

## **Lasallian International Programs Consortium Study Abroad Application Essay**

The Lasallian International Programs Consortium requires all Study Abroad applicants to write an essay in support of their application. Besides serving as an evaluation tool for Study Abroad placement, the essay permits the applicant the valuable opportunity to examine his or her own reasons for desiring to pursue studies abroad, to quantify the benefits that the student hopes to gain from the experience (both in terms of personal and intellectual growth), and to consider its possible impact upon career opportunities. In addition, the essay allows the applicant to begin exploring what living and studying abroad will be like.

**Your typed, double-spaced essay** must be *at least 500 words* in length and is due with your completed application by the appropriate Study Abroad application deadline. As with any formal work, the essay is expected to be free of errors and written in an appropriate manner. Please include your name and home university in the top left corner of the essay.

**At a minimum**, your essay should present the following:

1. An introductory statement that identifies the roots or source of your interest in pursuing studies abroad, including any previous experiences traveling, living, or studying abroad.
2. A paragraph that explains your beliefs regarding the general importance or significance of studying abroad.
3. A description of your studies to date within your chosen major and an articulation of why you believe that your interests will be enhanced by attending your chosen Study Abroad program.
4. Your expectations regarding living and studying abroad in the country that will be hosting you.
5. How studying abroad will ultimately impact you personally, academically, and vocationally.

Bring your essay towards a conclusion with a paragraph that summarizes the above issues, and then conclude with a succinct statement of why you should be accepted into the Study Abroad program.

Return your completed essay with your application form, completed recommendation forms, Health Information Form, and any other required paperwork to the appropriate contact person on your campus.