



Geneva Spring 2017 Programs



Study Abroad

Agenda



- Physics pre-meeting
 - UNIGE Courses
 - Computer Formatting
 - CERN
 - Research post-program
 - Alumni Advice
- Full Program Introductions and Stats
- Logistics
- Academics
- Internships
- Life on Site
- Health and Safety
- Finances and Budgeting
- Action Items
- Wrap up/Questions

Geneva Physics Program

First Six Weeks of Classes

- Intensive French Class (at your level, most at intermediate)
- CAS PY 482: ROOT computing course (taught by Lidia Dell'Asta, a CERN resident working on ATLAS)
- Will start exploring CERN and figuring out what your directed research project will be.

Late-February - July 1:

Beginning of courses at University of Geneva

- Electrodynamics II (= PY 482 Electromagnetic Fields and Waves)
- Quantum Mechanics (= PY 451 Quantum Physics)
- PY 392 Directed Study at CERN

Start work at CERN

June 12- 30 UNIGE Final Exams

July 3 – Move out day

Academics on Site

Academic Culture

- As elaborated in the [Pre-departure Roadmap](#), teaching and learning styles may differ dramatically
- You should expect that your UNIGE courses will be *entirely* hands-off. While there may be translations of textbooks, and English tutorials, you will only have 1-2 grading opportunities (either 1 final paper exam, or an exam and an oral exam). This means that your *whole grade will be from a cumulative exam at the end of the semester*.
 - If you do not do well on your exam you can re-take it back in the states, but whatever grade you get on the re-take will be your final official grade, even if you do worse than you did the first time.
- The UniGe library is available to you as students as well as online BU resources

Preparing For Geneva



ROOT Computing:

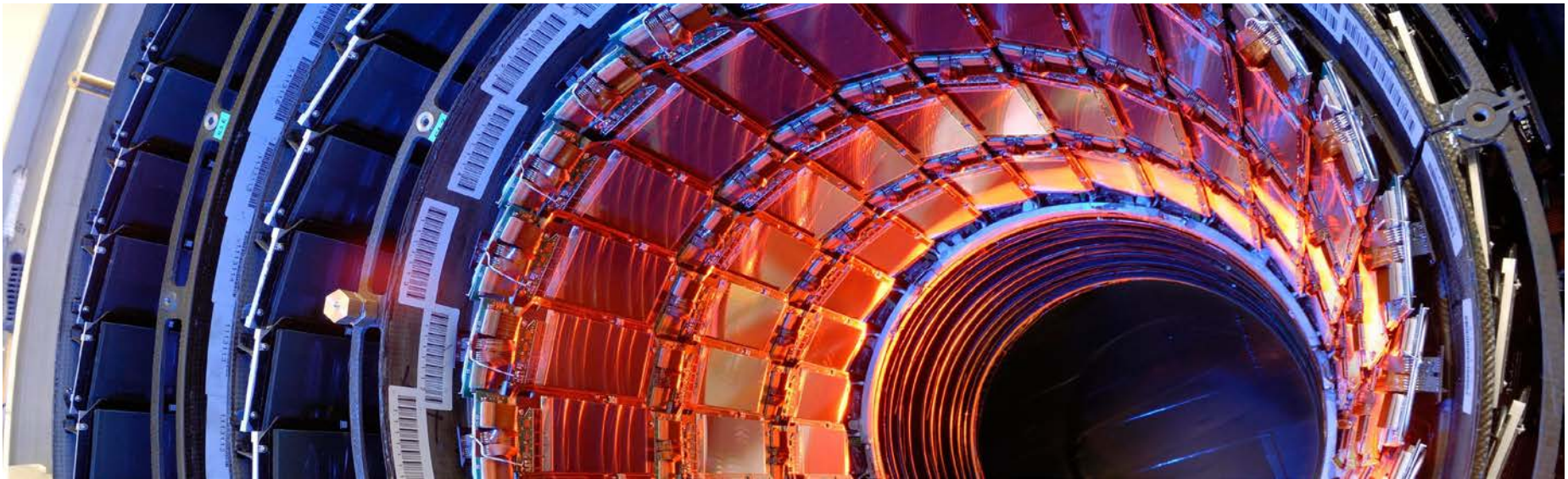
- Guoan Hu in the BU Physics department and I will be in touch shortly about accessing a Linux Virtual Machine that will have all the necessary software for your class – still working out exactly what you need!
- If you have absolutely no experience with C++ or Python you may want to do a bit of self-studying ahead of time (it sounds like most people have some experience though)

UNIGE:

- Brush up on French if you have not spoken it or read it in a while.
- E&M 1 at UNIGE covers more/different math than BU – Advice from returnees on how to prep?
- Often are translations for textbooks – Returnees?
- English tutorials – Returnees?

CERN

- You are expected to attend ALL CERN obligations, regardless of travel plans, etc. The only excuse to not attend is illness, and may require a doctors note to be officially excused.
- Tiziano Camporesi is your CERN Mentor this year – he will work with you to match you with a suitable project / experiment
- Your schedule will likely vary when you're at CERN, as it will be planned around your classes at UNIGE and your experiment. Some students keep regular hours at CERN, others have a more flexible schedule based on the day's tasks.
- May be possible to stay on at CERN into the summer and continue your research! Would be outside of program, and you would need to find your own housing/funding – thoughts from Returnees?



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Introductions

Sarah Cooper Lucerto

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Leonella Castellano

Internship manager, Geneva Programs


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Alumni:

- Chikamara Nwosu (IR)
- Glenn Steranka (Physics)
- Robby Finan (Physics)
- Maria Mucci (Physics)
- Adam Pearson (Physics)



Pre-departure Roadmap



Boston University Study Abroad Pre-Departure Roadmap

BU Study Abroad

BU Study Abroad


twitter.com/BUabroad facebook.com/BUabroad bu.edu/abroad

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Boston University Study Abroad
Pre-Departure Roadmap

Keneshia Estime
Program Coordinator



Outline	Thumb	Notes	Search
Slide Title			Duration
▶ Introduction			01:07
▶ General Pre-Departure ...			00:45
▶ Program-Specific Pre-D...			00:60
▶ Billing			01:00
▶ Program Costs, Financi...			00:20
▶ Course Selection			01:50
▶ Academic Requirements ...			01:21
▶ Accommodations			00:49
▶ Staying In Touch			00:55
▶ Academic Culture			01:36
▶ Physical & Mental Heal...			02:04
▶ Medications & Immuniza...			01:26
▶ International Insuranc...			01:22
▶ Conduct			00:52
▶ Staying Safe Abroad			01:60
▶ Drugs & Alcohol			00:45

38 Minutes 21 Seconds Remaining

Program Statistics



Congrats again!!

- 57 Students Total
- 22 International Relations Interns
- 19 Public Health Interns
- 16 Physics Students
- 17 Men / 34 Women
- 21 Non-BU / 35 BU Students

Geneva Internship Program

International Relations

Public Health

First Six Weeks of Classes (Core)

CAS PO 243 / IR 445: Public International Law (IR Core)

OR

CAS PO 247 / CAS IR 418: IR Politics, Nation and Identity (IR Core or Elective)

PH 506 Principles of International Health (PH Core)

Electives:

AH 308: From Caesar to Corbusier: The History of Switzerland through its Art and Architecture

FR 113/213/313: French Language

IR Politics, Nation and Identity (*IR only*)

Final Eight weeks (Internship and Internship Course)

IR 444 The Activities of International Organizations (*IR only*)

PH 507 Controversies in International Health (*PH only*)

CAS PO 405 / CAS IR 455: Internship in International Organizations (*IR only*)

PS 295 Internship in Health and Human Services (*PH only*)

Academics

Academics

- As elaborated in the [Pre-departure Roadmap](#), teaching and learning styles may differ dramatically
- Courses are taught by local faculty on the campus of University of Geneva or at the BU Academic Center
- Teaching style might be different than what you're used to – More initiative from the student, less availability and feedback from professors.
- The UniGe library is available to you as students as well as online BU resources

Academic Policies

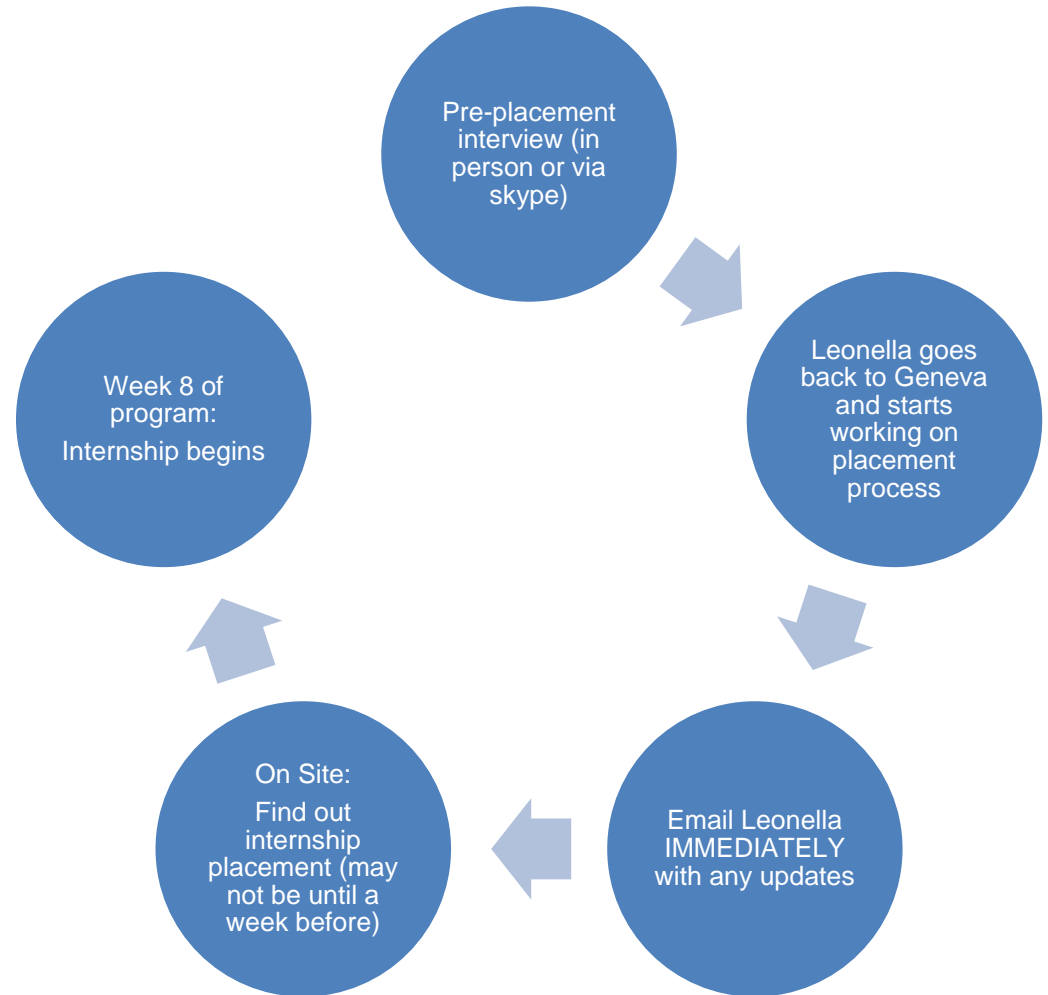


- All students are subject to BU's [Academic Code of Conduct](#)
- Must take the full course load (16 credits) for a grade
- All coursework must be completed prior to end of program (or an F may be assigned)
- If accommodations are needed, notify BU Study Abroad and BU's Office of Disability Services
- Attendance policies
 - Personal travel must NOT conflict with academic obligations
 - Details will be given during the on-site orientation and/or in syllabi

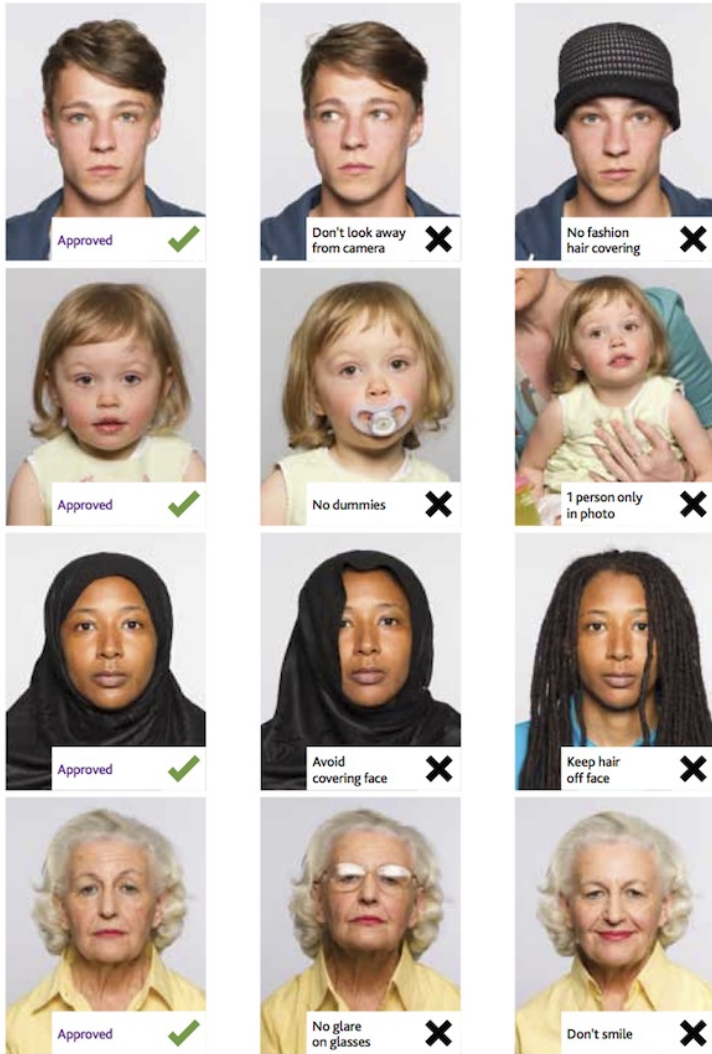
Internship Placement Process

Next steps...

- Have your CV polished and perfected! Your CV is getting read by actual potential supervisors in Geneva and is being compared to students from all over the world
- Dress in Geneva may be more formal than we're used to here; be prepared to have some nicer clothes (a tie for guys, suit jackets for all)
- Do some reflection about what you hope to gain from the experience and what you are able to give the internship. Take initiative on the job; if you can't do the "boring" stuff right, why would your boss ask you to do more "interesting" projects?
- All experience is valuable and many skills are transferrable, even if the skills you learn are perseverance (doing something you don't love) and grit!



Internship: Administrative Matters



- Send your revised Résumé to Leonella in WORD format (.docx)
- Send Writing samples /Papers that are relevant
- Admin procedures for internship vary from one placement to another so be prepared to handle paperwork promptly. Some processes can be lengthy
- Browse / Google 'Geneva', internship requirements...They're competitive! You'll be working at a graduate student level while in Geneva.
- Vaccination certificate – updated (some placements will require this)

Internship Expectations: Current Events

Make sure you're up to date on international current events and politics including global health issues! You're going to be expected to know what's going on in the world – including in the United States (you're going to talk about the election A LOT).

Quick Check: How many of you know all the following people?

- Samantha Power
- Margaret Chan
- Ban Ki Moon
- Sheryl Sandberg
- Narendra Modi
- Dilma Rousseff



Internship: Work Culture



- **Internship culture/culture in general is more formal** than in the states. Address e-mails with “Dear Mr./Dear Mrs.” as opposed to “hi” or “hey”. You NEVER know where someone else is coming from.
- **Dress for the job you want!** A suit may not be necessary, but it’s better to dress up more on the first day and see what others are wearing. Better to be dressed up than down in case you are called on to do something at any time.
- **You may get LESS supervision** than you are used to. Ask questions if you don’t know something, but try to find a solution first. Be pro-active and useful, to your organization.
- **Be open minded!**

Internship Expectations

What an academic internship is **NOT**:

Not your dream job!

Not the key to an automatic job offer

Not specialized job training

Not exciting and engaging 100% of the time

Not necessarily a globally recognized company name

Not the same experience as your friends

Not optional – must complete full internship time; participation is mandatory

Not all about you! Consider the needs of your company and think of it as a way to gain new skills or work habits

Internship Expectations

What **CAN** an academic internship offer?

Can provide professional experience and practice

Can offer exposure to different management styles and organizational structures

Can help build your professional network

Can enhance cultural awareness and language skills

Can help you hone problem-solving skills

Can make you become more adaptable as an employee

Can help identify your skills, interests, and values to discover career paths that are (or are not) a good match

Can integrate your practical learning with your academic work and field of study

Life on Site: Housing

- All students live at 18 rue Muzy, a BU residence:
 - Centrally located- 5 minute walk from Lake Geneva and 10 minutes to BU Academic Center (offices and classroom space)
 - Near many shops, restaurants, cafes and grocery
 - Near train stop (for commuting to UniGe, CERN and internships)
 - Safe, locked front door
 - RA's on site; other staff on site during the week day
 - Wi-fi provided
 - Lounge and kitchen in the basement for studying; weekday breakfast
- Rooms are:
 - Doubles or triples with shared bathrooms and kitchens
 - Fully furnished
 - Small! Pack light
- You will have a chance to select roommates/type of roommate via e-mail closer to the start of the program
- Residence Rules: No overnight visitors, no loud noise (there are very specific laws about this in Switzerland)





Life on Site: Getting Around

Getting Around:

- Geneva is mostly a walking city, and you will take the train to the university or your internship.
- The TPG - Transports Publics Genevois operates local trams (6 tram lines numbers 12-17) and buses.
- Student rates available
- Taxis are generally expensive and not necessary, but can be taken from designated stops
- Transit at night is also available, but don't travel alone if you can help it
- Trains vs. airlines for weekend travel- you may wish to use RyanAir or EasyJet for cheap weekend travel but the train is very easy and fast
- Notify site if you'll be away



Life on Site: Daily Life



- Internships will take place generally Mon-Thurs (9-5) with class on Friday
- Shopping
 - Although most stores are open throughout the day, many service shops close for lunch during the week. Most stores, including grocery stores, do not stay open past 7:00 on weekdays, past 6:00 on Saturdays and are closed on Sundays
 - Check: <http://www.bu.edu/geneva/life-housing/stores-and-supermarkets/>
- Gyms/Fitness
 - Gym is available at the University but amenities are NOT the same as in the states. Other gyms may be VERY expensive. Many students might choose to take up running, jogging, or other outdoor activities
 - Can join a club sport at UniGe

Budgeting & Finances

The Basics...

BU students: billing is handled the same as on campus.

Non-BU students: contact your home study abroad office for billing details.

All bills will show up on your student Link account. You will receive an e-mail with instructions and a due date later in the semester.

PROGRAM CHARGES — Billed by Boston University	
Program Tuition	\$ 24,588
Housing/Student Services Fee <small>(Includes housing, airfare from designated U.S. cities, excursions, overseas medical insurance, and emergency travel assistance coverage.)</small>	\$ 5,104
Total Program Charges	\$ 29,692

US MEDICAL INSURANCE — Optional, Billed by Boston University	
Medical Insurance <small>(Waived if student demonstrates coverage by a comprehensive US based policy)</small>	\$ 1,290
Total Program Charges With Medical Insurance	\$ 30,982

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES — Not included in Program Charges	
Board/Food	\$ 2,000
Local Transportation	\$ 1,000
Books	\$ 200
Visa/Immigration Requirements*	\$ 0
Personal Spending	\$ 3,500
Total Estimated Additional Expenses	\$ 6,700

TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES	\$ 37,682
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Budgeting & Finances

For Perspective:

- Croissant ~4 CHF
- Coffee from Starbucks ~6 CHF
- Meal out for dinner (mid-range) ~50 CHF
- Casual lunch out ~20-30 CHF
- Hotel (1 night): ~150-400 CHF
- Jeans ~120 CHF

Except for the continental, weekday breakfast, meals are NOT included.

Tips for low-cost dining:

- Eat at the UniGe cafeteria / CERN Cafeteria
- Cook in the dorms (eat together!)
- Shop in France
- You do not need to tip much in Europe
- Start learning to budget now!
- Visit Sargent Health Choice facebook page

Banking

You'll want to have access to multiple types of funds:

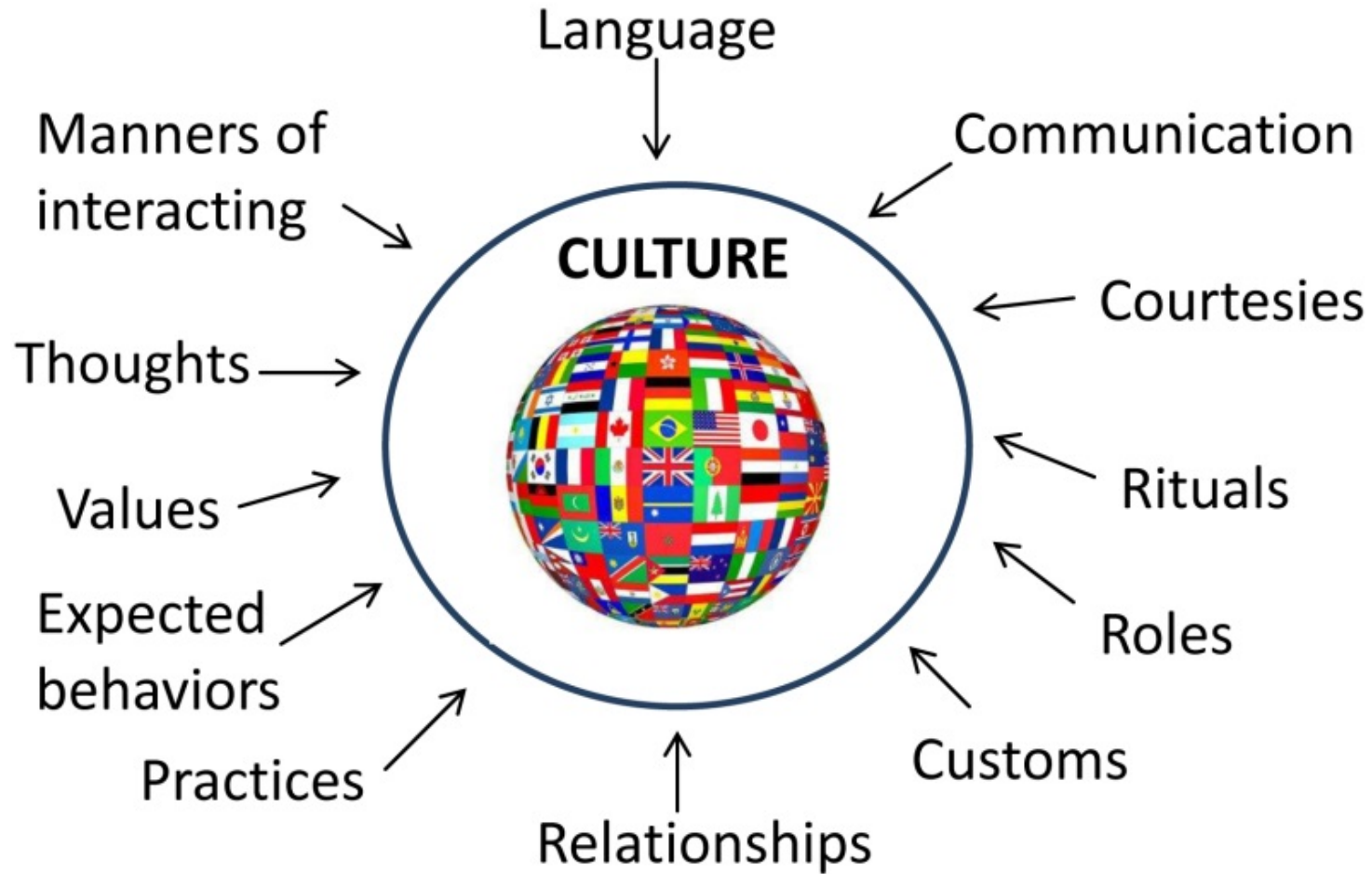
1. ATM/Debit: You will be able to access your US accounts while abroad:

1. Check with your bank about ATM fees
2. Ask about getting a “chip” in your debit/ATM card and make sure you have a 4 digit pin!
3. Tell your bank you'll be traveling

2. Credit Cards: You may want to look into different international credit cards (fees, points, etc. may be available). Should have a “chip”.

3. Cash: Withdraw larger amounts, but be sure to leave some in your room and carry around less. You will end up using cash more often than you do in the US.

Culture



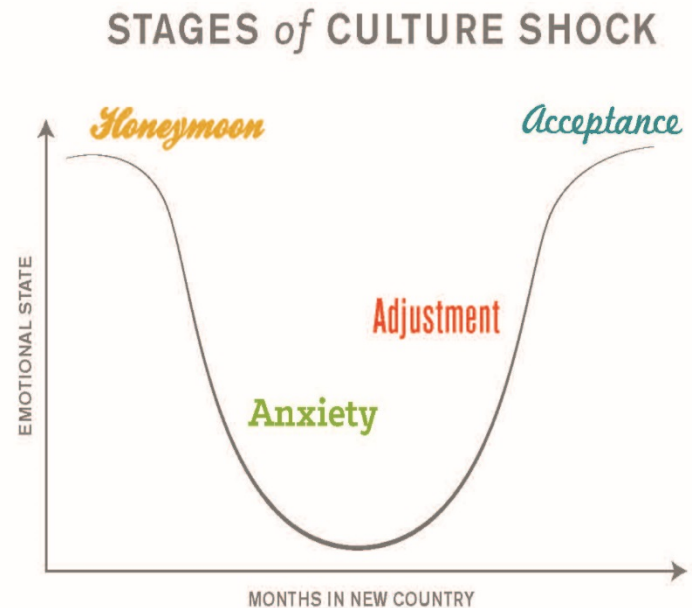
Culture Shock



CULTURE SHOCK

Top 10 Tips for Coping with Culture Shock

1. Research your host country prior to departure
2. Keep an open mind
3. Search out new experiences and friends
4. Do not judge the people of a country by one person or one experience
5. Keep a sense of humor
6. Listen and observe rather than merely see or hear
7. Reflect daily to process your experiences
8. Use your host university's support system
9. Stay in touch with home
10. Remember you have traveled far to learn about and experience a new culture, and to represent your country and school; most people only DREAM about having this experience.



There is no "best way" to deal with culture shock; it always depends on the individual.

Life on Site: Health

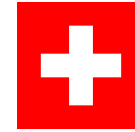
Plan ahead!

- Visit your doctor about any health concerns or for a physical, if overdue
- Maintain regular dental appointments
- Make a plan to access your medications abroad
 - Talk to your doctor
 - Make a copy of your prescriptions
 - Check with the host country consulate for restrictions
 - If allowable, obtain a supply for full semester
 - Do not plan to ship medicine abroad
- Understand that medical facilities will be different abroad
- Learn about local health system and cultural differences
- Contact program staff with any concerns

Life on Site: Mental Health

- Talk to your therapist/counselor about mental health while abroad and make a plan before you go.
- Even if you may be excited about new opportunities, stress or anxiety may increase abroad.
- Keep Healthy:
 - University resources
 - English speaking doctors are available, but keep in mind English may be a second language
 - Cultural norms
 - Keep up your routine (when possible)
 - Local Swiss policy covers health care
 - Use the on-site staff and BU resources (SARP, Behavioral Medicine)





About two weeks before the program start date, all students will be automatically enrolled in International Insurance coverage, and Emergency Travel Assistance services.

- **Valid for the duration of the program, and extendable at the student's expense**
 - Exact policy information will be emailed two week prior to departure, once you're enrolled.
 - Combination of Swiss Insurance and HTH Worldwide.
 - Detailed questions can be directed to the insurance company, after you're enrolled.
- **All students are required to maintain their US-based health insurance coverage while abroad!**

Safety Plans

Program Emergency Plan

- Will be explained during on-site orientation

Personal Emergency Plan

- Always have emergency contact numbers with you, both in your phone and separately
- Enroll in the [State Department STEP Program](#) to get travel alerts and warnings
- Talk with your family about communication expectations so they know you are okay



Take Responsibility for your OWN Risk Management!

- Talk to your family and friends about the location-buildings, housing, staff, insurance, resources!
- Practice situational Awareness: Be aware of your surroundings; be vigilant of others.
- Do not drive (road and pedestrian accidents are #1 cause of injury/death abroad)
- Do not participate in demonstrations or protests
- Drink responsibly – Not the staff's responsibility to manage your consumption! The majority of problems student's face are related to alcohol.
- Travel with others and look out for each other.
- Pay attention to the news (before and during the program)
- Practice safe sex, report any sexual assault to staff abroad



Personal Safety

Our Expectations of you:

We expect that you will:

- Share responsibility for your safety and that of others in the program
- You will be reachable by local phone at all times. Keep it charged and topped-up with minutes/data.
- You will reach out to program staff and your family if you experience, witness or become aware of a serious incident of any kind
- You will report issues of any sort in a timely manner to the on-site staff (or directly to Boston if necessary) so that we can help you.



Personal Safety



Keep your belongings safe

- Do not bring valuables or sentimental items abroad
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- Monitor your wallet/purse closely. Keep money hidden.
- Limit smartphone usage in public
- Carry only necessities out at night – make sure you have emergency numbers with you

Communication

- Internet Access and Communication:
 - Wi-Fi is available in the dorm, university and internet café's, but may be slower or more spotty than you're used to.
 - Skype, Facetime, WhatsApp, Viber, etc.
- Mobile Phones
 - You should have a local number for emergencies and ease of use
 - Local Pay-as-you-go plans are the easiest and most economical. You can either get a whole new cheap phone, or just a new simcard.
 - Keep your current smartphone on "airplane mode" and use apps on Wi-Fi when it's available.
 - US-based international mobile phone plans are more expensive and often don't work. Skip them.



Communication

Make a realistic communication plan with your family and friends

The best plan will strike a balance between sharing your experiences with those at home regularly, while primarily engaging with your new local culture.

When you're homesick, try not to call home or use social media more often, it can make homesickness worse!



World's Most Embarrassing Mom Makes Peruvian Government Hunt Down Her Son When He Stops Posting on Facebook



Caity Weaver

Filed to: EMBARRASSING PARENTS 3/01/13 1:23pm

207,995 🔥 2 ☆



Flights

The group flight is included in your program fee!



AIR									
	Flight Number LX0023	Class: Economy	From: New York JFK, NY - Terminal 4	Leaving: Sun 15 Jan 07:45PM	Destination: Geneva, Switzerland - Terminal 1	Arriving: Mon 16 Jan 09:20AM	Flying Time: 7h35m	Stops: 0	
AIR									
	Flight Number LX0022	Class: Economy	From: Geneva, Switzerland - Terminal 1	Leaving: Mon 01 May 11:45AM	Destination: New York JFK, NY - Terminal 4	Arriving: Mon 01 May 02:25PM	Flying Time: 8h40m	Stops: 0	
AIR									
	Flight Number LX0023	Class: Economy	From: New York JFK, NY - Terminal 4	Leaving: Sun 15 Jan 07:45PM	Destination: Geneva, Switzerland - Terminal 1	Arriving: Mon 16 Jan 09:20AM	Flying Time: 7h35m	Stops: 0	
AIR									
	Flight Number LX0022	Class: Economy	From: Geneva, Switzerland - Terminal 1	Leaving: Mon 03 Jul 11:45AM	Destination: New York JFK, NY - Terminal 4	Arriving: Mon 03 Jul 02:25PM	Flying Time: 8h40m	Stops: 0	

- Even though the flight is included, you MUST sign up to reserve your spot via the link from your e-mail.
- Independent travelers must send their itineraries to the program manager /site staff and will be responsible for their transportation to the residence. You must arrive by NOON on start date for orientation activities.
- You MUST forward your itinerary to me to be eligible for a credit (equal to amount of the group flight fare). You will receive the credit in the form of a deduction from the total cost of the program, which will be reflected on your BU student account.
- If travelers arrive at the same time or earlier in the morning, may travel on the group bus to the residence.

Contact Advantage Travel:

<http://advantagetravelcny.com/>

Phone: 315-471-2222

Toll Free: 800-788-1980

Travel

LOGISTICS

- Confirm your departure time and flight
- Arrive at the airport no later than two hours prior to your departure
- Wear heavier clothes on the flight to be able to have room in your suitcase

Travel

CARRY ON

- Passport and Visa
- Liquids 3oz or less in plastic bags (check www.tsa.gov for up to date requirements)
- Essentials to last you a few days in your carry-on in case your luggage gets lost (toothpaste, deodorant, underwear, medicine, socks)

HEALTH WHILE TRAVELING

- Drink lots of water and stay hydrated
- Be sure to time your medications while traveling
- Get lots of sleep after you arrive: jetlag can take up to a week to go away!

Packing List



- **Luggage:**

- Use bags that are light and sturdy – one large, one carry on, one shoulder bag or backpack
- Pack only what you can carry *yourself*
- Check airline restrictions on weight and number of bags you can take aboard. Overage fees may apply.
- Do not plan on shipping items abroad

- **All students should bring:**

- Passport with visa
- Full roundtrip flight itinerary
- Medication you will need for the duration of your program (if applicable; please check country specific laws)
- Site contact details and directions to your program site

Packing List



- **Program Specific Items:**

- ☑ Towels/linens
- ☑ Outlet adapter
- ☑ Specific clothing for the site climate and culture- **LAYERS!** Umbrella, jacket, pants, snowboots, warm socks.
- ☑ External hard drive or USB drive for backing up academic work
- ☑ Over the counter toiletries such as contact solution (will be available in Geneva, but much more expensive)

- **What NOT to bring:**

- ✗ US-based international cell phone plan
- ✗ Conspicuous clothing or electronics
- ✗ Sentimental items you couldn't do without
- ✗ Personal appliances (hairdryers, straighteners, shavers - they will be available in Geneva)

Future Communication

- Some communication you can expect to receive over the next few months:

Rolling basis:

- Visa submission confirmation
- Invitation to BU Geneva Facebook group
- Email to share with parents/guardians
 - Includes PDP Module and other important info
- Housing preference forms
- BU Login (for non-BU students to access password protected parts of www.bu.edu/geneva) and blackboard on-site
- Arrival information
- Visa pick up instructions (late December/early Jan)
- Getting Ready to Go e-mail (important reminders sent a few weeks before departure)
- International Health Insurance e-mail
- Billing information

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- Complete general Pre-departure documents to get registered for your program
- Complete course selection form
- Internship meeting with Leonella
- Review In-Country Guide on Hub Page
- Watch the online module
- Sign up for Group Flight or book your own!
- Input flight itinerary on Intl. Travel Registry
- Check in with (as necessary):
 - Student Accounting
 - Financial Assistance
 - Advisor



Questions??

