

Kate Bruce

Study Abroad Counselor

Career/Education Background:

I went to Lehigh University and was an English Literature and Africana Studies double major. When I got a job working on projects for NYU's Africa House my family couldn't believe I found a way to actually use my degree. I switched over to Study Abroad initially as the Ghana site representative and now work on Florence, which is great because I studied there while an undergrad. I'm currently working on getting my masters in Integrated Marketing with NYU.

Why do you think students should study abroad?

Obviously because it's awesome! When else are you going to get a chance to live in some amazing city abroad with the safety net of an entire office of people there just to help you with pre-departure, finding housing and organizing weekend tours?

What advice do you have for students who are about to study abroad?

I think sometimes students have this perception that studying abroad is going to be puppies and popsicles all the time, but one of the most important aspects of doing a semester (or more) abroad is all the stuff that doesn't work out exactly how you thought it would. We do a lot to try to make the transition and experience as smooth as possible, but some of my favorite memories from my time abroad was when we missed our flight or there was a bus strike and we had to find a creative way to get where we needed to go. Basically, it's going to be amazing, inspiring, frustrating and every other emotion you can think of ... and you won't even totally absorb it all until a few weeks or months or maybe even years after you get back. In the meantime, just remember that you are going abroad and things are going to be different in good and bad ways. You'll get to see it all because you aren't tourist; you live there!