What's the best advice you can give future students to maximize their experience abroad?

"I spent my free time traveling to locations anywhere from 10 minutes away to 2 hours away to see sights and experience things that were of interest to me and not part of the program. Beaches, gardens, art exhibits, etc.

"Write it all down. Don't just do your class work. Keep a journal, a blog, something, anything to document what you're taking in."

"Take every experience available. Go outside your comfort zone and do things you normally wouldn't. The time goes by so quickly so make the most of it."

"I think it's important to be aware of yourself and your group mates. Know when it is okay to be loud and when it is not. Learn to read what other people are perceiving of your group."

"Do not be afraid to talk to faculty or students about your problems, and don't be too concerned with staying in contact with home."

What items did you not bring that you wish you had?

- Water bottle w/ filter
- Sunscreen/aloe
- Good walking shoes
- o Tank-tops
- o "Going out" clothes
- Over the counter meds
- o Adapter

What items did you pack and NOT need while abroad?

- Pack lighter
- Too many clothes
- Too many nice clothes
- Laptop
- Swim suit
- o T-shirts

Which devices would you recommend others take in the future?



Most common ways to communicate with family and friends back home:

#1. International calling/text plan with U.S. cell phone carrier

#2. Through WiFi-enabled smart phones apps

- Skype
- Whatsapp
- o iMessage

All Roads Lead to Rome

"It made my major seem more tangible, and it was very nice to see foreign and historical applications that one does not hear or see anything about in class."

Approximately how much did you spend out of pocket during the program (in USD)?

	Max Value	Average Value
Communication (cell phone, Internet charges, etc.):	50.00	13.33
Food:	600.00	408.33
Going out/free time:	200.00	109.17
Lodging:	0.00	0.00
Other:	150.00	45.00
Personal travel/excursions:	400.00	121.67
Program related travel/excursions:	0.00	0.00
Required books/supplies:	50.00	21.67
Souvenirs/gifts:	400.00	164.17

What advice do you have for students to budget and spend money wisely?

"Pull money out of the ATM and set aside some money to leave at the residence and some for spending money that day.

"Take your own snacks and you can save a lot of money on food. Take a water bottle to refill throughout the day. Budget to spend quite a bit on food.

"Keep track of what you are spending. Use cash when possible."

"Eat away from main roads, split meals with friends, and find free ways to kill time. Do a little research before you go look for the tourist sites.

How did you pay for things on a daily basis?

- Cash (withdrawn from local ATM/bank from US bank account)
- 2. Credit Cards/Debit Cards
- 3. Cash (exchanged from US currency)

What credit cards were most accepted?



