

User Manual for the Southwestern **Study Abroad Finder Webpage**

Written by the 2020 Computer Science Capstone
at Southwestern University:

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Preface

Studying abroad is a high-impact experience undertaken by many Southwestern University students. Currently, choosing among the thousands of available programs requires students to sift through listings manually. In collaboration with the Office of Intercultural Learning, our Computer Science capstone group has created an interactive website that allows students to filter programs based on location, area of study, language, and other factors prioritized by the Office of Intercultural Learning. This application takes the vast study abroad program data and presents it in a useful way for students searching for the right program for them. We anticipate that this website will fit seamlessly into the existing Southwestern webpage providing an effective tool for exploring study abroad options for Southwestern students.

This document is intended for new users with little to no experience with this web page. This document gives a broad overview of the main functions of the SU Study Abroad Program Finder webpage and will walk a user through the main functions of the web page such as filtering or admin tasks. It will be split up into a section for general users and a section for administrators.

Every effort has been made to ensure that this document is an accurate representation of the functionality of the Southwestern University Study Abroad Program Finder webpage. This user manual will be updated as the application is updated.

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General User Use of the Web Page

Site Demo

Although the website is not fully launched, a demo of the site can be viewed at <https://masontdaniel.github.io/studyabroad-demo/>.

Top of Page Links

At the top of the page are three links, Search, Contact Us, and Admin. Search takes you to the homepage of the Study Abroad Program Finder site, where the four filtering drop-downs and Search button are. Contact Us takes you to the Contact Us page of the Director and Assistant Director of Study Abroad Programming at Southwestern University, located at <https://www.southwestern.edu/study-abroad/contact-us/>. Admin takes you to the admin login page, which will be explained in more detail further along in this document under the section **Admin User Use of the Webpage**.

Filtering Programs

Once on the homepage of the Study Abroad Program Finder site, there are four dropdown bars. These are labeled: Term, Country, Area of Study, and Language. These dropdowns default to “Any.” When “Any” is selected, that means that, for that category, any option in that category will be used to filter the programs. Use this option when you do not have a preference in a particular category, as it will not narrow results on the basis of that category. This means that when “Any” is selected for all categories, every available program will populate when Submit is clicked. However, if you wish to narrow the results for a particular category, click on the dropdown bar. This will reveal a dropdown of all possible options for that category. These options can be scrolled through and when the desired option is found, clicking on it will populate it in the dropdown bar. Note that only one option can be selected per category. This can be done for all four categories. When the desired configuration of filters is selected, clicking submit will populate the page with the study abroad programs that fit into the selected options. If no programs fit into the selected options, “No Results” will be displayed. If you wish to reset the filter dropdowns, click Reset. This will make all dropdowns set to “Any” and clear current search results from the page. You can then filter again as you wish.

Admin User Use of the Web Page

Logging In

To log into your admin account, click the [Admin](#) link at the top of the home page. You will be directed to the login page. On this page, fill in your email and password. If your login information is correct, you will be directed to the admin page which has the list of added programs. Otherwise, the page would be reloaded and the appropriate error message will be displayed.

Adding a Program

In order to add a program, click the “Add Program” button at the top of the page. This will pull up a display with a series of text boxes. Fill in the corresponding information for the specified program. All text boxes **MUST** be filled out. When the information is completely added, click add program. This will add the program to the list on the admin page, with the next available id number. This id is a unique way to identify the program and is necessary for work on the backend of the program. If while filling out the program form you wish to exit and return to the admin page, you can press the “Cancel” button.

Editing/Deleting a Program

In order to edit the information of a program that has already been created, go to the desired program you wish to edit and click the button “Edit.” This will pull up a display with all of the current information in the corresponding text boxes. You can then edit whatever information necessary. When finished, clicking the “Update” button will save the new information for that program to the database and update it on the admin display page. Remember, the information will not be updated if the “Update” button is not clicked. If you wish to exit editing, click the “Cancel” button, and the information will revert to how it was before the “Edit” button was clicked. Logging out of the admin account can be done by clicking the “Logout” button.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is the Study Abroad Program Finder Webpage open to people outside of the SU community?

A: Yes, because there is no login requirement for use of the filtering page, anyone who comes to the website can use it.

Q: Which web browser can I use to get access to the webpage?

A: The webpage can be loaded on most of the popular browsers such as Google Chrome, Safari, Microsoft Edge, and Firefox.

Q: Can I use the site on mobile?

A: Yes, all functions will work on mobile devices, however some sections of the webpage may not look as good.

Further Help

For further questions or comments related to the webpage, please contact Dr. Barbara Anthony at anthonyb@southwestern.edu.

More information about Dr. Anthony can be found on the official Southwestern University faculty biography:

<http://www.southwestern.edu/departments/faculty/faculty.php?id=anthonyb&style=mathcompsci>

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