



Jumpstart Your Career

There are many personal benefits and ways to grow both professionally and personally if you choose to study abroad. In fact, choosing to study abroad can be one of the most enriching, fulfilling, interesting and educationally stimulating experiences of your entire life. In our world today, there are a variety of study abroad opportunities in almost every country, so studying in your dream land is easier now that it has ever been. But how can studying abroad help enhance your career endeavors? Keep reading to find out...



Use Your Resources

Linfield College is here for you! Let us help you brainstorm ways you can integrate your career development with your experience abroad.



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 **Linfield College**
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Study Abroad



*What will **YOU** discover?*

 **Cats to Careers:**
Pursue **YOUR** Path!



Steps to Take While Studying Abroad to Enhance Your Career

1. Networking Opportunities

Networking means building and maintaining mutually beneficial professional relationships. These relationships provide both parties with contacts who want to help each other either find jobs, expand businesses, learn something new, keep in touch, and so on.

Ways to network while abroad:

- Talk to professors and administrators
- Go to events
- Seek out events that interest you
- Talk to someone who works at a job or company that sounds interesting
- Ask your host family to introduce you to their friends/colleagues
- Connect with Linfield alumni living abroad! Ask Career Development to assist you in finding alumni

Networking while abroad helps you...

- Learn more about the culture
- Educate yourself about unfamiliar jobs or companies
- Focus on local/regional industry information
- Get leads on other career enhancing opportunities, such as, jobs, internships, volunteering, or job shadows

2. Internships

Internships provide opportunities to:

- Practice skills & concepts introduced in the classroom
- Learn about the workplace in another culture
- Develop new abilities and knowledge

-Network

-Gain real-world experience

-Learn more about your passions and talents

3. Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering is a great way to relate your academic pursuits to real life. Volunteering helps you get a sense of your career options, get experience, gain insight into careers, and looks great on your resume!

Students who volunteer become more civically minded and socially responsible. They are better able to recognize matters of public concern and take action to address these issues. Likewise, volunteering allows you to network with local professionals; you will acquire references who will help connect you to other career opportunities.

Ask your professors/classmates & host family where to find opportunities

4. Company Visits

Company visits are for a couple hours, where you can do anything from tour a company site, talk with professionals about a company's culture and mission, and/or meet employees, etc.

Whether it is a company that could be in your career path, or you're just interested in how a certain organization works, take the initiative and ask someone you know if you could tour it! This will be a fun way to learn more about a firm, some careers, meet people, and who knows, perhaps find some contacts for later on!

-Ask the networking contacts you make if you can shadow them or get a tour of their company.

5. Informational Interviews

Informational Interviews are reverse interviews: you sit down with a professional who works at a company you think is interesting. You'll ask questions to get deeper insight into the who's, what's, why's, where's, and how's of the position

Informational interviews allow you to:

- Explore different types of careers in your host country
- Develop long-lasting professional contacts
- Learn specific industry information
- Figure out if a career path is a good fit
- Gain better understanding of your host country's workplace issues and laws
- Develop better insight into the working culture of your host country

6. Local Newspapers

Newspapers are very valuable, not only for you as a student but as an educated, involved member of your local and global community.

Reading newspapers while abroad is valuable:

- Understand local and regional issues, and how international issues affect the local area
- Get informed about events
- Learn about people and companies
- Learn something new!
- Find a job, internship, or volunteer opportunity
- Expand your language skills
- Read about cultural issues and gain a better cultural understanding
- Be able to keep up in conversations

