Panoramic view over the cityscape and roof architecture in Sighisoara, medieval town of Transylvania, Romania

RAMAPO UNPACKED  |  SPRING 2018

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ROUKEMA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

meet the team

Ben Levy
Director of International Education
blevy1@ramapo.edu

Rajesh Adhikari
Associate Director, International Student and Scholar Services / PDSO / RO
radhikar@ramapo.edu

Kathryn (Godfrey) Lamanna
Assistant Director, International Programs
kgodfrey@ramapo.edu

Izumi Osawa-Minevich
Program Assistant / DSO / ARO
iosawami@ramapo.edu

Donna Lane-Baur
International Programs Advisor
dkauder@ramapo.edu

The Roukema Center for International Education is located in the Anisfield School of Business, Suite-123.
201.684.7533 | international@ramapo.edu | www.ramapo.edu/international
“It was great to be a part of a multicultural class and especially with the Danes.”

“I enjoyed the practice-oriented teaching and the fact that we work directly with real companies. It really helped me see how to use all those theories we learn.”

NEW EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Ramapo College is excited to announce a NEW exchange program with CPH Business Academy in Copenhagen, Denmark.

This is a semester or year only program option for Ramapo College students to take business courses in Denmark while paying RCNJ tuition and fees.

Generous scholarships are available.

For more details, please visit: https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=CPH
Copenhagen is one of the most beautiful cities that I have ever seen.”

“I really liked the teaching methods, where we did a lot of group work and received constant feedback from the teachers.”
I’ve wanted to visit Japan for a long time. As a Chinese American, I’ve been to China many times to visit relatives and have visited other parts of Asia but I’ve never been to Japan. This summer, I finally got the chance to travel to the Land of the Rising Sun. From the moment I touched down at Narita Airport, I felt like it was a dream. I drove through the streets of Tokyo as the sun was setting, and I knew this was the beginning of an incredible adventure for me.

I visited Tokyo through study abroad in the CIEE’s Japanese Studies Program, a four-week intensive session that allows you to experience Japan inside and outside the classroom. One of the classes I took was called Survey of Japanese Religion. I do not consider myself to be a religious person at all, so I think I enjoyed studying it so much because it was a part of their culture and not a strict religious belief. Shinto shrines were a place to escape for me — they were like little random pockets of nature and serenity in the middle of one of the busiest cities in the world. There was just something special to me about being at a Japanese shrine. Maybe it was the peace in the air, or maybe it was because I felt safe in that sacred spot.

There are so many other things I also grew to love, from the food to the fashion and even down to the “konbini” (convenience stores) at every block that sold inexpensive but delicious rice balls. I saw breathtaking nature during a hike up Takao-san (a nearby mountain) and intricate architecture from the 350th floor of Skytree (the city’s tallest building). Tokyo had so many fun things to do and see — one month wasn’t enough for me.

Japan has made itself a warm little home in my heart. It was a beautiful place to visit, and I am so humbled I had the opportunity to be there. I still can’t believe that it all just happened. I know I will be back, and I’ll be back soon.
In early 2017, I set off to Italy for a four-month study abroad experience. Arriving in Florence, I knew no one and could only speak what one could consider a “butchered” form of the language. However, I was full of excitement and fear of the unknown, and my time at SACI proved to be nothing but fulfilling and stimulating.

I stayed in an apartment in the center of Florence with the loveliest people. The apartment was in the heart of the city and this allowed me to have almost every museum, gallery, duomo (church) at my fingertips. I took four studio classes, Batik (ancient form of textile design), Graphic Design, Ceramics, and Performance Art with Installation. My classes were intriguing and challenging to say the least, but what really made the classes great were the professors. I was given detailed and honest feedback on the work I was doing that enabled me to produce more art than I had done in my three years of college.

Aside from school, I met some of the most sincere and generous people. We still keep in touch months after arriving back home. Florence provided me a time to explore an ancient city filled with culture and history at every corner. SACI gave its students opportunities to attend museums with Art History class trips, weekend trips to Venice, Pompeii and Siena. My time abroad proved to be an opportunity for me to enjoy so many experiences and gain lifelong lessons.
As a Global Communications & Media major, it is crucial that I have an understanding of the world at large. Studying abroad gave me an insight and an experiential learning experience that I could have never received inside a classroom. During the fall of my junior year, I studied in Florence, Italy at Florence University of the Arts through ISA. My semester abroad opened my eyes unlike ever before and was the greatest decision I have ever made in my academic career. While abroad I was fortunate to travel all over Italy and as well as to six other countries. The history, art, food and landscapes I experienced were indescribable and are something everyone should experience once in their lifetime. My travels were something that I have dreamed about ever since applying to college three years ago, and I am grateful that Ramapo College made those dreams a reality.

During my time abroad I became a student intern where I wrote weekly blog posts for a travel agency, Florence for Fun. Writing my posts helped me stay connected to my friends and family back home, recount all the fun I had each week, and was a wonderful addition to my professional portfolio. Studying abroad has exposed me to countless opportunities and has ultimately changed my life for the better.
Reflections from Abroad

Kevin Bagnato
Class of 2019
Christchurch, New Zealand  |  ISA: University of Canterbury  |  Spring 2017
https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=ISAChristchurchSemester

Top 10 Reasons to Study/Intern/Research in New Zealand

Top:
1. Arthur’s Pass, my first hike in New Zealand
2. The skyskies in New Zealand
3. Kevin spent two weeks touring the South Island during his “spring” break (it was fall in NZ)

New Zealand, known to the indigenous Maori peoples as “Aotearoa,” have a rich culture that is proudly displayed throughout the country in their language, communities and their famous ‘haka’ which is an intimidating performance commonly seen by the national rugby team, the New Zealand All Blacks.

Film fanatic? Go visit landmarks used in the filming of the Lord of the Rings trilogy, the Hobbit trilogy, The Last Samurai, etc.

A friendly and diverse population. New Zealanders, or “Kiwis,” are known for their friendliness toward visitors and are made of many pacific-Asian diverse populations living in harmony.

A low cost of living. Although the flight to New Zealand will be pricey, the out-of-pocket living expense is low; especially compared to countries in Europe such as Sweden or England.

Easy access to travel elsewhere in Asia-Pacific region. It is easy to hop on a plane to jet-set to other countries in the region; such as Australia, Fiji, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, etc.

Perfect for adventure seekers and outdoorsy folks. New Zealand has mountains, beaches, volcanoes, caves, glaciers; you name it. There are endless activities to enjoy; zip lining, kayaking, hiking, and more. And there are no deadly critters to be concerned about.

Great weather. The seasonal calendar is different in the southern hemisphere so their fall semester is February through June (hotter in February, cooler in June) and their spring semester is July through November (cooler in July, hotter in November). So if you are tired of winter here, head “down under.”

Unique wildlife. New Zealand is home to many varieties of birds, reptiles and marine life that can only be found here; including specific breeds of penguins, sea lions, dolphins, and birds. If you love animals and are interested in encountering new breeds, this is the place for you.

Excellent universities. The NZ universities are of high quality and are modeled after British universities, but at a lower price! Save some money and study in NZ.

Jobs! On a student visa you can work up to 20 hours a week which means you can make money while exploring this new and diverse country.
REFLECTIONS FROM Abroad

MEHNAZ LADHA

Class of 2018
Athens, Greece | College Year in Athens
Summer 2017

Nine years in the making

My study abroad destination was a dream nine years in the making that came to fruition this summer. From capturing the country’s endless beauty to discovering its rich history through archaeological sites such as the Acropolis, every moment spent in Greece was well worth the wait.

Participating in the second summer session of the College Year in Athens program, my course explored the political, social and economic role of the Mediterranean diet throughout history. As a journalism major with an international studies minor, I was particularly intrigued by how the bailout crisis - the focus of my research - affected food consumption. Classroom discussions also touched on issues such as globalization, food tourism and consumer protection issues. Designed to allow us to experientially study food in Greece, the class also included trips to nearby farms, markets, vineyards, tavernas and festivals.

While in Athens, I lived in a CYA apartment in the Pangrati neighborhood. Minutes away from Kallimarmaro, or the Panathenaic Stadium, my housing was situated in a residential neighborhood that allowed me to interact with the locals on a daily basis. With class sessions scheduled in the morning and late afternoon, my evenings were filled with strolls through Plaka, shopping at the flea market of Monastiraki and treks to sites such as Mount Lycabettus.

After spending three weeks tasting regional cheeses, fresh sushi (prepared by a Michelin star chef at the commercial fish market) and goat yogurt (prepared at an organic dairy farm), the class traveled to the town of Koroni in the Peloponnese (peninsula) for the final week. Koroni holds historic significance, as it was selected to represent Greece in the application to include the Mediterranean diet as part of UNESCO’s intangible cultural heritage list. Given Koroni’s reputation as the olive oil capital of Greece, I visited fields of olive trees, witnessed the production of olive oil soap and became a novice sommelier at our tasting.

The cultural immersion of four weeks in Greece was unlike any other travel experience I have had. It’s a catalyst for personal growth, encouraging you to become more independent and confident with yourself. I would advise students to explore all their options with study abroad advisors because there’s an incredible world out there waiting to be discovered!
CZECHING OUT PRAGUE

In the Spring of 2017, I embarked on a journey to the Czech Republic, a place I had never previously visited and did not know much about. I knew I wanted to study abroad in Europe at some point, but turning that into a reality was a tough, interesting, and extremely rewarding experience. I arrived in Prague at the end of January; it was cold and snowy and I knew nothing about the city. I suddenly went from walking short distances to class everyday on a tiny campus in New Jersey to living independently in a city where the spoken language was not my own.

This experience made me deeply broaden my viewpoint of the world. I met people and went places I didn’t even know existed before I left the U.S. However, I learned that many people all around the world are similar to me, despite large geographical and cultural differences. I loved having the opportunity to speak with people from all over the globe through my travels, and I truly cherish those conversations.

Studying abroad also came with many challenges. A major one was that everyone I knew and loved was on another continent. I really had to work on my confidence and social skills to be able to fully enjoy my experience. I also had to work with not living with any sort of school-provided meal plan and adapting to an urban environment, but with each challenge came rewards.

Living in Prague was especially awesome because the city has so much going on. Its architecture is historic and breathtaking, its culture is fun and interesting, and the history is fascinating. While all European cities are amazing, there is definitely something special about Prague. Because of the Czech Republic’s central Europe location, it is prime for easily traveling to other countries. During my stay in the region, I visited Budapest, Vienna, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Krakow, Interlaken and Berlin. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity to study abroad and see so many new things and places. Pushing myself to partake in such a journey is something I will always remember.

Top:
1. This is the view from Vyšehrad, a castle point where most of my classes took place. It has absolutely one of the best views I’ve ever seen.
2. That’s me riding one of the very common trams in Prague. I had to ride these to get around the city nearly everyday.
3. Some friends and I enjoying a sunrise together on Charles Bridge during one of our last mornings in the city.
REFLECTIONS FROM Abroad

>> SARA CATHERINE LICHON
Class of 2018
Edinburgh, Scotland | Arcadia University: Scottish History Program
Summer 2017
https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=ArcadiaScottishHistory

When I first came to Ramapo, I knew I wanted to study abroad before I graduated. I decided summer was the perfect time to go. Adventure is in my blood, and what is more adventurous than spending a summer abroad? After searching through many programs, I chose to enroll in Arcadia’s Scottish History Program in Edinburgh, Scotland – and I believe it was the perfect choice for me!

The program itself consisted of taking a course called “Scottish History to Present Day” at the Arcadia Center on the University of Edinburgh’s campus. The course included classroom time and excursions to some of the many historic sites, including cathedral and castle ruins, and Pictish stones and palaces. The Roslin Castle ruins in the woods behind Rosslyn Chapel were especially magical! As a history major, getting to see and learn about the history of another country was amazing, and especially put into perspective how old Europe is compared to the United States. The Arcadia staff also planned excursions outside of class. One of my favorites was a visit to the Luss Highland Games, where I got to see traditional Scottish sports such as the caber toss.

I also took the opportunity to do some exploring of my own. One weekend, my flatmates and I took a weekend trip to Pitlochry, where we hiked to the top of Ben Vrackie, a mountain that is 2,700 feet above sea level. This was truly a highlight of my time in Scotland. The view was absolutely breathtaking, and hiking in the Highlands of Scotland was such a rewarding experience. And the adventures did not stop there—we also took a day tour to Glencoe and Loch Ness, which was so beautiful – and where I may or may not have seen Nessie!

Edinburgh itself was also wonderful. It is a city unlike any I’ve seen in the United States, made up of historic buildings and cobblestone streets, making it quaint and charming. I had many mini adventures in Edinburgh, exploring its streets, historic attractions, and talking to the locals. My favorite spots were Lovecrambs, a bakery with amazing tea and floral cakes, and Anteaques, a tea house/antique store that provided a tea lover like myself with the true British afternoon tea and crumpet experience. Of all the cities in the world, I feel as though Edinburgh was the perfect city for me to call home for four-and-a-half weeks!

I also learned much about Scottish history and politics, which will aid me in the future. I am a member of Ramapo’s Honors Program, and I plan on writing my Honors senior thesis on how the historic relationship between Scotland and the U.K. influenced Scotland’s reaction to Brexit. As a history major and international studies minor, my time in Scotland provided me with a valuable educational experience, both in and outside the classroom.

Studying abroad was one of the most rewarding things I’ve done so far during my college career, and I would highly recommend it to anyone looking to experience another culture. Traveling throughout Scotland and living in Edinburgh gave me a deeper sense of independence, and I’ve definitely grown because of my time there. My advice to anyone planning on studying abroad would be to take time to speak to the locals and immerse yourself in local culture as much as possible. Scotland will always hold a special place in my heart. Time to start planning my next adventure!

ADVENTURES IN SCOTLAND

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Right to left:
1. Visiting the Three Sisters Mountains in Glencoe
2. Admiring the breathtaking view from Ben Vrackie in Pitlochry
“Why would you ever want to go there”? This was the most frequent question I was asked as I told my friends, family, and coworkers about my acceptance to study abroad in Ghana, Africa. Prior to departing for my study abroad trip, I often heard myself asking the same question; yet I disregarded the doubt and went through with my decision, which has been the best choice of my life. My initial goals included educational, personal, and international growth, which were met on my trip to Ghana. I will forever remember my experience and I am so grateful and honored to have been given the opportunity.

One of the most remarkable aspects I experienced was educational growth. I was able to give my first-ever immunization to a client, work with doctors and nurses in an emergency room setting, provide blood pressure and glucose tests to Ghanaian citizens, and even listen to a fetal heartbeat. As a junior, I was able to learn from some senior students and a graduate nurse from Ramapo, and, of course, our amazing professors Patterson and Burke, who taught us so much! The Ghanaian medical professionals we worked with taught us more than I could have ever imagined in such a short period of time: the importance of friendliness and accuracy as a medical professional; how to behave in the case of a medical emergency; and the importance of helping people of all nationalities or ethnicities. These nurses were the most beautiful and hospitable people I have ever met, and I am so happy I was able to meet them in their own country. The patients in these medical settings were also absolutely amazing, as they seemed to trust all of us completely. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience at this level of my career.

Acclimating to the Ghanaian culture has improved me as a person in many ways, socially and religiously. Prior to leaving for this trip, we were all told multiple times that this would be a life-changing experience for all of us, yet I couldn’t really fathom why. I knew that conditions were not the same as they are here and that society is so different; yet I couldn’t imagine how these cultural aspects could affect me in any way. However, by the end of my study abroad experience, it became evident. At every place we traveled, we were greeted with a kind welcome and a statement of gratitude for our travels to this country. The people in Ghana showed me the beauty in appreciation and the importance of life beyond materialistic values. Although acclimating to the Ghanaian culture was my biggest fear, it was certainly one of my favorite experiences of the trip and I am happy to have made so many lifelong friends in this country.

I am so honored to have had this opportunity in Ghana and to have experienced what I once thought was unimaginable. I hope that as I approach new people and share my experience, and continue to hear the question “why would you go there?” I can teach others about the beauty of this country, as well as their need for help and how easy it is for us to help them. This trip opened my mind about my career and about who I am and who I want to become, and has taught me more about appreciating my life more than anything. I can’t wait until I return to this place, see all of the friends I made, and try my best to help the people as much as I am able. Ghana has shaped me into the person I have always hoped to become, and I will forever be grateful for this experience.
ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

Carly Corbisiero Honolulu, Hawaii

FALL 2016
Nischal Khatri Amherst, Massachusetts
Joseph Sammartino Auckland, New Zealand
George Kloak Barcelona, Spain
Katie Hackett Dublin, Ireland
Troy Drexler Dublin, Ireland
Stefanie Shapiro Dublin, Ireland
Lauren Brereton Florence, Italy
Kaitlin Crocilla Florence, Italy
Alexandra Mass Florence, Italy
James O’Neill Quito, Ecuador
David Hogan Hilo, Hawaii
Meridith Farley Hilo, Hawaii
Anthony Piombino Madrid, Spain
John Di Stefano Madrid, Spain
Kenneth Pomaski Osaka, Japan
Kurtis Tuohy Osaka, Japan
Katarina Francis Rome, Italy
Rebecca Ellis Rome, Italy
Haley Swedberg Rome, Italy
Alyssa Puccio San Antonio, Texas
Jenna Bengivenga San Jose, Costa Rica
Juan Castro Florez Seoul, South Korea
Brandon Rodríguez Seoul, South Korea
Ana Rosano Seoul, South Korea
Jorge Arias Rome, Italy
Kendall Poland Rome, Italy

WINTER BREAK 2017
Samantha O’Grady Amsterdam, Netherlands
Brittany Peters Dublin, Ireland
Megan Patel Dublin, Ireland

SPRING 2017
Jessica Miller Amman, Jordan
Jake Mancini Berlin, Germany
Lindsay Panagia Brisbane, Australia
Ian Havens Cambridge, United Kingdom
Sashka Kotzeva Cambridge, United Kingdom
Kevin Bagnato Christchurch, New Zealand
Juliann Lee Copenhagen, Denmark
Jacqueline Basile Dublin, Ireland
Naomi Krenitsyn Florence, Italy
Tiffany Guanuna Gold Coast, Australia
Megan Severino Gold Coast, Australia
Elizabeth Reyes-Guerra Granada, Spain
Stefanie Sciacca Hilo, Hawaii
Alexa Iannantuano Hilo, Hawaii
Laura Majewski Milan, Italy
Emily Ellison Monteverde, Costa Rica
Joseph Boullianne Northridge, California
Meghan Mudrick Osaka, Japan
Angad Bhogal Osaka, Japan
Megan Verycken Paris, France
Paul Iannelli Prague, Czech Republic
Natalie Hines San Jose, Costa Rica
Christina Dwyer Seoul, South Korea
Michelle Shneyder Seoul, South Korea
Robert Murillo Shanghai, China
Alyssa Del Turco St. Croix, U.S.
Virgin Islands
Korin Levetsanos Sydney, Australia

SPRING BREAK 2017
Sophie Costello Beijing & Shanghai, China
Kristine Nickson Beijing & Shanghai, China
Brendan Carr Beijing & Shanghai, China
Gilana Iosif Beijing & Shanghai, China
Erin Mc Kenna Beijing & Shanghai, China
Dana White Beijing & Shanghai, China
Ana Rosano Beijing & Shanghai, China
Amira Rachouh Beijing & Shanghai, China
Ariana Rivera Beijing & Shanghai, China

SUMMER 2017
Mehnaz Ladha Athens, Greece
Jennifer Lopez Javier Barcelona, Spain
Katherine Coughlin Barcelona, Spain
Jacob De Castro Spain, France, Switzerland, France, Italy and Greece
Ria Esteves Cape Town, South Africa
Aina Yadav Copenhagen, Denmark
Amelia Akers Copenhagen, Denmark
Christina Geiger Copenhagen, Denmark
Robert Piper  Dakar, Senegal & London, United Kingdom
Megan Quinlan  Dublin, Ireland
Christal Torres  Dublin, Ireland
Katie Coakley  Dublin, Ireland
Samantha Martin  Dublin, Ireland
Danielle Seymour  Dublin, Ireland
Kristen Williams  Dublin, Ireland
Zachary Henderson  Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Sara Catherine Lichon  Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Jessica Pearson  Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Amie Wuchter  Florence, Italy
Sarah Stacey  Havana, Cuba
Reilly Cox  Havana, Cuba
Dara Mc Guinness  Havana, Cuba
Anastasia Caulfield  Havana, Cuba
Christian Stagaard  Havana, Cuba
Anaiis Gonzalez  Havana, Cuba
Gregory Kesselhaut  Havana, Cuba
Angelica Cedeno  Havana, Cuba
Angely Montilla  Havana, Cuba
Lilliana Barhe  Kumasi, Ghana
Sarah Brutosky  Kumasi, Ghana
Nicole Buhagiar  Kumasi, Ghana
Camille Marie Duenas  Kumasi, Ghana
Stacey Faria  Kumasi, Ghana
Amalia Heissler  Kumasi, Ghana
Jennifer Lancellotti  Kumasi, Ghana
Theresa O’Connor  Kumasi, Ghana
Michele Sautner  Kumasi, Ghana
Jacqueline Warnett  Kumasi, Ghana
Ronni Wellem  Kumasi, Ghana
Molly Warner  Kumasi, Ghana
Laura Shih Lille, France
Chloe Bogert  Limerick, Ireland
Shannon Carroll  London, United Kingdom
Holly Kiffer  London, United Kingdom
Kelly Carroll  London, United Kingdom
Vincent Libretti  London, United Kingdom
Nina Schulze  London, United Kingdom
Jasmine Ingram  London, United Kingdom
Joseph Pelley  Bangalore, India
Anastasia Caulfield  Bangalore, India
Anna Isabele De Jesus  Bangalore, India
Katherine Kisor  Bangalore, India
Thalia Holst  Bangalore, India
Maxim Solomon  Bangalore, India
Gianna Limeri  Bangalore, India
Liana Lintes  Malaga, Spain
Sumner Laforge  Rome, Italy
Samantha Almeida  Rome, Italy
Akira Burgos  Rome, Italy
Marina Ciniglio  Rome, Italy
Klaudine Hebert  Rome, Italy
Kamila Marek  Rome, Italy
Anthony Moschella  Rome, Italy
Jennifer Wankmuller  Santiago, Chile
David Cuenga  Seoul, South Korea
Sashalee Rashford  Seoul, South Korea
Adeline Tao  Shanghai, China
Erica Coslop  Sydney, Australia
Sarah Stacey  Thessaloniki, Greece
Adeline Tao  Tokyo, Japan
Melissa Scanlon  Valencia, Spain

- Accounting
- American Studies
- Biology
- Business Administration
- Communication Arts
- Computer Science
- Contemporary Arts
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Studies
- History
- Information Technology Management
- International Business
- International Studies
- Law and Society
- Literature
- Mathematics
- Music
- Nursing
- Political Science
- Post-Baccalaureate
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Theater
- Undeclared
- Visual Arts

2016 - 2017 <<
My love for traveling and studying abroad started several years ago when I was in high school and went to Mexico to participate in a home-stay to take classes at a local university. Since then, I knew traveling and gaining international experience was something that was important to me. Coming into college, I knew I wanted to study abroad at least once. Since joining the Ramapo community, I’ve gone abroad on a Ramapo-affiliated program five times and traveled abroad independently of Ramapo twice. So if you find yourself experiencing “abroad withdrawal,” there are many ways to make multiple abroad programs a possibility!

Studying abroad programs are probably the most common method that students use to see the world during college. Why not get college credits while immersing yourself in a new culture and meeting new people from different parts of the world? The Roukema Center has myriad programs to choose from at various universities and study centers across the globe, so there’s bound to be a program that meets your class requirements. There are academic year programs, semester-long programs, and shorter-term summer and winter programs -- and if you’re not comfortable leaving for an entire semester or year, you can always go for a few weeks over school breaks.

One of the programs I did was a semester-long trip to Madrid, Spain. I took a full load of classes at a local university, and met many international, American, and local students. While in Madrid, I was able to visit some of the city’s famous parks, monuments, and palaces, and also had the opportunity to visit other parts of Spain and other surrounding countries. During my time here, I learned how to be successful in a different learning environment (the courses were taught very differently than at Ramapo!) and how to work with people from very different backgrounds. I also learned a great deal about the Spanish and European culture, which is something I would never have been able to gain without immersing myself in the country.

Faculty-led programs are also great; they are shorter-term trips where you have the opportunity to travel with a small group of Ramapo students and a professor or faculty member to gain experience and insight into a particular topic that you just can’t explore on such a deep level from sitting in a classroom. I’ve gone on two of these trips (to China and Peru) and both were absolutely phenomenal experiences. You get to learn about the places you visit and have some time for fun activities and sight-seeing too. These programs even count for credit, so they are an excellent option, especially for anyone who is unable or unwilling to commit to a semester-long program.

Both the China and Peru faculty-led programs are related to international business (though there are other programs with different focuses such as nursing, history, the sciences, etc.) and both taught me so much about the economic and political environments of the two countries. We attended lectures and dinners with professors, government officials, and business owners, and heard their stories and learned about their perspectives regarding the past, present, and future of their countries in the global marketplace. We were also able to attend some fun cultural activities, like cooking classes, and see some famous sights, such as the Great Wall and Forbidden City in China, and Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley in Peru.
Doing an internship abroad is another way to gain some a broad experience while often earning college credit. Usually these international internship programs are either accompanied by classes or professional workshops where you can learn to build your skills. They almost always include some excursions and cultural activities as well, and are another great way to get some abroad experience while meeting other students and interns from around the world.

My most recent international internship was in Melbourne, Australia, where I was able to intern in a company where I worked alongside the CEO and management team on social media, marketing and advertising, and customer service projects. I learned how to use many business tools, such as Excel and Google Adwords, and was able to see the inner workings of the company. Of course, while I was in Australia I also had the chance to see kangaroos and koalas a few times, along with some other native animals, but also had several professional development sessions and opportunities to learn more about making myself a more employable and successful professional.

A final way I traveled abroad through Ramapo was with the Alternative Break program. While most of the alternative breaks are to different parts of the U.S. (which are all excellent options too), there is also a trip to Costa Rica which runs over the winter and spring breaks. The alternative breaks are run through the CCEC office, and the purpose is to volunteer and help out a community. In Costa Rica, you volunteer at the amazing Natuwa Macaw and Animal Sanctuary, and while there is a lot of hard work involved, it is an amazing opportunity to meet and help some pretty phenomenal people. There is also some time for excursions, too...my group went zip lining, visited a rainforest and volcano, went horseback riding, and even got to spend an afternoon at the beach. The alt break programs also tend to be fairly affordable, so there’s really no reason not to go.

The final thing I want to talk about is how to make studying abroad happen financially. Often times, this is one of the biggest restraints that keeps college students from taking advantage of studying or interning abroad, but it shouldn’t be. The Roukema Center is there to help--you just need to apply. The options are available through scholarships, special programs, business partnerships, etc. You may also be eligible for sponsorship program funding. Just ask!

Your time at Ramapo doesn’t all have to be spent at Ramapo. The wonderful team in the Roukema Center can help you find your first, second, third, or even fourth abroad program...take advantage of their help!
OVERVIEW
Led by Ramapo College Faculty
Earn four credits while traveling through historical and modern countries of Japan and South Korea. Students will engage with a variety of local organizations, companies and experience the cultural richness of this region.

RAMAPO COLLEGE FACULTY
Professor Christina Chung
cchung1@ramapo.edu, Marketing
Professor Changhee Lee
clee6@ramapo.edu, Accounting

LIVE YOUR COURSES
This course – “Japanese & Korean Cultures and Businesses: Exploring the Harmony of Traditional and Modern Societies (IBUS 315)” - is designed to provide an understanding of global perspectives by exploring and experiencing Asian countries, and more specifically, Japan and Korea. This course covers a consideration of general histories, cultures, languages, and businesses of Japan and Korea. The course focuses on gaining first-hand experience in Japan and Korea, and understanding how traditional and modern societies harmonize in Japan and Korea (four credits, no prerequisite).

PREPARATIONS
There will be an extensive pre-departure orientation on culture, health and safety.

PROGRAM COST
$5,700 (N.J. Residents)
$6,850 (non-N.J. Residents)

PRICE INCLUDES
Tuition fees for four credits; program textbooks; round-trip international airfare; comprehensive pre-departure and on-site orientation; comprehensive health and security insurance; accommodations; some meals; all excursions and entrance fees; in-country program transportation; pre-departure and on-site orientations.

Price does not include: US airport transfers; some meals; personal expenses

ACCOMMODATIONS, ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS
• Students will reside in hotels throughout the program.
• Meet with business professionals, visit cultural sites and meet local students.
• The program will visit Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto, Japan and Seoul, South Korea.

GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

APPLY BY EARLY MARCH
Program Dates: May 14 - 25, 2018 (approximately)

CONTACT US
goabroad@ramapo.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY
https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=JapanKorea
PERU: ENGAGING WITH AMAZONIAN LIVELIHOODS

OVERVIEW
Led by Ramapo College Faculty
Earn four credits while traveling through the Madre de Dios region of the Peruvian Amazon. Students will engage with a variety of local organizations, communities and experience the capital of global biodiversity.

RAMAPO COLLEGE FACULTY
Professor Eric Wiener  |  ewiener@ramapo.edu
Environmental Science & Latin American Studies
Professor Ashwani Vasishth  |  vasishth@ramapo.edu
Environmental Studies & Sustainability
Professor Ronald Calderon  |  [e-mail address pending]  
Adjunct Faculty

LIVE YOUR COURSES
This course – “Sustainability & Development in the Amazon” - includes a wide range of experiential learning opportunities such as excursions to markets, development projects, agricultural and research centers and extended visits to local indigenous communities.

PREPARATIONS
There will be an extensive pre-departure orientation on culture, health and safety, one and a half weeks of academic meetings prior to the departure from the U.S., followed up by one week of academic meetings after your time in Peru.

PROGRAM COST
$4,750 (N.J. Residents) 
$5,875 (non-N.J. Residents)

PRICE INCLUDES
Tuition fees for four credits; program textbooks; round-trip international airfare; comprehensive pre-departure and on-site orientation; comprehensive health and security insurance; accommodations; most meals; excursions and entrance fees; in-country program transportation; pre-departure and on-site orientations.

Price does not include: U.S. airport transfers; some meals; personal expenses

ACCOMMODATIONS, ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS
• Live in an eco-lodge based in the town of Puerto Maldonado as your program base.
• Spend a few nights living with either of local indigenous community or at a local field research station.
• Participate in ecotourism activities upriver and stay at a comfortable eco-lodge in the forest.
• Enjoy exploring the small community of Puerto Maldonado, its markets, local restaurants and more.

GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

APPLY BY MARCH 1
Program Dates: May 29 – June 27, 2018 (approximately; includes on-campus & international components)

CONTACT US
goabroad@ramapo.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY
https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=Amazon
INDIA: MICRO-ENTERPRISE
BUSINESS MODELS FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

OVERVIEW
Earn 16 credits while traveling through South India, exploring the historical and modern realities, engaging with local communities and business leaders and critically analyzing how small communities and businesses experience successes and challenges.

RAMAPO COLLEGE FACULTY
Professor Nikhil Varma | nvarma@ramapo.edu
Professor Ruma Sen | rsen@ramapo.edu
Professor Sanghamitra Padhy | spadhy@ramapo.edu
Professor Ashwani Vasishth | vasishth@ramapo.edu

LIVE YOUR COURSES
This course is designed to provide an understanding of organizational business models and studying organizations that either collaborate with or focus on doing business with the bottom of the pyramid. Organizational levers that impact the business model and the innovation and creativity aspects are specifically studied. Students will experience and study some current organizations in this course. On completion of this course students will be able to assess business opportunities, design sustainable business model for organizations in the bottom of the pyramid space.

PREPARATIONS
There will be extensive pre-departure orientations on culture, health, safety. The program will begin in N.J. with academic preparations and cultural introductions.

PROGRAM COST
$14,500 (N.J. Residents)
$19,200 (non-N.J. Residents)

PRICE INCLUDES
Tuition fees for 16 credits; program textbooks; round-trip international airfare; comprehensive pre-departure and on-site orientation; Indian entry visa; comprehensive health and security insurance; accommodations; most meals; all excursions and entrance fees; in-country program transportation; pre-departure and on-site orientations.

Price does not include: U.S. airport transfers; some meals; personal expenses

ACCOMMODATIONS, ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS
• Students will reside on-campus before the program and at the Fireflies Intercultural Centre during the program.
• Meet with business professionals, visit cultural sites and meet local students.
• The program will visit various locations throughout southern India.

APPLY BY EARLY APRIL
Program Dates: to be announced

CONTACT US
goabroad@ramapo.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY
https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=IndiaMicroEnterprise
NEW Programs

GHANA:
AFRICAN AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH GHANA

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The African American Relations with Ghana-Travel Program is a component of the course titled African American Relations with Ghana: Service, Culture, & Society (AFST 490). To participate in the Ghana Travel program students must be enrolled in this course for the spring semester.

The goal of the African American Relations with Ghana: Service, Culture, & Society (AFST 490) course is designed to provide an opportunity for Ramapo College students to learn the service, culture and society of Ghana by engaging in classroom discussions and by participating in impactful international community service. The course will be offered as a hybrid and provide a balance of academic research, community service, and cultural exchange. Students will meet in person once a month on campus for two hours and travel to Ghana during spring break. In Ghana students will reside, work and conduct research at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi and the Aba House, an educational service facility located in Nungua, a fishing village in the major city of Accra. Participants will complete an intense research project and impactful community service at the Cross Cultural Collaborative center a non-profit educational organization that promotes cultural exchange and understanding.

COURSE OVERVIEW
All participants will be enrolled in a four credit course - African American Relations with Ghana: Service, Culture, & Society (AFST 490), taught by Professor Karl Johnson. This course will be taught over the entire spring semester and be part of your spring course load. This is a 400 Upper Level African American Studies course which will require permission of instructor for registration.

PROGRAM COST
$2,900 per student

PRICE INCLUDES
Round-trip international airfare, most meals, accommodations, entrance fees to all tourist attractions, entry visa to Ghana and comprehensive international health and security insurance.

Cost does NOT include: Four credits (tuition)—part of your spring course load; some meals, U.S. airport transfers, vaccinations and personal expenses.

GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Karl Johnson at kjohnson@ramapo.edu or Deirdre Foreman at dforeman@ramapo.edu
ALUMNI PROFILE: **ERIN DUBEE ’16**

https://ramapo.studioabroad.com/?go=ISAWestminsterSummer  
Wassenaar, Netherlands | Geovisons/House O Orange Au Pair Program  
2016 - 2017

**A LOVE FOR TRAVEL**

Following an all-too-short study abroad trip in the summer of 2014 to London, I longed for an intensive European stay. My time in London inspired and filled me with a great sense of adventure. With that, I decided to apply to become an au pair in the Netherlands for a year following graduation. Although it was a difficult adjustment, it has proved to be the best experience I could have dreamed of.

Reflecting on my initial time abroad, I realize that my time in London greatly encouraged a love for travel and instilled in me the confidence to do so. My study abroad experience was the first time I had to navigate the unknown by myself – something that scared me at the time, but has since allowed me to explore many parts of Europe. I learned not only about myself, but also about many people from many different places. Being surrounded in a city with so many diverse individuals and also an extensive history was the best feeling I’d had in my life.

My positive study abroad experience as well as my time working with the Roukema Center led me to my year in the Netherlands. Each day, I am able to explore a new area of this beautiful country, or simply go on a quest to the beach in town with the kids. I am constantly meeting new, inspiring individuals from all around the world, and my sense of adventure and self are growing each day.

I would certainly encourage students seeking something challenging and exciting to take advantage of the many opportunities Ramapo has to offer. There are numerous programs, one to fit each individual’s needs. I am greatly looking forward to my next exciting adventure.
GEOGRAPHY QUIZ: EUROPE

COUNTRY BANK

Bulgaria  Italy
Poland    Finland
Germany   Portugal
Ireland   Iceland
Switzerland Denmark

ANSWER KEY

1. Finland / 2. Ireland / 3. Bulgaria / 4. Italy / 5. Germany
**WHAT DO GLOBAL ROADRUNNERS DO?**

Global Roadrunners assist the Roukema Center for International Education staff with classroom presentations, recruitment/promotional events, marketing, event planning, peer advisement and various other events throughout the year. All GRs are required to commit their time to at least 15 activities per year (10 for fall, five for spring).

**HOW DO I SIGN-UP?**

If this program sounds appealing, please email Kate (Godfrey) Lamanna for the Global Roadrunner application. Complete this two-page form and submit to ASB-123 or via email to kgodfrey@ramapo.edu.

Sharing your stories of your international adventures will help your peers think “If they can do it, I can too!”

**WHO IS A GLOBAL ROADRUNNER?**

Global Roadrunners are students who have returned from study/intern/research abroad opportunities and are enthusiastic about their international experiences and wish to share those stories with others. GRs are peer mentors and international programs advocates; the face of international education at Ramapo College.

To apply, students must have participated in an approved international program, and must have good academic and judicial standing. Participation in this club will provide students with leadership experience, exposure to public speaking, as well as serve as a great resume builder.