Three campuses on three continents. Add 12 global academic centers, and you’ve got the unmatched offerings of our Global Network University.

NYU’s campus in Manhattan is just one place where students can start their journeys through our global network. With the pioneering brilliance of NYU Abu Dhabi’s first two stellar classes and with the announcement of the NYU Shanghai campus opening in 2013, three complete portal campuses have proven the dream to be real: NYU as the Global Network University.

**Scholars Shaped Their Own Destinies**

Elizabeth Fritz, a Silver School of Social Work student who spent a semester at NYU Accra, took a course called Health and Society, through which she learned about local and global public health initiatives, gaining an in-depth understanding of important health challenges facing modern, developing Ghana.

Elizabeth says, “Going to Ghana actually redefined my notions of helping. I’ve always wanted to work in Africa and abroad, but being there gave me a much more nuanced understanding of what it means to ‘help’ and who gets to be the ‘expert.’” The refugee camp was well staffed with counselors who were professionally educated and organized, their deficit was simply resource-based. I was able to help at a nursery school because they just needed logistical support, more hands on deck. After returning to New York, I realized this experience had altered my long-term goals for the better. I want to do international work, and I’m set on living in Africa again at some point.”

**Scholars Go Abroad to Give Back**

Stern student Vinh Le spent a semester at NYU Florence in his sophomore year. When he came back to New York, he signed up for a course called Stern International Volunteers and, after studying the social impact of business, found himself on a service learning trip in Lima, Peru. The class of 23 split as they visited different sites based on their personal interests. For Vinh, a government-subsidized education facility for kids provided an experience he will never forget. He says, “I was working in a class with three-year-olds where the teacher spoke English and told me how important she thought it was to teach the kids English at an early age. Throughout the week, we taught them nursery rhymes, numbers, shapes, and colors. The kids were excited to see me every day, and it was fulfilling to see them pick up words from me.”

**Group Travel Takes Scholars to South America**

Recently, the Gallatin School of Individualized Study traveled to Rio de Janeiro and Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, to investigate consumerism. They met with people from the Olympic planning committee, a specialist in urban development, and several organisations dealing with human rights. As Gallatin Scholar Caroline Owen says, “We visited the largest landfill on the earth outside of Rio, and I came away from the trip with a new outlook on consumption and the toll it can have.”