

Amherst College Study Abroad Evaluation

Introduction

Thank you for taking time to complete this evaluation of your study away experience with \${e://Field/Program}. Your responses are essential to assessing programs and helping your peers choose a program! We appreciate your willingness to share your evaluation with your peers, however, if you would like your evaluation to be read only by select staff in GEO and select faculty, please let us know at the end of the survey.

The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. If you would like to discuss any aspects of this survey or your study away experience with the director of GEO, please email jbehrens@amherst.edu.

IMPORTANT: The evaluation is required and a hold will be placed on your Amherst Workday record until it is complete. The evaluation is due Friday, August 18, 2023. Once complete, the hold will be removed.

Academics

The first sets of questions are based on your academic experience on your program.

Please tell us about each of the courses you took on your program. In the space below, please enter the course title.

☐ Course 1.

☐ Course 2.

- ☐ Course 3.
- ☐ Course 4.
- ☐ Course 5.
- ☐ Course 6.
- ☐ Course 7.
- ☐ Course 8.
- ☐ Course 9.

Course detail loops

Please provide a few details about each of the courses you took on your program.

Which of the following best describes the type of course for \${Im://Field/1}?

- ☐ Foreign or local university course with local students ☐ Foreign or local university course with mostly program or other international or visiting students

Program-sponsored course

☐

Other (please specify)

☐

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Did you choose your program based on courses that would transfer credit to your major(s)?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If you transferred credit to your major(s), what was the process in your major department(s)?

Please comment on how you chose your program.

Language

Please select the primary language spoken in your host country:

☐

Arabic

☐

Chinese

☐

Czech

☐

Danish

☐

English

☐

French

- ☐ German
- ☐ Greek
- ☐ Hebrew
- ☐ Hungarian
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Japanese
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Portuguese
- ☐ Russian
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Please consider your language proficiency *if* you were on a study abroad program.

	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	Non-native fluency	Native speaker
What was your proficiency of this language before the program?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What was your proficiency after the program?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The next sets of questions are related to your study away program.

Please use the space below to describe the orientation for your program (e.g., information about academic differences, culture shock, whom to contact in an emergency, excursions, etc.).

Were there resident staff on your program (e.g., director, housing coordinator, etc.)?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Please use the space below to comment on resident staff.

What were your accommodations?

- ☐ Dorm with mostly international or visiting students (including those from the program)
- ☐ Dorm with mostly local students
- ☐ Independent apartment with mostly international or visiting students (including from the program)
- ☐ Independent apartment, mostly with local students
- ☐ Independent apartment, alone
- ☐ Homestay
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Please use the space below to comment on your accommodations.

Excursions in this survey refer to outings such as visits to museums, cultural and/or historical sites for a class that were a day or longer, as long as it was part of a course.

Did your program offer excursions linked to academic courses?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did you participate in any of these excursions?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Overall, how would you rate the course related excursions in which you participated?

Excellent

☐

Good

☐

Fair

☐

Poor

☐

Please use the space below to comment on course-related excursions.

Did your program offer any leisure or tourist excursions?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did you participate in any of these program-offered leisure or tourist excursions?

Yes

No

How would you rate these excursions?

Excellent

☐

Good

☐

Fair

☐

Poor

☐

Please use the space below to comment on leisure or tourist excursions.

Expenses and Activities Abroad

Next, please answer a few questions about your expenses and activities during your time away.

In your opinion, was the city or town you lived in expensive?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Estimate the amount of money you spent during your semester to cover daily and personal expenses NOT covered by your program.

☐ <\$999

☐ \$1000-1,999

☐ \$2,000-2,999

☐ \$3,000-3,999

☐ \$4,000-4,999

☐ \$5,000-5,999

☐ \$6,000+

Please use the space below to comment on the affordability of the city or town in which you lived.

In which of the following types of extracurricular-activities did you participate?
(Please check all that apply.)

☐ Academic clubs

☐ Volunteer organization/activity

☐ Internship

☐ Religious organizations/services

☐ Sports

☐ Art or music groups

☐ Political organization/activity

☐ Other (please specify

Did you have a paid job while on study away?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Overall Reflections

The final questions ask about your overall experience.

On your study away checklist in the travel registry, we asked you about your personal and academic goals, and ways in which you might immerse yourself in your host site, with regard to your program. These goals have been sent to your Amherst email separately, since Qualtrics has a character limit.

You may want to revisit them to answer the next question, and also in the future as you reflect on your semester away. Please take a moment to reflect on those goals and comment on how you did or did not meet them and/or how they evolved or shifted as a result of being away.

Please indicate if each of the following were a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason **why you decided to study away.**

	A Major Reason	A Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Wanted to experience a different culture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanted to build your resume	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanted access to courses not available at Amherst	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanted a "break" from Amherst	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunity to travel	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanted to enhance your language skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanted a break from pop culture and/or politics in the U.S.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify) <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did you study away for a semester or full academic year?

- ☐ Semester
- ☐ Academic Year

The college is interested in finding out how a student determines which semester to study away. Below is a list of reasons that might influence a student's choice of semester. Please indicate whether each of the following was a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why you chose your semester of study away.

	A major reason	A minor reason	Not a reason
There are required courses for your major were only offered in the semester you did not study away.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your host institution's academic calendar influenced which semester you studied away.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your friends were studying away in the same semester as you.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You chose your semester based on what you thought would be an easier integration back to Amherst after spending a semester away.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You wanted to be able to arrive early to your host destination and travel before your program started.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The program was only available in the semester you studied away.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your athletic season influenced your semester choice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your extracurricular activity influenced your semester choice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If there were other reasons why you chose your semester of study away, please list them here.

How have you grown personally and academically from your study away experience?

What were the most challenging aspects of your experience?

As a result of your study away experience, how do you now view your home country/environment?

Below is a list of resources from the Global Education Office (GEO) that are meant to help students throughout the study away process. Please indicate how helpful these resources were to you.

	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not too helpful	Unhelpful	N/A
Appointment with an adviser (scheduled appointment or open hours)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
GEO staff or student intern event	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Instagram	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beyond the Bubble Blog	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student evaluations online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Study Away Fair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Searchable list of programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Moodle "course"	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
AIG Travel Guard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not too helpful	Unhelpful	N/A
Pre-departure Meeting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on these resources, including any resource, activity, and/or social media you feel should be added.

Were there factors that you feel influenced your personal experience in \${e://Field/Country} with regard to any of the following? (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Race/ethnicity
- ☐ Religion
- ☐ Sexual orientation
- ☐ Socioeconomic class
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Please comment on any factors that you feel influenced your personal experience in \${e://Field/Country}.

Did you notice different attitudes (more or less positive or more or less negative) toward any of the following groups of people in \${e://Field/Country} compared to attitudes in the United States or at your home region/state? (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ Religious groups
- ☐ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people

☐ Men☐ People with learning or physical disabilities☐ Women☐ Other (please specify)☐ People of color

Please comment on the attitudes - positive or negative - you witnessed to any of the groups above, or other identities that were not listed.

How likely would you be to recommend \${e://Field/Program} to other Amherst students?

Very Likely

☐

Somewhat Likely

☐

Somewhat Unlikely

☐

Very Unlikely

☐

Please use the space below to explain the primary reason for the answer you chose.

Data Sharing

Sharing your Evaluation.

Prospective study away students find evaluations to be one of the most valuable pieces of information that helps them decide which program to attend. Your evaluation will be read by GEO staff and select faculty. Your responses, though, do not have to be shared with students unless you indicate your preference to share.

May we share this evaluation with prospective students?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ I'd like to talk to the director of GEO to discuss sharing my evaluation.

May we share your email with students who are interested in this program and host country and who may have questions not covered in this evaluation?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

REMINDER: Your transcript needs to be sent to the college as soon as possible. Please check with your program on when it will be issued so you know approximately when it will be sent and you can check the status of your credit transfer.

If by mail, send to:

Registrar
Converse Hall
Amherst College
Amherst, MA 01002-5000 USA

If by email, send to: registrar@amherst.edu

This is the last page of the survey. Use the 'Back' button if you want to preview your response to an earlier question or select 'Submit' to save and submit your survey response. Thank you for your time.

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