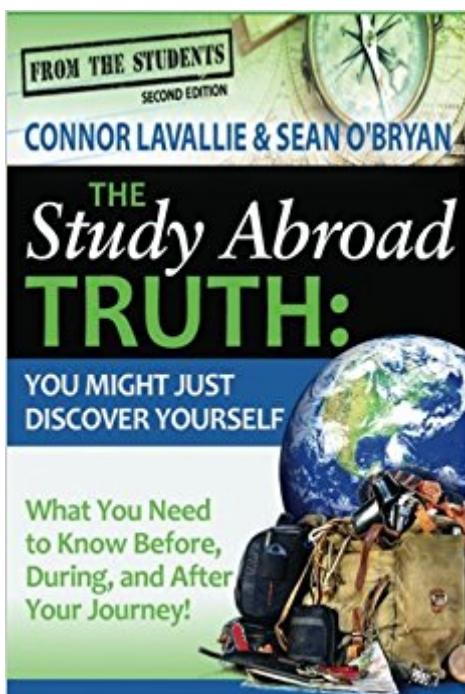


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# The Study Abroad Truth: You Might Just Discover Yourself, What You Need To Know Before, During, And After Your Journey! 2nd Edition



## Synopsis

"A book enthusiastically recommended to any student planning to study abroad. . . captures the essence of maximizing the international experience beyond the classroom. The thoughtful presentation of experiences will encourage any prospective abroad student to immerse themselves fully in the broadening opportunities which abound in an overseas educational program." ~ Jean M. Gaspardo, Director of Study Abroad Program of Loyola University Chicago School of Law

You can talk to counselors, teachers, and administrators. You can read tons of brochures. But right here in this book you can get the firsthand account from several study abroad students who did it, and loved every minute of it. Well, almost every minute. Our names are Connor and Sean.

I (Connor) graduated with a B.S. degree in Psychology from Loyola University Chicago in 2010 and am now completing graduate studies in Chiropractic and Naturopathic medicine. I will be relaying to you my experiences in chapters one through nine. I (Sean) graduated with a B.B.A. in Finance and Marketing from Loyola University Chicago in 2010 and am now pursuing J.D. and M.B.A. degrees. I will be sharing my experiences in chapters ten through twelve. Ever since we started college, we had been debating with ourselves about whether or not we should study abroad. We didn't talk about it much with friends or family because we were a little apprehensive about the whole idea at first. We were excited about living in a place so different from home because of the places we'd see, people we'd meet, and challenges we'd strive to overcome. However, making this decision was definitely not an easy one. Just like many of you, we were quite nervous just thinking about all the uncertainties that lay before us. We found ourselves thinking about all the reasons why we should NOT study abroad. We thought about missing our families and friends. We worried about all the planning, paperwork, and potential obstacles we would have to go through. We couldn't help but think about risks involved, safety issues, language limitations, finding decent food, maintaining some level of comfort, and of course paying for all of it. Additionally, we wondered if we would be able to graduate on time. Would the right courses be available? And would it all be worth it in the end? Back then we were searching for information that would settle our nerves, but we didn't get many answers we were happy with. That's when we decided to do our own investigation. We talked with dozens of former college students from different parts of the world, and asked them what they wished they had done differently throughout college. To our surprise, an astonishing 8 out of 10 graduates said they regretted not studying abroad! As we talked, it was apparent we shared all the same concerns- language, curriculum, personal safety and well-being. However we still had the opportunity in front of us, they did not. Connor: In the first chapter, I will discuss why my decision

became clear to study abroad that spring. If you are interested in making the most of your time, I believe you will relate to my story. However I hope you will develop your own reasons, and begin to understand the potential rewards that await you. I was not always prepared for everything at the time, I was not able to gather all the information I could possibly need, and sometimes I paid for it. All in all, the months I spent studying overseas became the most fun, gratifying, and educational times I could ever have imagined. Making that choice to leave became a decision that has ultimately shaped my character for the better in so many ways, and I know it will do the same for you. If you do it right! I also believe you will continue to discover the full benefits of the whole experience, and the positive ways they've affected you for many years to come.

## **Book Information**

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not a whole lot of useful information here.

Whether you're a seasoned traveller or have never been outside your own country... making the decision to study abroad can be a tremendously difficult one. From having the right mindset, knowing what risks and benefits to watch out for, budgeting, and making your own itinerary, authors LaVallie & O'Bryan deliver with thoughtful prose and anecdotes throughout. Whether you're living in Europe, Asia, or Australia... you'll derive insight and clarity about your personal direction when making this life changing jump into the 'unknown'. I'm proud to say my worldview has grown beyond what I could have imagined, and this book helped me all along the way!

The Study Abroad Truth is an essential read for any student thinking about or already planning on taking on the abroad adventure. The book lays out everything you may need to know, from packing to hanging out with the locals to creating a budget that works for you. The authors pull in and expand on their own experiences in a way that any student traveling abroad will be able to relate to. I highly recommend this book to make the most of your experience- you'll get insight that will open your eyes in a whole new way and allow you to get everything you can out of living in a foreign place!

This excellent book is a necessity for any student who wishes to study abroad. The authors both provide insightful and practical information that will help the student maximize their experience while studying overseas. Any student who has studied abroad knows that preparation can be the difference between a mediocre trip and a great trip. If you are a student that is looking to have the experience of a lifetime, then this book is without a doubt an absolutely essential part of your preparation!

When I first purchased the book, I thought that it would only contain tips on making my study abroad experience better. When I opened the book, I realized that there were stories that accompanied each chapter's theme- making this book not only a guide, but also an exciting read. As a college student, I am definitely going to refer this book to my friends before they study abroad!!!

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