

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY



THE GLOBAL CONNECTION



October 2022

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The Center for Global Engagement (CGE) ensures that all CSU students have opportunities to become globally competent. Students must have the knowledge, cultural self-awareness, and adaptability to function effectively in an interconnected world. It is through the engagement of other cultures and by studying, working and living with diverse peoples, that CSU students will be prepared for working in business, government, or education, and contributing to their communities, all of which are globally connected. The CGE is a proud recipient of the 2014 NAFSA Simon Award and the 2019 AACSB Innovation in Internationalization Award.

Staff Members

Dr. Eric Spears

Executive Director

Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Eminent Scholar & Chair

Dr. Erinn Bentley

Associate Director

Ms. Christine Shaw

International Student and Scholar Services Coordinator

Ms. Brooke Quarterman

Coordinator of International Education

Mrs. Brennan Gonzalez

Coordinator of International Programming

Mr. Mohammed Dukuly

Graduate Assistant

Mr. Rolo López

Intern

Ms. Brittany Parker

CGE Newsletter Editor

Ms. Brianna Gbedemah

Student Worker

THE GLOBAL CONNECTION

OCTOBER UPCOMING CGE EVENTS

Global Dialogues

04

6:00-7:00p.m.

06

12:30-1:30p.m.

**Pell Eligible? Gilman
Scholarship**

ESC in Strasbourg, France

11

12:30-1:30p.m.

14

12:30-1:30p.m.

**Global Dialogues
Schuster 130**

**ILC Film: Amador (hosted by Dr.
Bobby Nixon)
Schuster 130**

19

7:00-9:00p.m.

24-28

**International Education Week
Events in Schuster 130**

THE GLOBAL CONNECTION

Study Abroad Program Deadlines



Submission Deadline

J Term: October **3, 2022** at 12pm (Extended)

Spring/Spring Break: **October 17, 2022** at 12pm

J Term 2nd Payment due: Friday, **October 28, 2022**

Spring Break 1st Payment due: Friday, **October 21, 2022**

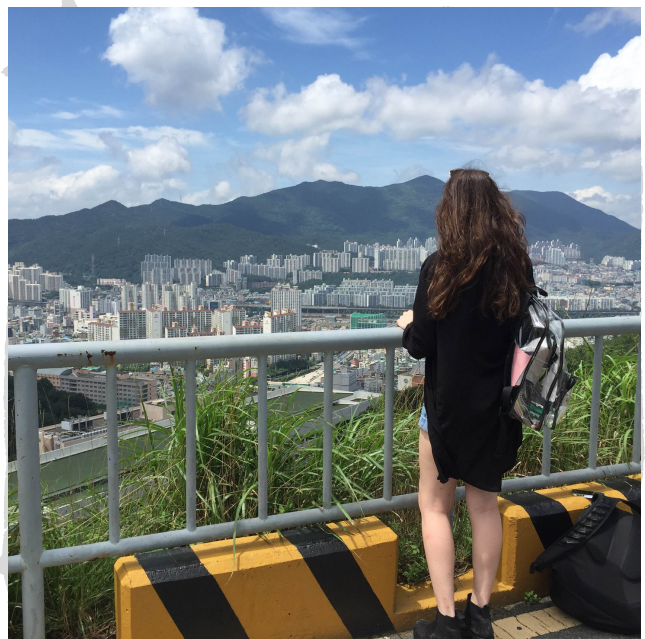
Spring Break 2nd Payment due: Friday, **November 18, 2022**

J Term Opening date: **September 21, 2022**

J Term Closing date: **October 14, 2022**

Spring Break/Spring Opening date: **October 19, 2022**

Spring Break/ Spring Closing date: **November 18, 2022**



THE GLOBAL CONNECTION

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Marinella Hernandez

Marinella Hernandez is truly a global citizen. She has proved her strength through multiple adversities she has had to overcome. When Marinella was twelve years old, she and her family transitioned from Venezuela to the United States. This move would now make her a refugee. This was not an easy transition and she experienced a considerable amount of culture shock. With this challenge, she was still able to learn and become fluent in English after only three.



Marinella and her family have now been in Georgia for eight years and she was accepted into Columbus State University after completing high school. She is a junior Criminal Justice major with a Spanish minor, and while also pursuing the International Studies Certificate. Within her studies, we can see Marinella's passion for global justice and travel. She did not want to just study about this subject, but she wanted to embrace it and be the change. After speaking with a study abroad outreach coordinator to go over her options, she was presented with a scholarship opportunity from Campus b, an educational program in Brazil. She went in not knowing what to expect or what the program was exactly, but she needed to trust the process. This opportunity would allow her to experience studying abroad despite her refugee status. She was able to fuel her global passion through a virtual internship, the Positive Impact Internship, created by Campus b. Marinella received a full scholarship and was able to work with a team of people from around the world. The research area was Sustainability.

With this internship opportunity, Ms. Hernandez overcame yet another obstacle by having to collaborate with others in different time zones. Marinella expressed the complexities of conducting such meetings, but was able to find admiration in her work by recognizing the mutual passion of cultural enrichment during the experience. Not only did the internship help her gain knowledge of other cultures, but it helped change her perspective on diversity and become more open-minded. With her lived experiences and opportunities Marinella advises her peers to pursue a virtual internship and make the best out of situations. By doing so, she gave some advice: be a 'yes-man'. This means to say yes to everything and constantly have an open-mind; stay prepared for meetings; make new connections with people; and lastly, be professional. In conclusion, Marinella would like to emphasize to her fellow peers to "never limit themselves when it comes to their passions".

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Abroad Made Easy!

by Pierce Ippolito

My name is Pierce Ippolito and I am a Captain in the U.S. Army. I will begin by saying that going abroad is a fantastic opportunity that everyone should experience. There is a marked difference between traveling internationally on a vacation and studying abroad. Both experiences can be formative for a person, but the latter will leave an impression resulting in a changed worldview. Both in my undergraduate studies at the United States Military Academy at West Point and in my graduate studies at Columbus State University, I studied abroad. While at West Point, I spent upwards of four months in Brazil for a semester in the nation's capital, Brasília. While at Columbus State University, I participated in a faculty-led program—Spain Business & Computer Science. I encourage everyone to participate in the study abroad programs offered by the CGE. Doing anything less than that would be doing yourself a disservice for both your personal and professional growth.

Regarding the feasibility of attending this program while being in the military (specifically those students that are active duty), it IS possible. In fact, I would argue that it is quite easy! (Note: I am speaking from the experience of someone who did this following my time in the Maneuver Captain's Career Course [MCCC]. If you are furthering your education while doing something else in the military, note that I do not have direct experience with that situation. However, please use my story as a guideline for what may be possible for you.) I began MCCC in the summer of 2021, and I completed the course in January 2022.



Similarly, I began my graduate studies at Columbus State University in August 2021. Following my graduation from MCCC, I was a full-time graduate student from February to August of 2022. This worked out well for me, as Columbus State University offers faculty-led programs such as during Maymester. These programs are typically two weeks long, and take place between the spring and summer programs. Beginning in February, I became aware of the Study abroad programs experiences offered by the Center for Global Engagement. After identifying the programs I wanted to participate in, I was then faced with overcoming two obstacles. First, regarding my graduate program, would it be possible for me to get credit for one of my remaining classes with a Maymester program? Second, would the Army allow me to travel internationally?



First, coordinating class credit for the Spain: Business & Computer Science Program was very easy. I simply spoke with my program coordinator. Through these conversations, we were able to identify which traditional class I would no longer take, drop that class from my schedule, and add that class to my Maymester schedule. Second, I started the conversation with my military leadership and began to take the necessary steps to build and submit my Outside Continental United States (OCONUS) packet. Even better, I was able to submit the entire Maymester Business class as a non-chargeable absence under the “professional development” code. I was able to participate in this program without losing even one of my leave days!

All that said, it is important to note that these experiences have program costs. For students who have scholarships or military students who are using Tuition Assistance, your financial aid can apply to the tuition for this experience. The Center for Global Engagement will coordinate all travel and lodging for the program. Therefore, you need to pay program costs to fund your study abroad program. There are other financial aid options available that can help you fund your trip. Those options come in the form of both scholarships and grants, each of which has a separate application process and timeline. Please be diligent and aware of these processes so that you can take advantage of the opportunities.

After all of the planning and coordinating, I was able to study abroad with the Spain: Business & Computer Science program and learn about international business and trade from many phenomenal Spanish business leaders, all while being immersed in the incredible Spanish culture. I certainly have no regrets in all of the work that took place to make this experience happen. In short, whether you are a military student or not, do not think that participating in one of these experiences is not feasible. The Center for Global Engagement provides the resources and assistance needed to make the processes as easy as possible. Do not miss one of these fantastic opportunities! Cheers, and safe travels!



CHANGES WITHIN THE CGE DEPARTMENT

Brennan Gonzalez

Hi! I am Brennan Gonzalez. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Auburn University, (War Eagle!), and a Master of Social Science degree from Troy University. I am currently pursuing my doctorate at Columbus State University. During my time at Auburn University, I studied abroad for an entire semester in Italy. It was a life-changing experience and ignited my passion for studying abroad and international education. I serve as the Coordinator of International Programming within the Center for Global Engagement. My role involves planning international student events and managing all of our program accounts. I enjoy spending time with my family, roller skating, traveling, and reading in my spare time.



Brooke Quaterman

Hello! My name is Brooke Quarterman and I'm your Coordinator of International Education. I joined the CGE last fall after being in Admissions. I'm a CSU double alumni who had the opportunity to participate in two faculty-led programs during my undergrad experience, Memorializing the Holocaust in Berlin, Germany and Doing Business in Ireland. Both experiences introduced me to study abroad and led me to pursue a career in international education in higher education. I enjoy learning about other cultures and like some of you, I plan to one day live abroad, return, and continue making study abroad a reality for all students. My advising hours for Fall are Monday - Tuesday; Thursday from 2pm-4pm and Friday 10am-1pm. Come by the CGE during that time to say hi, meet the team, or discuss your study abroad interest. I look forward to working with you!



Christine Shaw

Christine recently took over the newly updated position of International Student and Scholar Services Coordinator at the Center for Global Engagement (CGE). In this position, she processes all international student applications and documents, issues their student visa documents, and works to get the students to CSU for them to begin their studies. She also works with the Executive Director of the CGE, Dr. Eric Spears, on international student recruitment. The position also involves knowledge of student visas and immigration issues, which requires ongoing training.

She officially moved into this position in January of 2022, after having held the position of Administrative Coordinator in the CGE for 16 years. Having worked with all aspects of study abroad, budgets for all areas of the CGE, and the international exchange student program, she is excited to take on this new position to continue to grow and learn another aspect of the CGE.

Christine says that 'Working with the staff at the CGE has been a great experience! We work well together and support each other, as well as the students at CSU!'

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

My Fulbright Experience



Whenever I am asked "How was your time doing the Fulbright program in South Korea?" I always answer that it was the most amazing and challenging year of my life. You might be wondering, what exactly is Fulbright? The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is a government funded program that issues grants for people looking to become an English Teaching Assistant or to do study/research on a specific topic while living in a foreign country. Lasting for one academic year, all grantees will work and embed themselves in their host country's communities to create cross cultural exchange. Now only are you a researcher or a teaching assistant, you are a U.S. cultural ambassador as well.

To receive my capstone for my International Studies Certificate, I first had to present my ideas to the Executive Director of the Center for Global Engagement, Dr. Eric Spears. Dr. Spears mentioned to me the Fulbright Korea English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) certificate as well. Dr. Spears also advocated that he himself was a Fulbright Korea alumni and how this program would be a great opportunity for me. I was immediately intrigued and through more research of the program, I knew that it was exactly what I wanted to do.

My acceptance to the Fulbright Program was a combination of many emotions. The process was long and brutal containing three stages of review before acceptance into the program. I became a semi finalist in December of 2019 and didn't hear from the Fulbright Committee again until March of 2020. At that time, I was informed that I was an alternate. An alternate is someone who can be promoted to finalist status if additional funding becomes available. Unexpectedly, I received an email from Fulbright, in which I had twenty-four hours to respond. I was super excited but fearful to make a decision on such short notice due to the time and also COVID-19. Despite all my reservations and fears I knew accepting the grant was something I needed to do.

Once I was accepted into the program, my adventure truly began. I chose South Korea as my host country because of my love of Korean culture. Upon arrival in South Korea, I had to undergo orientation. During orientation, I took Korean language classes, participated in teaching practicums, and various workshops to prepare for my teaching placement. I was placed in two separate elementary schools in Gumi, South Korea. Gumi is about thirty minutes north of Daegu, South Korea.



My time teaching in South Korea was very rewarding but with anything, it had its challenges as well. My goal was to branch out of my comfort zone. The first thing I did was travel to Daegu alone to take a Korean traditional painting class. My main challenge with this class was that my teacher spoke very little English. She made me feel welcomed and we learned to communicate regardless of our language barriers. I traveled to many cities with my fellow Fulbright teachers. I went to Korea's main vacation island called Jeju, I went paragliding, took a dance class, had a custom hanbok (Korean traditional dress) made for me and once a week I had private gayageum lessons. A gayageum is a traditional Korean stringed instrument. All of these experiences pushed me to become more comfortable and involved in an environment where I once felt isolated.

Teaching at both schools was a positive experience. My students were fantastic. I taught fifth and sixth grade. Even though my time was limited with my students, I wanted to build connections with them even in little ways. For some students, I had special hand shakes that we did whenever they entered the classroom or I would give them treats for winning English learning games. I even showed them pictures of my time in college or my family to build those connections. In exchange, many of my students brought me little letters, drawings, or even candy to express their gratitude. I will never forget their kindness to me.

The Fulbright program impacted my life development in many ways. I became more flexible in my workspace. I developed the skills to make decisions quickly and effectively based on the situation in front of me. I became more confident in myself as a teacher and as an adult working in a foreign country. I even learned how to be able to communicate not only through public speaking but also with language barriers.

Overall my time doing The Fulbright Program in South Korea is something I will never forget. It challenged me but also helped me to grow in many areas of my life. I highly encourage you to take the step to apply to The Fulbright Program today even if it's not in South Korea. As long as you accept your challenges and keep an open mind, you will not regret it!

Study Abroad Programs 2022-2023

Anglo - London South Bank Semester Internship Program
Bangor University - Direct Enrollment
CIS Abroad Programs
Edge Hill University - Direct Enrollment
European Study Center: Strasbourg, France - Direct Enrollment
Florence Classical Arts Academy - Direct Enrollment
Florence University of the Arts - Direct Enrollment
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology - Exchange
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies - Exchange
Heilbronn University - Exchange
Kansai Gaidai University - Exchange
Kyungpook National University - Exchange
Manchester Metropolitan University - Exchange
Oxford Visiting Student Program
Pukyong National University
University of Chichester - Exchange
University of the Basque Country - Exchange
University of Waikato - Direct Enrollment
Waterford Institute of Technology - Exchange
Guatemala Service Learning English
Tunisia - Music & Perspectives
Costa Rica Biology
England Education
Ireland - Nursing
Spring VIRTUAL Internship with campus b
Positive Impact Internship with campus b
Belize Education and Culture
Honors in Quebec
Japan - Art
Scotland Business
Anglo Educational Services: London Internship
Anglo Educational Services: Virtual London Internship - VIRTUAL
Botswana Ecology
CNU International Summer Session
France - Intercultural Leadership with CEPA
Mexico - Spanish Immersion
Oxford Summer Session I - History
Oxford Summer Session II - English
Oxford Summer Session III - STILL WAITING ON THE NAME
South Korea - CNU International Summer Session - VIRTUAL
South Korea - TESOL Practicum
Spain - Spanish Immersion
University of Oslo ISS - Norway
USG Goes Global Programs