



## Sophomore International Experience Study Tour Locations

### Winter Break - January 2020

#### Argentina & Chile

Doing Business in Latin America: Challenges and Opportunities (Scheduled to meet during the fall 2019 semester on Wednesdays from 5 - 6:15 PM; Room TBA)

We will focus on Latin America and will travel to Argentina and Chile in January 2020. The theme of the course is "Doing Business in Latin America: Challenges and Opportunities" and we will be focusing on business practices in Latin American environments. Highlights of the course include examining the economic history, current business climate, culture and its impact on business, political climate, process of establishing a business, and marketing practices in Latin America. Students will visit sites such as soccer club, the Chamber of Commerce, start-up incubator, manufacturers, winery, and advertising agency, to name a few. These visits will expose students to business environment in Latin America and showcase the difference between Argentinian and Chilean economies. Students will also be involved in a series of cultural events such as touring Argentinian estancia (ranch), touring the Andes Mountains, doing the boat tour on Tigre River, and participating in a service-learning project in an orphanage in Argentina. While the trip to our destination occurs in January 2020, we will have a series of class meetings/activities to prepare for the trip during Fall 2019 semester and at least one class meeting during Spring 2020 semester. Students in this course are expected to participate in **ALL** pre-departure, during-trip, and post-trip activities scheduled by the faculty leaders. This course can count as an IB elective, open elective, or a liberal arts elective.

Questions about this program? Contact: Patricia Gomez [pgomez@bryant.edu](mailto:pgomez@bryant.edu) or Eileen Kwesiga [ekwesiga@bryant.edu](mailto:ekwesiga@bryant.edu)

#### China

Discover the Real China: Culture and Business (Scheduled to meet during the fall 2019 semester on Mondays from 3:30 - 4:45 PM; Room TBA)

This course provides Bryant students an excellent opportunity to experience and probe into the rich culture and booming businesses of China, the world's fastest growing economy in the last 40 years



# Bryant University

where exciting and unparalleled transformations are taking place. Students will travel to Beijing, Zhuhai, Guilin/Yangshuo and Shanghai. The locations are carefully selected to enable students to develop an in-depth understanding of multiple aspects of Chinese culture and business and U.S.-China cultural and economic relations.

In Beijing, the focus will be on culture heritage and traditions, economic growth, urban development, environment, education and high technology industry. Visits will include cultural landmarks (Great Wall, Forbidden City, and Hutong neighborhood), modern experience (Olympic Park, schools, and museums), and business learning (Lenovo headquarters, Bank of China, etc.). In Zhuhai, students will visit Bryant's branch campus at Beijing Institute of Technology Zhuhai where Bryant has been operating a dual-degree program on accounting and has started a series of student and faculty exchanges. Bryant students will be paired with Zhuhai students before the trip and spend 2-3 full days together in Zhuhai. The connection can become long-lasting international friendships because some Zhuhai students will transfer to Smithfield in the fall semester and meet Bryant students again. In addition, both Bryant students and Zhuhai students will visit a factory/company to learn more about manufacturing and global supply chain operations.

In Guilin/Yangshuo area, students will learn China's traditional economy, tourism industry and natural landscape. Students will be able to interact with foreign business owners there to learn more about how to do business in China. Some most popular activities include rock climbing, cave exploration, cooking class and traditional Chinese fan painting. In Shanghai, the trip will provide students firsthand experience on urban modernity, financial industry and western influence in China. Students will visit multi-national company and meet with Bryant alumni for career advice. Students will also be given an opportunity to plan a day by themselves to explore Shanghai in small groups. While the trip component of the course occurs in January during the Winter break, this course will run throughout the fall semester (pre-trip classes and seminars) and into the spring semester (post-trip presentations). Participants are expected to be fully participating in all phases of the course. This course can count as IB elective, liberal arts elective, or open elective.

Questions about this program? Contact: Kongli Liu [kliu1@bryant.edu](mailto:kliu1@bryant.edu)



# Bryant University

## Germany/Spain

Communication and Culture (Scheduled to meet during the fall 2019 semester on Mondays from 3 - 4:30 PM; Room TBA)

Communication and culture are inseparable. It is through communication that we learn our culture, and it is through an understanding of culture that we learn to how to communicate. Even language itself is simply a culturally agreed-upon grouping of symbols. When we write “syllabus,” how do you know the meaning of this word? The word doesn’t look, sound, taste, or give any indication of what a syllabus is. It is through our cultural references that we understand what this word means.

The focus of this class is on communication and culture. We will examine the mutual dependency between these two concepts. The emphasis will be on intercultural communication. The tour will take us to two vastly different countries: Germany and Spain. These countries were chosen specifically because they are vastly different! Interpersonal communication patterns, rules, and styles in these countries are very different. This course will focus on an examination of the role of culture in communication and how local culture guides both interpersonal and mediated communication. This course can count as an open elective or liberal arts elective for all students. For Communication majors and minors, this course can count as a 200-level elective.

Questions about this program? Contact: Kevin Pearce [kpearce@bryant.edu](mailto:kpearce@bryant.edu)

## Malaysia & Singapore

International Business and Culture in Asia (Scheduled to meet during the fall 2019 semester on Thursdays from 5 - 6:15 PM; Room TBA)

The purpose of this proposal is to establish Asian experience as an instance of the Sophomore International Experience. The extensive development in the ASEAN region in the past 20 years is notable, with many US multinational corporations (MNCs) invested in the region. Thus, understanding how to do business in Asia and grasping diverse culture are crucial in developing global perspective. In accomplishing this, students will go through extensive preparation and orientation during the pre-departure phase which includes speakers (Asian history, ethnicity, etc.), Congress and Parliament, central bank, individual and group assignments (reading, blog, wiki entries). Students will then visit Singapore and Malaysia during the winter session (in-country phase) where they will hear speakers



# Bryant University

(religion, culture, food, celebrations, politics, business models), as well as visit businesses (Intel, IBM, Petronas, ExxonMobil, McAfee, Tata etc.), agriculture (oil palm and rubber plantation), 2 government institutions (Putrajaya -Intelligent City), and cultural components (Museum, Place of worships, waterfall etc.). This course will count as either an open elective, liberal arts elective, 200-level economics elective, or IB elective.

Questions about this program? Contact: Janet Prichard [prichard@bryant.edu](mailto:prichard@bryant.edu) or Alex Perullo [aperullo@bryant.edu](mailto:aperullo@bryant.edu)

## Summer Break - Late May to early June 2020

### **CANCELLED: New Zealand (location change from Japan as of Feb. 20)**

International Business and Culture (Scheduled to meet during the spring 2020 semester. Day, times, and room TBA)

This SIE will focus on studying Japanese culture and business in the larger context of globalization and its interrelatedness with the U.S. economy. We will travel to Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Kyoto. The three cities were carefully selected to enable students the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of multiple aspects of Japanese history, culture, and business. In Tokyo, students will focus on economic growth of Japan, and explore multinational companies' innovation in the high technology industry. They will also have the opportunity to explore Japanese culture, heritage, and traditions. In Hiroshima, students will focus on social and cultural aspects of Japan, and have the opportunity to interact with Japanese students. In Kyoto, students will explore the tourism industry, natural landscape, and rural-urban economic gap. This course can count as an open elective, an IB elective, or an Honors course elective for students who participate in this SIE.

**Questions about this program? Contact:** Crystal Jiang [cjiang1@bryant.edu](mailto:cjiang1@bryant.edu) or Aziz Berdiev [aberdiev@bryant.edu](mailto:aberdiev@bryant.edu)



# Bryant University

## **CANCELLED: Italy/France**

Commerce and Culture of Italy and France (Scheduled to meet during the spring 2020 semester. Day, times, and room TBA)

With the extensive business, historical, and cultural linkages between Italy, France, and the US, the choice of Rome and Aix-en-Provence seems perfect for the type of course we have designed. Extensive preparation and orientation during the pre-departure phase includes lectures, activities (French language competition), and assignments (reading, presentations). Students will then visit Rome and Provence during the in-country phase where students will hear speakers, as well as visit businesses and cultural components. This course can count as an IB elective, liberal arts elective, or open elective.

Questions about this program? Contact: Cindi Lewis [clewis4@bryant.edu](mailto:clewis4@bryant.edu)