



About interning/volunteering abroad...

Why do it? Isn't studying abroad enough?

Pursuing an internship or volunteer opportunity is a growing trend among students studying abroad, and with good reason. Working in your host community provides for a richer overall experience than just studying alone.

Working abroad is a different kind of educational experience. Participants have the chance to learn about their host culture in a more direct and practical fashion. One learns not only of the problems that face that culture, but also how that culture operates, and how it is similar (or different) from one's home culture. Furthermore, working abroad, just like interning/volunteering at home, is a chance for personal growth and development. You'll learn new skills, face new challenges, make lasting connections, and accomplish things you may have never thought of before.

Another benefit of adding an internship or volunteer component to your program abroad is its value in the workplace and the professional world later on. First off, just saying that you have worked in a foreign culture makes your resume immediately shine above the rest, because it shows that you have knowledge of a foreign culture and its ways. Also, it lets potential employers know that you are committed, that you can work well with others, and that you are capable of self-motivation. Secondly, by committing to an internship/volunteer program, you are actively exploring potential career opportunities and gaining worthwhile experience. And like many others who study abroad, you will acquire a new taste for travel and international experiences. By working as well as studying, you place yourself on a much quicker path to returning and working abroad in the future.

And of course, your efforts abroad will allow you to leave your mark. By the end of your experience, you will have become an important member of your new community, and you will have helped many people, both directly and indirectly.

As you will see in this brochure, there are a sizeable number of internship and volunteer opportunities available to you while abroad. With such a large selection, it won't be hard to find something that's right for you.

In the following pages you will get a cursory view of the types of volunteering and internship opportunities available to you through select programs offered by SUNY New Paltz. This is a partial list of the most active service programs that are offered with our study abroad programs.

Not all organizations and universities have such well-organized volunteer programs. If you're studying through another institution (SUNY or otherwise) we highly recommend asking the program coordinator at that institution about how you can become involved abroad.

Worst case scenario? Your host university may not have an organized volunteer service for you. But not to fear, you can always count on there being a need for volunteer work no matter where you go. So the opportunities will be there, you'll just have to seek them out yourself. In this case, it is necessary to be outgoing and determined. Seek out community institutions like governments, churches, and schools, someone somewhere will appreciate an extra hand. And by pursuing opportunities alone, you will show that you are really committed to getting involved.











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International Partnership for Service Learning and Leadership (IPSL)

WEBSITE: WWW.IPSL.ORG



The State University of New York at New Paltz, while providing students with institution-specific abroad programs, also participates with a third-party organization that sends students abroad. This organization is called the International Partnership for Service Learning and Leadership (IPSL), and organizes abroad programs that are just a little different from a normal study abroad experience.

IPSL programs offer students the same scholastic opportunities abroad, but they also place an equal emphasis on community involvement and immersion. IPSL programs have a 20-hour a week work requirement where students can both help their local community, and come to understand it on a much more deep and personal level.

IPSL service-learning placements are determined, in part, by student interests and skills (and, in some cases, language abilities), but primarily by community needs. Central to the philosophy of service-learning is the notion of service. Service-learning is not the same as an internship or practicum although it may look very similar. The service in service-learning may or may not be career-related. An internship is designed mostly so that the student will benefit by learning about his/her future profession. In contrast, in service-learning, the outcome of the student's work - that is, the service - is as important as the student's learning. There are - or should be - identifiable benefits to those served. This reciprocity is a key component in international service-learning.



The following IPSL opportunities are currently offered to SUNY New Paltz students:

- Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Cusco, Peru
- Kolkata, India
- Montpellier, France
- Quito, Ecuador
- Siena, Italy
- Valladolid, Spain











Guayaquil, Ecuador Espiritu Santo Internship Program

Website: www.uees.edu.ec

Iniversidad Espiritu Santo's Ecuadorian Internship Program provides students of varying levels of proficiency in Spanish the opportunity in productive pre-professional work experiences in agencies, organizations, and companies in Guayaquil, Ecuador. These internships are designed to provide individuals with opportunities to develop skills in international communication, improve their productivity and effectiveness in working in a Latin American environment, and demonstrate competency in interacting with representatives of a culture that is different in many ways from their own.

The following agencies and companies receive interns. The Ecuadorian Internship program is offered for a minimum of 30 days. Most participants, however, register for three months.



- Spirit School of Languages, a language academy that specializes in the teaching of English in an intensive format in both an on-campus and an off-campus arrangement. Interns teach English.
- Jose Domingo Santisteban, a partner school with Espiritu Santo. This school provides kindergarten, elementary, and high school education to students who come from economically disadvantaged families. It is located at the foot of Santa Ana hill (where Guayaquil was founded), and welcomes international students to serve as teacher's aids in English, Spanish, Sports and Arts classes.
- Luchadores del Norte Health Center, a medical center in a squatter community in Guayaquil. This medical center helps almost 600 families. Students help disperse health information and drugs prevention information.
- Padre Damian Foundation, a mission designed to help people infected with Hansen's disease to live with dignity. The mission also provides them with daily needs.
- Sor Dominga de Bocca Foundation, a shelter for girls from 4 to 12 years of age. It serves as their home, where they receive all their meals, medicine, clothes, etc.
- Luz y Vida Foundation, founded 20 years ago, serves as a home and place of guidance for single mothers and their children. Funding is sporadic and unreliable; the women participate in the care of their children by doing chores in the Luz y Vida home.
- FANN Foundation, a private institution that protects abandoned children by providing them with integral care (home, food, medical, and psychological attention, education, and recreation) while searching for an adoptive family.
- Jacinto y Francisca Foundation, a private institution that protects disabled and mentally disabled girls. It provides therapy, pedagogical assistance and regular medical care.



"I think volunteering has given me a greater opportunity to define who I am, to expand the way I view things, to see the world through other people's eyes, and to incorporate my experiences into the way I think, live, and feel."

~Marlene Larocque, volunteer in Ecuador









Comillas, Spain Universidad de Comillas

WEBSITE: WWW.UPCOMILLAS.ES/ENG/DEFAULT.ASPX

tudents have the opportunity to study and conduct internships at Comillas University in the heart of Madrid's Arguelles district.

Volunteer Placements are available in:

- ACOPE, A women's NGO dedicated to serving the needs of women who are in prison, along with their children
- AFASAME, an association and affected relatives of people with mental health problems in San Sebastian de los Reyes and Alcobendas
- AMAFE, an association aiming to contribute to improving the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by severe and persistent mental disorders
- ALEPH TEA Association, an association of families with children with autism or autism spectrum disorders.
- The Rosalie Rendu Center For Socieducative Support, a day center run by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. It offers children from 5 to 16 years, sociofamilial difficulties, an educational site to help them grow and mature in a healthy way that improves their social integration.

- CEAR, Spanish Commission for Assistance to Refugees: The Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid (CEAR) is an NGO founded in 1979, voluntary action, humanitarian, independent and pluralistic. Its main objective is to defend and protect the Right of Asylum and Refugee Rights.
- ARCO Foundation, an organization where volunteers create a pool of trainers in human rights and peace culture for high school students.
- **ICAI Engineers Foundation** For Development, a nonprofit entity that drives the technology and business as tools for human development and social transformation
- Slide Light, an association born in order to claim and work to improve the quality of life of children and adolescents in the San Blas
- Translations For Progress, an online forum for volunteer translation the international NGO community















Sevilla, Spain Universidad de Sevilla

Website: www.claretsevilla.org

Embedded internships are available in our Seville program, wherein students receive academic credit for the work they conduct in local Spanish schools. Internships are available primarily in English-teaching positions, where students either teach English to Spanish students, or function as teacher's assistants in Elementary and secondary education classrooms.

The Sevilla internship site is Colegio Claret, a prestigious private elementary and secondary school. They assist English teachers and work with small groups of students for one to twelve hours per week. Students who complete their commitment receive a letter of recognition and a certificate. Students interested should inform the resident director during orientation.







"Speaking with children in Spanish helped my ability to speak Spanish and gave me a great addition to my resume, helped me explore the city and allowed for a different form of interactions with regard to my communication skills." ~SUNY student, Spring 2010











London, England Kingston University

Websites: www.kingston.ac.uk www.kusu.co.uk/content/index.php?page=74585

Since 2001 Kingston University Students' Union (KUSU) has run a successful volunteering scheme, known as 'Stand Out'. It provides all current students and staff at Kingston University with opportunities to take part in a range of extracurricular voluntary activities. The majority of this activity takes place in the local community within the borough of Kingston upon Thames, but occasionally student volunteers travel further to London and surrounding areas. 'Stand Out' now sees an average of 300 volunteers active within 70 partner organizations, contributing around 7,000 hours to the community each year.

There are four types of volunteer work that students can participate in:

ONE-OFF VOLUNTEERING

One-off volunteering is a way for busy students to donate time to single volunteer projects without any long-term commitment. They can include whole day projects, or just a few hours of participation. One-off volunteering is a great way to incorporate many different types of projects into a busy schedule. Examples of these projects include: fundraising, environmental cleanup, assistance at local events, and so on.



Kingston University has many connections with local and national charities for students to partake in. These projects are typically longer, more in-depth commitments to a variety of causes. Areas include childcare, eldercare, animals, hospitals, and more.

BE A SCHOOL VOLUNTEER

The School volunteering scheme lets you support in classrooms, run projects, mentor struggling pupils, help out with afterschool/lunchtime clubs and spend time with some fantastic young people in primary, secondary and special-needs schools. This is a great opportunity for prospective teachers and those who just want to have fun. Kingston University has contacts with a number of schools in the area can help find the right one for you.

STUDENT-LED PROJECTS

Students have the chance to create their own volunteering projects, as well. Students are provided with training, advice and funding to enable them to get their ideas off the ground. It can be a one-off project so as not to be time-consuming. It will not only allow you to do something pro-active about an issue you feel passionately about but will also equip you with great leadership and project planning skills.











London, England The Middlesex University Internship Program

WEBSITE: WWW.MDX.AC.UK

The Middlesex University Internship Program

WWW.MDX.AC.UK/COURSES/SHORT/STUDY-ABROAD/INTERNSHIPS/INDEX.ASPX

The Middlesex Internship Program provides students opportunities to gain work experience. Internships typically last 12 weeks and normally take place over 2 days per week, so students can combine them with other university courses. Internships are counted as university credits. Before a student arrives in London, the placement staff at Middlesex will liaise with a student individually in order to find an appropriate choice of placement relevant to the student's area of study. They will process the internship application and assist students with any queries. After being accepted onto a suitable internship, a designated tutor offers academic support and guidance throughout the placement, while outlining the assessment criteria and monitoring a student's progress. The tutor will work closely with the host organization to ensure that the internship is both professionally and academically beneficial. The internship runs alongside regular university studies and usually accounts for half of a full-time semester of study.

MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF APPROVED INTERNSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS INCLUDING:

- London Business Internship (15 MDX credits and 7.5 ECTS)
- Placement Learning Internship (30 MDX credits and 15 ECTS) Which includes participation in projects concerning: public and social policy, criminal justice, Third-world development, politics, and more.

Community Service Learning

WWW.MDX.AC.UK/COURSES/SHORT/STUDY-ABROAD/INTERNSHIPS/VOLUNTEER/INDEX.ASPX

Middlesex also offers a unique opportunity to undertake valuable volunteering work during a regular Study Abroad experience. The Community Volunteering Programme is meant to give study abroad students the opportunity to participate in short-term volunteering projects. Students who complete at least 15 hours of volunteer work are eligible to apply for the "Service Learning UK Award."

For a complete list of volunteer projects, please visit the site above.









www.newpaltz.edu/studyabroad •

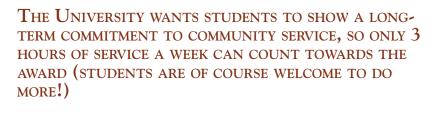


Limerick, Ireland University of Limerick

Websites: www.ul.ie WWW.ULPVA.IE/INDEX.ASP



he President Volunteer Award (PVA) has been established to harlacksquare ness, acknowledge and support the contribution that students at the University of Limerick make to their communities. Placements are available in organizations who work with children, animals, the environment, media, social justice, elderly care, and more. Students will have a volunteer sponsor who will oversee their placement. Students who complete 20, 40, or 60 hours of service will receive official, documented recognition from the University of Limerick for their service.





Service placements are available in diverse areas such as:

- Children & Young people
- Animals & the Environment
- Social Justice
- Arts, Culture & Media
- Sports & Recreation
- Adults & Older people
- Volunteering on the University of Limerick Campus
- **International Volunteering**

For a full and current list of volunteer placements available within these categories, please visit:

WWW.ULPVA.IE/INDEX.ASP













Brussels, Belgium The Vesalius College Internship Program (VIP)

Website: www.vesalius.edu

The VIP, a successful program run by Vesalius College, aims to benefit students and organizations with an experience of mutual enrichment. VIP partners provide interns with a professional experience that goes beyond the mere scope of a traditional internship. In the course of an internship, students tackle a single project from inception to completion, or work in the context of a bigger organizational project to which they contribute a substantial part by the end of the semester. Whether having full responsibility of a project, or working as a member of teams in a bigger enterprise, students exercise their skills and provide the host organization with a high-quality output.

Internships count as an academic course, and students receive 6 ECTS (equivalent to 3 US academic credits) upon successful completion. A few double internships worth 6 US credits are available to highly-motivated study-abroad students only.

The following companies and agencies have received interns in the past:

- Associated Press (AP)
- Business & Decision BENELUX
- Center for American Studies Library
- Centre for Creative leadership
- Ernst & Young
- European Diagnostic Manufacturers Association
- European Parliament Cypriot MEP's Office
- European Youth Forum
- Federation of European Direct & Interactive Marketing
- European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers
- FORATOM
- Mastercard

For an updated list of available internships for a particular semester, please visit: WWW.VESALIUS.EDU/CAREER/VIP/VIPOPS



"I am currently working as an intern at an internationally based newspaper... Vesalius College has put me in both a highly diverse and stimulating environment."
-Aaron,
SUNY student, Belgium

















Prague, Czech Republic Charles University

Website: www.cuni.cz/UKENG-1.html

Charles University in Prague offers its international students several different opportunities to volunteer in the local community, or even at the university itself. Located in the heart of the Czech Republic, Charles University offers students a unique volunteering scene, helping them understand with eastern European history and culture and acquainting them with the problems it faces. Students typically volunteer 10-20 hours per semester, and receive a certificate of appreciation for completing more than 10 hours.

Examples of possible placements include:

- Český Západ The civil association, Český Západ, is actively helping those who are socially excluded, mainly Roma community in Dobra Voda in the Karlovy Vary region. It helps members of the local community take life into their own hands and not to depend on outside help. Český Západ strives not only to support individual members of the community, but also the local community as a whole. WWW.CESKY-ZAPAD.CZ/
- Čmelák Environmental Organization Čmelák Environmental Organization is an environmental organization trying to save forests in the Czech Republic nature parks. They also offer environmental education and other environmental services.

 WWW.CMELAK.CZ/HOME.HTML
- Gymnazium Jana Keplera This high school is conveniently located near Kolej Komenského and ECES has a long tradition of working with GJK. It is ranked as one of the top high schools in Prague. A five-minute walk from Charles University, it is one of the most popular volunteer options among students, who generally give one to two hours of service there per week. Students will interact with high school students and help them with learning English. An introductory meeting is held at the beginning of every semester by the Residential Coordinator. WWW.GJK.CZ/
- Charles University: Faculty of Arts, College of Education, and Faculty of Theology Students will have the opportunity to work with professors on various activities including: editing, research, and writing in English. WWW.CUNI.CZ
- YMCA The YMCA in the Czech Republic is a member of the World Alliance of YMCAs and has many branches in Czech cities. They organize sport activities, youth clubs, and family activities, but also focus on toddlers. This position is available in the Center for mothers and toddlers in Prague 1. www.ymca.cz/
- Czech Radio Pamet Naroda Human rights project by Czech Radio, Centre for Study of Totalitarian Regimes and Post Bellum aiming to study the substance of the totalitarianism regimes of the 20th century through the memories of witnesses focusing on Nazism and communism. They have produced an extensive collection of witnesses' memories gathered by individuals, non-profit organizations, education institutions, and governmental and semi-governmental agencies in Europe, which intend to share, compare, evaluate, and discuss their recordings, texts, photographs, and archival documents. These are also translated into other languages www.pametnaroda.cz











Perth, Australia Curtin University of Technology

Website: www.curtin.edu.au/



The Service Abroad Program

WEBSITE: COMMUNITY.CURTIN.EDU.AU/STUDENTDEV/SERVICE ABROAD.CFM

At Curtin, students from partner institutions are mentored by a local graduate to ensure their enculturation, through required activities such as Community Service. Such students are referred to as Service Abroad students, rather than study abroad. The Services Abroad program is a full program, similar to Study Abroad. There is an extra fee for the program on top of tuition and housing for the service.

Service Abroad students are required to meet with a local mentor usually on a weekly basis. This person is a recent and local graduate, who is not only savvy about university matters, both academic and social, but who can also ensure the students get the maximum cultural experience from their relatively short stay in Australia. In addition, each student has a senior professor who tracks their academic progress, and oversees any co-curricular requirements including Service Learning activities

CURTIN VOLUNTEERS!

WEBSITE: HTTPS://CV.CURTIN.EDU.AU/

Another program, open to all Study Abroad students at Curtin University, is the Curtin Volunteers program. It is the largest student run volunteer organization in Australia, and is recognized around Australia and the world for the work that it does.

International students are welcome to join Curtin Volunteers - in fact, 50% of the membership (around 500 active volunteers per semester), as well as the executive board, is made up of international citizens.

Projects through the Curtin Volunteers program provide a great way for new-to-Perth students to interact with each other, the community, and travel around the state. Any Study Abroad student can participate in the Curtin Volunteers program. Once they arrive and have a Curtin ID they can sign up easily on the Curtin University website. Students will then automatically get updates on volunteering opportunities, giving them the freedom to volunteer where and when they want.













Wellington, New Zealand Victoria University International Leadership Program (VILP)

Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vilp/default.aspx

SUNY New Paltz students are eligible to participate in Victoria University's International Leadership Program (VILP). The Victoria International Leadership Program (VILP) is an academically-oriented extra-curricular program of seminars, speaker events and experiential activities relevant to the themes of international leadership, cross-cultural communication, global connectedness, and sustainability.

VILP takes advantage of the university's Wellington location - in the political center and cultural capital of New Zealand - and links Victoria University of Wellington with a wide range of stakeholders at a local, national and global level.

Study abroad and exchange students are eligible to receive a Certificate of Participation in VILP by completing certain requirements from Victoria University. One of these requirements is the completion of experiential activity points.



- International Education
- Professional Development
- Cross-Cultural Communication
- Intercultural Understanding
- Social Responsibility
- Personal Development

FOR STUDENTS, THE PROGRAM WILL ENHANCE THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS, INTERNATIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL AWARENESS, AS WELL AS ENCOURAGE INTERACTION BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC STUDENTS, AND ACROSS THE VARIOUS UNIVERSITY FACULTIES.

For full participation requirements please visit the program's website at: WWW.VICTORIA.AC.NZ/HOME/VILP/TAILOREDVILP.ASPX













Making the most of your experience

You'll arrive at your destination and before you know it you'll be halfway through your stay. The truth is your experience abroad is going to go by quicker than you'll have expected or wanted. Therefore, it is important to squeeze the most out of it that you can. Deciding to volunteer in the first place is a great way to get the most out of your time abroad. And when you are volunteering, you should actively try to take advantage of every opportunity possible.

While working abroad, you are not just an international student; you are a representative of your home country. People may look at you differently for this, so it's important that you behave professionally while you're there. Understand that you are a foreigner and that the way things run there may not be what you're used to. Learn as much as you can about the system there, take your work seriously, and always keep an open mind and a positive attitude.

In doing this, you are giving back more than just your time. Taking an active interest in your work and the people you work with will benefit you greatly in the end. It makes the work more satisfying and will place you within an invaluable social network. The importance of networking cannot be overstated. So get to know your co-workers and supervisors and leave a lasting impression, because you never know how they will be able to come to your help in the future.

And most importantly, be sure to actively reflect upon your experiences while abroad. Start a blog, write in your journal, do whatever you need to do to document what's happening around you. What have you learned about your new culture? About your home? About yourself? Doing this will make you more appreciative of your time abroad, and will provide you with meaningful memories when you get back.

Bringing it back home

So what do you do when it's all over? You may find yourself wondering how to keep your abroad experience relevant and alive. Returnees are encouraged to take any opportunity to speak about their involvement while abroad including giving presentations at your campus's international office or a local rotary club. You could also find work similar to that done abroad, using your unique know-how to get a leg-up, while continuing in a field that interests you. Also keep in mind that unpaid work experience abroad can lead to paid work at home. Be sure to update your résumé with any relevant information. And most importantly, be sure to keep your foreign contacts fresh!

The best resource is a human resource, and acquaintances abroad ARE BOTH INCREDIBLY HELPFUL, AND INCREDIBLY HARD TO COME BY.













Further opportunities to serve abroad

Service nation

"ServiceNation is a campaign to increase service opportunities and elevate service as a core ideal and problem-solving strategy in our society. Reaching an estimated 100 million Americans through over 270 member groups, ServiceNation played a leading role in the drafting and April 2009 enactment of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which authorized the greatest expansion of national service in America since the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression."

Peace Corps

"The Peace Corps traces its roots and mission to 1960, when then Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries. From that inspiration grew an agency of the federal government devoted to world peace and friendship. Since that time, 200,000+ Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 139 host countries to work on issues ranging from AIDS education to information technology and environmental preservation.

Today's Peace Corps is more vital than ever, working in emerging and essential areas such as information technology and business development, and contributing to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Peace Corps Volunteers continue to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities."



WWW.HOWTOTEACHENGLISHOVERSEAS.COM/ WWW.TEACHABROAD.COM/

Volunteer Abroad

Volunteerabroad.com is a extensive database of volunteering opportunities abroad, searchable by country, duration of work, and type of work.

Idealist.org

"Idealist connects people, organizations, and resources to help build a world where all people can live free and dignified lives. Idealist is independent of any government, political ideology, or religious creed. Our work is guided by the common desire of our members and supporters to find practical solutions to social and environmental problems, in a spirit of generosity and mutual respect."







