

Beloit College

International Mission

In providing a program in International Education, Beloit College aspires to prepare students:

- To engage with other cultures
- To be sensitive to commonalities and differences among and within cultures
- To have the ability to understand multiple perspectives
- To be knowledgeable about global forces, both human and physical
- To contribute responsibly to humane and positive change

An International Student Body

Beloit College students hail from 39 countries and 48 states. International students make up 8% of the study body, the result of investment in exchange partnerships and outreach from the admissions office to international students.

Study Abroad Application Criteria

In applying to study abroad, Beloit College students must demonstrate that, while abroad they will:

- Gain new perspectives on their fields of study
- Develop intercultural competencies and communication skills
- Learn others' perspectives
- Reflect on their own values and assumptions
- Learn about and from the environments in which they study

Curriculum Integration

Faculty and the curriculum help students integrate study abroad into their on-going studies through courses and other activities that prepare them and allow them to build on their experiences when they return to campus.



Enlisting Campus Internationalization to Educate for Global Citizenship



Study Abroad: 50% of Beloit College students study abroad for a semester or more. Students prepare for study abroad through their coursework. Opportunities abound for post-study abroad reflection and sharing experiences with peers, including an International Symposium. Beloit's "Cities in Transition" courses enable students abroad to engage critically and rigorously with their host environments.



Campus Programs: The Weissberg Chair Residency in International Studies brings a prominent figure on the world stage to the campus for interaction with students and faculty (2008 Chair Jan Egeland, below). Other annual events include International Week, the Multicultural Fair, International Dinner, Coffee Hours and opportunities for alumni to share their pathways to careers involved with human rights (above).



Exchange Programs: Beloit College engages in exchanges with nine countries. These exchanges develop ongoing relationships between students on the partner campuses, increase international student enrollment (currently at 8%) and allow for curricular projects, such as Cities in Transition courses.



Student Agency: International students and study abroad returnees become the teachers for one day during Beloit College's International Symposium, held each November. Other examples of student agency include gallery exhibits, class presentations and a new PhotoFilm Festival to be held each semester.



Faculty and Resource Development: Seminars and workshops engage faculty in developing strategies and pedagogies for transforming their teaching and advising with the aim of integrating study abroad into the curriculum. These also help faculty gain new expertise and a better understanding of the study abroad experience.

Pulling it Together: The Asian Studies Project



1) Chinese Cities in Transition

A pilot distance-learning course is developed to encourage study abroad to practice Chinese language and to better understand China.

One student undertakes a detailed study of a construction site in Shanghai (left), allowing him to gain a window into China's booming economy and some of its winners and losers. This student later returns to China with a Fulbright Scholarship to continue his research.



2) Faculty Visit to China

A faculty group visits China to explore new ways to incorporate the country into their teaching and meet with alumni and other friends of the college.



3) Global/Local Curriculum

The Cities in Transition course is further refined in a workshop in Beloit, inspiring other faculty to develop similar courses to be taught in Beloit and abroad. Faculty explore Beloit as a laboratory for connecting local realities to global patterns.

4) Partnerships in China

New institutional partners are identified in China, enriching the cities course and providing teaching opportunities for recent graduates.



5) Student Projects

As the Cities course is revised, more emphasis is placed on project preparation and reflection about the learning process. When projects are presented in a symposium, they both teach the wider campus and create a stronger connection with the curriculum.

Creating synergies. Asian Studies project outcomes attract donor and foundation funding to support similar activities in other areas of the curriculum.