

Top travel tips. Advice for students hoping to learn in another land

- Immerse yourself in the culture: a large part of studying abroad is to experience another culture. You can broaden your perspective by learning the local language, making friends with domestic students and re-

searching the country's history and cultural practices.

- Take rewarding academic courses: take advantage of the interesting courses not offered at your home school. Some courses are also more interesting when they are learned abroad — imagine learning art history in France or taking Italian in Italy!

TRACY ZHANG

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Worldliness at work

Leverage the experience professionally

- Having an international experience on the resumé can help you stand out in the workforce. Even if it doesn't help you connect with potential employers, at the very least it makes for an interesting discussion in an interview setting. Some of my friends who studied abroad also networked with alumni in the country and landed international job offers.

Travel became my teacher: On education in another nation

Books in a backpack. How studying abroad can benefit you both academically and professionally

TRACY ZHANG
Talentegg.ca

From watching the sun set over the Acropolis in Athens to watching the Christmas lights light up Champs-Élysée, some of my best memories are from studying abroad.

The strength of its international exchange program was one of the reasons I chose to study at the Queen's University School of Business, and I was determined to make the most out of the opportunity by spending two semesters abroad.

In September of 2010, I set out to study in France at HEC Paris International Business School; by January 2011, I had bid France farewell and headed for England, where I studied at the Bader International Study Centre.



Tracy Zhang and friends in Athens, Greece. SUBMITTED

in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business.

Outside of the classroom, I was anxious to explore Europe since it was my first time there. I invested in a train pass on a student discount and journeyed all over the continent — to 19 countries to be exact. As a way to document my travels, I also began to publish photographs from my trips on my blog.

When my blog's following edged past 700 subscribers, I began to receive emails from magazines and tourism boards asking to publish my photo-

Business abroad

When it was time to go to the U.K., I became so interested in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business."

Tracy Zhang

graphs. Studying and travelling in Europe not only opened the door for me to freelance as a photographer, but also helped me connect with many other travel enthusiasts.

After I returned home from Europe to begin my summer internship, I learned that my manager had just moved to Canada from France. We immediately bonded over my exchange experience in Paris. Having that common ground allowed me to build great rapport with my manager, who provided me with constant professional support throughout the summer.

When I look back on my time in Europe, I feel lucky to have been able to explore another continent, enrich my academic life, and leverage the experience in the workplace. My year abroad benefited me immensely — I can't imagine my university education any other way!

TRACY ZHANG IS A FOURTH YEAR STUDENT AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY. TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADS, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.