

\*\*\* (18:46:25):Welcome to Parent Access , Beth Szczerowski!  
\*\*\* (18:53:12):Welcome to Parent Access , Amy Otis-DeGrau!  
\*\*\* (18:58:55):Welcome to Parent Access , Randi!  
\*\*\* (18:59:48):Welcome to Parent Access , JJ!

Beth Szczerowski says (19:00:37):

Good evening and welcome to Parent Access. I am here with Amy Otis-De Grau, Hope's Director of International Education. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have regarding international education and study abroad programs.

\*\*\* (19:01:26):Welcome to Parent Access , Jim!  
\*\*\* (19:01:38):Welcome to Parent Access , Paul!  
\*\*\* (19:01:51):Welcome to Parent Access , Chris!

JJ says to (19:01:55):

**Thank you!**

rmmuncy84 says to (19:02:46):

**my daughter is looking at doing an internship in washington dc next spring, how do the students find housing?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:04:53):

Hi! Most of the domestic programs are not run through our office, however, I believe students gather in DC and stay in a hotel for the first few days and are then provided with a list of housing options which they explore with other Hope students.

Beth Szczerowski says (19:05:06):

Here is a great link with DC Semester information, including housing details  
<http://www.hope.edu/academic/polisci/Washington/FAQ/index.html>

JJ says to (19:05:12):

**My daughter, a freshman, is very interested in attending a study abroad program during one of her junior year semesters. What are the foreign language requirements?**

Jim says to (19:06:26):

**Are the programs of varying lengths? I've heard semester long and I've heard month long. Is the term determined by the school?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:06:56):

There are various language requirements for different programs. The average is four semesters of college-level Spanish, French, German, etc. However there are also many programs that do not have a language requirement and students.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:07:05):

It really just depends on the program and the location.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:08:23):

Jim, about 1/3 of a graduating class study off-campus for a semester or academic year. Hope also runs a small number of short-term programs which are usually one month long. I tend to think that the semester option is the best as it immerses the students

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:08:30):

into the culture for a longer period of time.

\*\*\* (19:08:55):Welcome to Parent Access , karon!

Chris says to (19:08:59):

**My daughter is planning on studying in Liverpool next fall. She has some chronic, managed health issues so I'm wondering how healthcare is handled with study abroad scenarios.**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:09:04):

I often encourage language students to go for a full year if possible

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:10:16):

Chris, we just ran a pretty extensive orientation on Saturday for all students studying off-campus next fall. During this time we spend a lot of time on health and safety issues and ask students to disclose such important information to the program

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:11:23):

director on site so that they can work with a student. We also encourage students to have conversations with their docs here and to work through the issues as needed prior to going.... always have an action plan on hand!

\*\*\* (19:11:35):Welcome to Parent Access , theboehmes@yahoo.com!

JJ says to (19:11:39):

**Thanks, when you say it depends on the program, do you mean what course of study or subject is involved?**

Randi says to (19:12:14):

**Where can we find out about potential costs of various study abroad options?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:13:23):

JJ, it would depend on the student's major and the type of program they select. Some programs are very thematic, others are direct enrollment into a university, and others still are hybrid programs which might offer courses both in English and in the host

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:13:25):

country language

\*\*\* (19:13:58):Welcome to Parent Access , joan!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:14:27):

Randi, Hope students pay Hope tuition for a semester/academic year program, unless the program tuition is higher in which case they pay the higher tuition. All students pay the fees for room and board directly to a program provider.

Beth Szczerowski says (19:14:50):

Here is a great link with useful information about off-campus study  
<http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/faqs.htm>

Chris says to (19:15:03):

**OK. I know she attended the orientation and said she has some follow-up questions for you before presenting everything to me. I may just have to be a little more patient!**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:15:40):

Chris, not a problem. Please encourage her to meet with me and we can talk some of this through so that she has everything in place. I'd be glad to meet with her.

Jim says to (19:15:44):

**I'm guessing this may have been covered in the orientation session you recently conducted, but is there a specific time frame for sign up? That is, does one sign up now (or soon) for a program beginning next Fall?**

\*\*\* (19:16:22):Welcome to Parent Access , Gary Kammeraad!

\*\*\* (19:16:27):Welcome to Parent Access , Sandi Skawski!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:16:53):

We have an "in-house" application required of all Hope students who wish to study off-campus. This gives them permission to apply to a program. For the Fall programs it is usually February 1 and for the spring programs, a whole year earlier, April 15.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:17:11):

If you have a son/daughter interested in spring 2012, they should get the Hope app in by April 15

karon says to (19:17:36):

**I would like him to find other Hope students who went to that particular and studied through the Austra Learn program. He would like to talk about the town, roommates ect. How can he connect with those students?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:17:39):

AustraLearn is a great program.... we have worked with them for over 15 years

\*\*\* (19:17:38):Welcome to Parent Access , sharon!

\*\*\* (19:18:30):Welcome to Parent Access , Karen H!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:18:34):

Karon, he should stop by my office and we can connect him with students who have studied in NZ. He can also connect w/AustraLearn directly and ask to be put in touch with other American students who have studied there, but who are not Hope students

JJ says to (19:19:35):

**Are opportunities available for a student majoring or minoring in a foreign language to take a course of study that would contribute towards that major/minor?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:20:53):

Absolutely!!! If your son/daughter is studying Spanish, why not send them off to Argentina, Chile or Spain for a semester or academic year where they will take all of their course work in Spanish and get up to 16 credit hours a semester to transfer back!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:21:15):

Those courses can count for their major/minor as well as some gen ed requirements

Beth Szczerowski says (19:21:32):

JJ: this link includes specific program information based on the language a student is studying <http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/planning.htm>

Karen H says to (19:21:37):

**Our daughter is a freshman majoring in art and would like to study in Italy for a semester. How does she qualify for study abroad and what year is best ?**

\*\*\* (19:22:31):Welcome to Parent Access , wendy!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:22:58):

Karen, we usually recommend JR year, unless a student is in nursing, elem ed, soc work or accounting. Those students should go in the 2nd sem of their sophomore year. So, JR year is best for most students. She will need to complete a Hope app for

\*\*\* (19:23:46):Welcome to Parent Access , akenglert!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:24:01):

approval which includes two letters of rec, an essay as to why she wants to go where, and a transcript. Students above a 3.0 GPA should not have a problem finding a program of their choice... we will also work with student under a 3.0 but the programs are more limited

karon says to (19:24:13):

**While in NZ, my son would like to work (he has skills in digital media) and volunteer (he is a psych major/ministry minor). Is that possible? He is very interested in getting involved in the community. He would also prefer a home stay.**

\*\*\* (19:24:42):Welcome to Parent Access , Ken!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:25:30):

Working abroad can often be a bit trickier since he will need a specific type of visa. He might instead look into an internship or the volunteer work, both of which AustraLearn can help set up. We actually really encourage our students to get involved in

\*\*\* (19:25:29):Welcome to Parent Access , guest!

\*\*\* (19:25:33):Welcome to Parent Access , Cheryl!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:26:31):

the community. As for the homestay... I'm not a 100% sure about NZ, but I think it is an option. Generally when homestays are available, I encourage the students to live with a family... it's a great way to be immersed in the culture!

Chris says to (19:26:40):

**How difficult is it to obtain some sort of internship type experience while abroad?**

\*\*\* (19:27:03):Welcome to Parent Access , sharon!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:27:38):

Chris, most programs offer an intership course.... I was just in Granada, Spain last week and visited some of the internship sights... it was very impressive to see what students were doing! Film studios, schools, hotels, .... there is a plethora of opportunities that the providers can help identify for the student....

akenglert says to (19:28:00):

**Which of the programs for Spanish speaking students include a homestay?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:28:53):

I think all of our Spanish programs include homestays..... again, I was just in Granada and visited with a family who was hosting two Americans and it was great to see how the students were an actual part of the family!

Beth Szczerowski says (19:29:13):

akenglert, this link includes detailed information about all of the spanish programs <http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/forms%20and%20files/2010-11%20Spanish%20Language.pdf>

Karen H says to (19:29:18):

**Where would the student stay while in Italy and do they need to know the Italian language?. She plans to take Italian in her sophomore year. How many credits do they earn in a semester for an art major. Are there scholarships available?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:30:07):

Programs offer a variety of housing options in Italy, including homestays, student apartments and university housing.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:30:45):

Some Italian will be helpful, but is not required of all programs. All the students will take Italian once on site and will be placed according to their language level.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:31:21):

Students can get up to 16 credits a semester... of those 16, it is really up to the Art Dept to decide how many they will receive back for the major and how many can apply towards a students gen ed requirements

Beth Szczerowski says (19:31:44):

We have quite a few great questions in the queue. Thanks for being patient as we answer them in the order they are received.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:31:53):

Scholarships.... most program providers offer some type of scholarship to apply for.... Beth will send the link for the scholarships....

\*\*\* (19:31:58):Welcome to Parent Access , john!

Chris says to (19:32:05):

**Since my daughter has already applied, etc. for Liverpool is it too late to pursue an internship?**

\*\*\* (19:32:56):Welcome to Parent Access , john3020!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:33:10):

Have her stop by my office to talk about this option.... unfortunately the UK has some stricter visa laws, so if she is to do an internship she will need to apply for a Tier 4 visa, rather than just enter on a regular student visa. I'd be glad to talk with her

Beth Szczerowski says (19:33:44):

Here is a great link with more scholarship information  
<http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/scholarships.htm>

JJ says to (19:33:51):

**Are homestays available in Germany?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:34:20):

Berlin offers homestay opportunities.... Freiburg offers student housing with German students.

karon says to (19:34:35):

**Should he let Austra Learn know ahead of time that he is interested in an internship or do they set that all up once they are on site at the college?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:35:24):

He will need to indicate that prior to leaving, but after he is accepted. They will provide him with additional forms to complete once he is accepted and he can indicate at that time what courses he plans to enroll in and that he wants an internship.

Beth Szczerowski says (19:35:28):

JJ: here is a link with specific information about the German programs  
<http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/forms%20and%20files/2010-11%20German%20Language.pdf>

wendy says to (19:35:36):

**My son will be in South Africa next fall. How does he sign up for spring semester classes? He will be in some remote areas at times with little access.**

Beth Szczerowski says (19:36:40):

And here is even more information with direct links to all of the options for Germany  
<http://www.hope.edu/beyondhope/offcamp/europe/germany.html>

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:37:03):

Wendy, our Registrar's Office will be in touch with all students when it comes to registering for the spring semester. If he is not near a computer during the time of registration, he can make prior arrangements with us and we will register him.

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:37:29):

It's quite painless... :) and they do everything on line in their KnowHopePlus account.

Sandi says to (19:37:34):

**In the home you visited recently in Spain, did the host family speak any English?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:38:35):

No!! :) I was forced to use my Spanish... which allows me to only speak in the present tense... not the past or future!! :) (German is my language!) The family was great however, and the students were so impressive... I was so proud of them when I heard them use their Spanish to translate for us!

\*\*\* (19:38:44): Welcome to Parent Access , Sharon!

JJ says to (19:38:47):

**Thanks to Amy and Beth for your responses and link info, which I will be reviewing.**

karon says to (19:38:54):

**Speaking of scholarships. Can my son use his subsidized loan to cover the cost of tuition/room & board? Are there scholarships for AustraLearn?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:39:52):

Most of a student's financial aid package will transfer with him and can be applied to the cost of the program. We encourage all students to meet with Fin Aid to confirm what how it will be applied and yes, AustraLearn does have scholarships! Please visit their website.

Randi says to (19:40:03):

**One of your pages says that there is a cap on how many students can study abroad in the spring, yet the application for fall semester abroad was Feb 1. Since my daughter's a sophomore and not in any of the "high priority" majors is she out of luck?**

Gary Kammeraad says to (19:40:41):

**Are there special considerations related to existing scholarships and studying abroad?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:41:14):

No... she should be fine.... JRs are considered "high priority" .... In the 6 years that we have had this cap, we have only had to twice create waitlists and in both cases we worked through these waitlists and students were able to go.

Karen H says to (19:41:23):

**We will be in Holland this summer, will there be someone available to speak with concerning the International studies programs?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:42:08):

Absolutely! I'd be glad to meet with you... just send me an email (otis@hope.edu) and let me know when you are in Holland. If I'm available, I'd be glad to meet with you.

akenglert says to (19:42:17):

**For the Spanish-speaking programs, are any of them particular suited to a Nursing student?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:43:13):

akenglert, yes, there are a number of options in Spanish speaking countries that have health programs.... our Nursing Dept has also just started a summer Nursing program with our sister school in Queretaro, Mexico....

akenglert says to (19:43:22):

**Is there much competition in applying for the Spanish programs? How likely is it that our daughter will get her first choice?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:44:26):

Very likely! I would say 95% of our students get their first choice.... partly because of the advising we do and the Hope app we require of all students before they apply for a

program. We are able to screen them for each program and make sure they are eligible for the program.

Gary says to (19:44:41):

**Are there special considerations related to existing scholarships and studying abroad?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:45:31):

This would be an excellent question for the Fin Aid Office.... most scholarship letters/fin aid packets should specify if there are stipulations....

Cheryl says to (19:45:36):

**My son will be a junior in the fall. If he is unable to study abroad during his junior year are there usually study abroad opportunities during the summer? If so, how many weeks do the programs usually last?**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:46:18):

yes, there are number of summer programs both through Hope and through program providers. Have him stop by to meet with me and we can provide him with some information. Most summer programs are 4-6 weeks long. Fall senior year might be another option

Cheryl says to (19:46:57):

**Okay, thanks.**

karon says to (19:48:08):

**Thank you for your answers. You have been very helpful.**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:48:36):

Not a problem! Please feel free to email me at [otis@hope.edu](mailto:otis@hope.edu) if you have additional questions

Beth Szczerowski says (19:48:41):

Are there any questions we've missed, or additional questions you have?

Karen H says to (19:49:25):

**We appreciate your time and we are eager to see you this summer. thank you,  
Karen  
Hartman**

Gary says to (19:49:47):

**Thanks for your time.**

Cheryl says to (19:49:52):

**Yes, thank you for your time.**

Beth Szczerowski says (19:50:07):

You can learn more about resources and services available to you as a Hope parent at [www.hope.edu/parents](http://www.hope.edu/parents)

Beth Szczerowski says (19:50:29):

A log of this chat will be available to download later this week at [www.hope.edu/parents/access](http://www.hope.edu/parents/access).

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:50:34):

Sure!! These have been excellent questions!

\*\*\* (19:51:15):Welcome to Parent Access , Carol!

Jim says to (19:51:27):

**I, too, thank you for your responses and this opportunity, but also for your very welcoming offers of assistance.**

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:51:50):

You are welcome!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:52:26):

It's a great experience for a student to have and I always tell people that I have one of the best jobs on campus... I truly get to see a student transform in front of my eyes in a matter of 6 months!!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:55:25):

Are there any other questions?

Beth Szczerowski says (19:55:59):

Thanks for joining us tonight, this was our last Access Chat of the school year. We'll see you again in the fall!

Amy Otis-DeGrau says to (19:56:51):

Bye everyone!! Thanks for your interest in study abroad!

Beth Szczerowski says (19:56:53):

Goodnight!