Factors to Consider When Making Your Decision to Study Abroad

1. Destination
   - Language
   - Relevancy to coursework
   - Personal preferences/desires
   - Cost of living (daily life costs, travel within and to the country, exchange rate)

2. When to study abroad
   - First and last 30 credits should be taken at SHU, unless permission is given by your Dean to do otherwise
   - Discuss with your academic advisor how studying abroad can fulfill requirements of your academic program
   - Summer language credits may not be transferrable if an equivalent SHU course is offered
   - Take into account local weather
   - Think about travel options prior to or after your studies

3. Choosing a program/provider
   - Does SHU have an exchange or faculty-led program in your desired country? You can apply your scholarships and aid to SHU’s exchange programs!
   - Reputation of provider (ask OIP and check reviews online)
   - What is included in program cost (i.e., tuition, accommodations, insurance, some excursions, etc.)
   - Costs can vary depending on which city in the country you choose, accommodation options, etc.
   - Available scholarships from provider
   - Additional services available (excursions, insurance, accommodation options)

4. Scholarships and funding search engines:
   - www.iie.org/program-finder
   - www.scholarships.com
   - www.moneygeek.com
   - www.internationalscholarships.com
   - www.fastweb.com
   - www.studyabroad.com (also find resources on Visa, Budgeting, Guides, Tips & more)

5. Gather information from former participants
   - Ask OIP to reach out to previous participants and discuss personal experiences
   - Find program reviews for third party providers from students nationwide at:
     - www.studyabroad101.com

Study Abroad Checklist - To be completed in order!

1. Apply for passport (May take up to six weeks to process)

2. Meet with your academic advisor to discuss course selection (bring credit transfer form and course descriptions)

3. Meet with Gary Thomas in Financial Aid about loans/grants (N/A for summer)

4. Apply to study abroad program. Deadlines vary by semester and program!

5. Complete the OIP study abroad application (check application checklist for deadlines)

6. Apply for your student visa (if necessary) – check with program to inquire

7. Book flight! ONLY after you have been approved by program, OIP and received visa, if applicable

IF YOU CHOOSE TO STUDY ABROAD, YOU MUST APPLY THROUGH THE OIP! Contact us: oip@shu.edu or 973-761-9072