



## Sophomore International Experience Additional Information

### Academic Credit

The three credits for this experience will include the tour activities, as well as pre-trip preparation sessions on culture and basic language training, and pre- and post-trip presentations. Students will begin preparations during the semester prior to travel. Full attendance and participation in pre-departure sessions, scheduled activities on the tour, and final projects are expected.

### Cost

**The price of the 2020 programs is \$4,500.** This includes airfare, transportation in country, scheduled activities, lodging, breakfast each day (some additional meals may be part of the program), and the tuition for the academic credits. Participants are responsible for personal spending money and for meals not listed on the itinerary.

### Financial Aid

All accepted SIE applicants who have filed a **2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** will automatically be considered for limited need-based grant assistance to offset the tuition charge of the program. Students will be notified of their awarded grant amount after the application deadline; awarded grants will be applied towards the final payment deadline, based on the SIE program the student is accepted to. Students who rely on receiving this need-based grant in order to be able to participate in their SIE program should contact the Financial Aid Office to check on their grant eligibility **BEFORE** they apply.

If a student's grant award exceeds the final amount due of \$2,000, the difference of the grant award will then be applied towards the first \$2,000 due for their respective program payment schedule. Any outstanding balance still owed (if a student's total grant award is less than the difference owed after the initial application deposit) will be due by the first \$2,000 payment deadline in September (winter program participants) or November (summer program participants).



## Payment Schedule

### Winter Program Payments

- Application deposit (\$500) due by application deadline of *July 10, 2019*
- First payment (\$2,000) due September 27, 2019
- Final payment (\$2,000) due November 8, 2019

### Summer Program Payments

- Application deposit (\$500) due by application deadline of July 10, 2019
- First payment (\$2,000) due November 8, 2019
- Final payment (\$2,000) due February 7, 2020

## Eligibility

(Must be met at time of app as well as up until end of semester before travel portion)

- Students must be going into their sophomore year at Bryant OR, have at least one semester's worth of a Bryant GPA if they transferred in during the 2018-2019 academic year;
- Students must have a minimum of a **2.0** cumulative GPA at time of application;
- Students must be in good academic AND judicial standing, with no Bursar holds in order to fully participate.

## Application

All applications for the SIE are due NO LATER than July 10, 2019 at 4 PM. Eligible students can access the SIE application to complete it online by entering the [secure area](#) in BANNER Self-Service, clicking on "Student Services & Financial Aid" link, and then selecting the "Sophomore International Experience Application" link.

NOTE: Students only select their top choice program they want to apply for, and if they are not accepted to that program, they will be notified about available spaces for the other SIE programs that they can be added to instead. Students who have been accepted to a program will NOT be allowed to switch to another program after receiving their acceptance.



## A Completed SIE Application includes the following:

- SIE Refund and Cancellation Policy form
- Essay (Copy and paste from a Word document) Your essay should be between approximately 500-750 words, and should address the following questions:
  - Why are you seeking to participate in the SIE program?
  - What are your academic and personal interests?
  - Are there any particular reasons or circumstances that have shaped your interests in the SIE program you select? (For example: family heritage, career plans, previous travel experience, course scheduling, study abroad plans, etc.)
  - Finally, what are the goals you have set for yourself in the SIE?
- A copy of your passport **MUST** be uploaded to Banner when you submit your application (and needs also be signed on the line above your photo page to reflect the full name on your passport). There will be no exceptions. If you do not have a current passport, you **MUST** upload a receipt verifying you have applied for one. Please click [here](#) for information on how to renew or apply for a passport; **DO NOT** upload your passport application in place of a payment receipt. **Additionally, DO NOT upload a scan of a passport card, as this is not considered a valid passport.** PLEASE NOTE: Your passport **MUST BE** valid for **AT LEAST 6 months** after the expected end date of the program. You can view the sample itineraries above for anticipated end dates for each program.
- A \$500 application deposit to be paid to the Bursar's Office by any one of the following three methods:
  - E-check through the [Student Account Center](#) (which is the preferred method of payment and does not incur any service fees);
  - A credit card payment through PayPath, via the [Student Account Center](#) (this method **DOES** incur a service fee);
  - A physical check (check must include student ID number and the program term for the program you are applying for: Winter 2020 or Summer 2020), mailed directly to the Bursar's Office:

*Bryant University  
Attn: Bursar's Office  
1150 Douglas Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02917*



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Application deposits will start to be accepted from June 4, 2019 until the application closes at 4 PM on July 10, 2019. **Any application that does not reflect receipt of payment by the time the application closes at 4 PM on July 10, 2019 will be considered an incomplete application.** Please allow 3 - 5 business days for physical checks to be processed and appear within a student's application.

- Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:
  - **Completeness of Application**  
Carefully complete all sections of the application. Be sure to include a copy of your passport or a payment receipt verifying submission of payment for your passport application. Please DO NOT upload your passport application as your receipt, or your application will be deemed incomplete if this item appears within the passport upload section.
  - **Essay**  
The essay provides you an opportunity to explain why participation in the Sophomore International Experience is personally and academically important to you. The essay will be read and scored by two Sophomore International Experience faculty.

Please contact the Study Abroad Office at 401-232-6209 or [saoffice@bryant.edu](mailto:saoffice@bryant.edu) if you're having difficulties accessing the SIE application AFTER it goes live on Tuesday, June 4, 2019.

## Refund and Cancellation Policy

- The application deposit is non-refundable unless SIE program is cancelled, the University is unable to place the student in a SIE program, or if they withdraw **before** they have been formally accepted to participate.
- If the student must withdraw from their SIE program after acceptance but before departure due to: becoming ill or suffering an injury; who accept Orientation Leader positions or other positions; experience a loss; or other issues that conflict with the travel portion of their SIE program, the student is responsible for the entire cost of their SIE program, and **NO REFUNDS** of money owed/paid until that date will be given. Bryant University contracts the travel logistics with program providers (companies), and we are responsible for paying those contracted costs even if a student withdraws.
- Bryant University may, in its sole discretion, determine that circumstances within the foreign country may require the cancellation of the SIE program within the country. The University will



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provide the student with as much advance notice as possible of its intention to cancel the SIE in which s/he will participate. The University, the on-site coordinators, or the foreign government may prematurely terminate the SIE. If there is University cancellation of an SIE, all payments to the University will be refunded and the University will make every effort to help the student complete the academic work for the program.

- If the student is dismissed from the SIE for any reason, there will be no refund and s/he is responsible for the full cost of the SIE program. In addition, if the student is dismissed while in-country, the student is responsible for all costs associated with returning home.
- If the student becomes sick or injured while traveling abroad with the group, s/he will, at his/her own expense, seek out, contact, and reach the group at its next available destination. If the student seeks to return to the U.S. after commencement of the program due to serious illness, or death within the immediate family, the University bears no liability for any losses or claims incurred by the student in connection with his/her own early termination from the course. The University will make every effort to refund recoverable costs. Unrecoverable costs will not be refunded.

For more information about the Sophomore International Experience visit the Study Abroad Office which is located on the lower level of the Unistructure near Faculty Suite J, **(401) 232-6209** or email [saoffice@bryant.edu](mailto:saoffice@bryant.edu).