

Study abroad fair to feature more than 80 countries

Written by Samantha Wolendowski, Staff Writer
Tuesday, 05 February 2013 12:59

The 2013 Study Abroad Fair will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today in the Prairie Room at the Bone Student Center.

The fair offers students a chance to win a \$2,000 study abroad scholarship, a drawing for five free \$150 application fees and more information about more than 50 semester and summer programs. Students can speak with past participants, program faculty directors, program providers and study abroad advisors.

The Study Abroad program offers students more than 80 countries to choose ranging from England, Scotland and Ireland all the way to South Korea, Thailand and China.

"Anywhere students want to go, the program will make it happen," Alex Ratcliff, ISU study abroad advisor, said.

Ratcliff, who has been with the program for just over a year, said there are many great advantages of studying abroad for every student at ISU.

"Especially with the economy, you need some way to set yourself apart, and studying abroad is a way to do that," said Ratcliff. "I've seen that as a person, it really builds character. I can't tell you how many students start off being nervous, scared and anxious, but when they come back they look like a completely different person."

Last year was the first year ISU held a spring and fall Study Abroad Fair for students. This year, the program is trying to build an interest in all other colleges within ISU by bringing in affiliates, outside companies, faculty directors and past participants to talk to students about their experiences.

Study abroad fair to feature more than 80 countries

Written by Samantha Wolendowski, Staff Writer
Tuesday, 05 February 2013 12:59

By going to the Study Abroad Fair, students gain a better experience and understanding for what the program is all about.

“There’s something to be said for personal interaction,” Ratcliff said.

“By having a past participant there that you can talk to who literally just got back from the program, they are not going to sugarcoat it. So they’re going to tell you both the positives and the negatives of their experience,” he added.

If students need special accommodations, contact the Office of International Studies and Programs at 309-438-5276 or email at InternationalStudies@IllinoisState.edu