.

“I wanted a change of pace and thus decided to study abroad in order to learn more about the world around me, but outside of a traditional academic setting.”

What would you say you gained from this experience?
Sometimes you change so much from the unique experiences you encounter abroad that you are unable to fully articulate such changes. Although it is a bit clichéd to state, studying abroad (or simply living in a foreign country) transforms a person in so many ways. Besides the obvious gains in language fluency and understanding of the host culture, I gained more confidence and a higher self-esteem. When I first arrived in China, I lacked the ability to freely express my thoughts and constantly relied on others to help me. Now, I am the one able to assist those in need. In addition, I gained the ability to realize who comprises the truly important people in my life. Close proximity to a person may lull one into thinking they have a good friendship, but those who are willing to be there for you despite the geographical distance are the ones to keep close. I had a good number of people who helped me, and for that, I am thankful.

What advice would you give you to students who are considering studying abroad?
Always think positive thoughts and surround yourself with those who stray away from negative feelings. That is not to say that you need to surround yourself with like-minded people, but to warn about the dangers of surrounding yourself with those who complain too much. Understand that those in your host country will think differently about America than you do. Life exposes everyone to different situations that lead them to formulate different views than yours. Be open to accepting these differences in opinion, as they will help you grow not only mentally, but emotionally as well. Most importantly, ensure that the decision to study abroad is yours and not your parents’, teachers’, or friends’. After all, once you’re in the host country, it’s up to you to make the most of it. Studying abroad is totally worth it once you decide to do it.

International Student Highlight

Zhiying (Sileen) Liao, Sanda Cohort 10

I am a senior international business major. I came to Rider this spring with 19 fellow students from Sanda University in Shanghai, China. There has been a new group of Sanda students coming to Rider every year since 2004.

We are all proud to be international students at Rider.. Unlike many of the other international students who have to be on their own, we take care of each other like a family. At the same time, we are always being helped by many of the lovely students and faculty at Rider.

This is a safe and friendly campus for international students to get involved and to learn. We are very lucky to have nice professors who not only help us out with academic problems, but also with our better adaptation into American class culture.



Sileen enjoys a Chinese New Year celebration.

Life in a completely new environment was hard for us, but it gradually became enjoyable and will definitely become an asset that we will appreciate for life.

Country Highlight: China

Students interested in studying abroad will find there is plenty to do and see in China. While many students choose European countries as a study abroad destination, more and more are branching out and traveling to Asia.

A country with a rich history and growing economic power, China offers students a challenging and rewarding study experience. They can learn to speak Chinese, taste a variety of regional and ethnic cuisines, and immerse themselves in the cultural traditions of Tai Chi and Kung Fu.



There are numerous things to do in China, as well as throughout Asia. Students can visit the famous cities of Shanghai and Beijing, walk along the Great Wall and explore the Forbidden City. They can also travel to nearby Nepal and marvel at the world’s highest mountain, Mount Everest.

Contact us at vie@rider.edu for more information about opportunities to study abroad in China.

Also, be sure to check your email for an upcoming announcement regarding the short term faculty-led program to China during spring break 2015 with Dr. Janes and Dr. Wang. Don’t miss out!

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 9 | Study Abroad Fair
SRC Atrium
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 11 | Study Abroad Info Session
Sweigart 115
4 to 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 11 | Study Abroad Fair at WCC
Thayer Lounge
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | Int’l Student Spring Break Info
Sweigart 115
4 to 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 18 | Int’l Student Internship Session
Sweigart 115
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. |

China Study Abroad Programs

CAPA Beijing
The CAPA Beijing Program offers students a unique opportunity to begin learning Mandarin Chinese, or to advance their existing Mandarin language skills rapidly throughout the semester. The program also has courses taught in English examining Chinese history and culture and examining the role of China as an emerging global city. Internships are available.

Alliance — Xi’an, China
This program offers students 12 class hours per week of Chinese language as well as courses taught in English in several disciplines including ancient Chinese history, contemporary issues, art and anthropology. Students may enroll for a semester, summer, or academic year, or a combination of a semester and summer term.

ISA — East China Normal University
Courses at East China Normal in Shanghai are taught in English except for Chinese language courses which are available for students with a beginning or intermediate level of proficiency. Courses offered include subjects such as business, political science, economics and history.

For more information about Rider’s summer and semester programs in China, visit <http://rider.studioabroad.com>.