**August**, 2025

# Study Abroad Newsletter





This summer, we've revamped every aspect of the Study Abroad Office to streamline the student journey and enhance career success.

Explore the improvements and opportunities awaiting you!



#### **Cannes Film Festival Experience**

This past May, four students from the Media X program had the privilege of traveling to Cannes, France, to attend the prestigious Cannes Film Festival. Experiencing this world-renowned event firsthand proved to be both professionally enriching and personally transformative. Further details about this remarkable opportunity can be found in our newsletter.



#### A New Era for Study Abroad

Over the summer, the Study Abroad Office at Pacific Global underwent a complete transformation, embracing a renewed vision for international experiences. These changes were designed with students at the forefront, aiming to create impactful, lasting memories that shape both academic and personal growth. We invite you to discover this exciting new chapter.



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## **Study Abroad Programs**

### **Bilateral Exchange Program**

University of the Pacific has agreements with several universities abroad. These are exchange programs, where a Pacific student enrolls a a foreign university, and one of their students comes to Pacific. These programs offer a deeply immersive experience in the host country.











#### **Provider Programs**

Pacific partners with four organizations, each offering a wide range of international programs and destinations. They provide an additional layer of support and assistance to students on their programs as well as a large number of scholarships.









### **Short Term Faculty Led Programs**

Pacific offers several short-term programs for unit credit. Most take place during the summer and are led by a Pacific faculty member. Often these programs have a linguistic or departmental focus.

#### **Currently offered**

• Study law in Austria (undergraduate & graduate students)



# Steps to Study Abroad

Look through options with VIA TRM

**Appointment with Study Abroad Advisor** 

**Appointment with Study Abroad Director** 



## Steps for applying to Study Abroad

### **Look through your options with VIA TRM**

- Go to VIA TRM and look through the available programs, locations we offer, and requirements for Pacific and different providers
- Consider
  - When would you want to go abroad & for how long? Semester (Spring/Fall). year-long?
  - Requirements/courses, which would you like to complete abroad?
  - Language, interested in an intensive language track or courses in your native language
  - Financial aid, how to finance your journey & what scholarships can you apply for

### Make an appointment with a student ambassador

Student Ambassadors will give you the general overview of the requirements needed and can give advice based on their experience abroad. Go to page 11 to learn more about our ambassadors!

## Make an appointment with the director

Once you understand the application process and know which program you would like to go with talk with Witold Wolny, the Director of Global Education, so that you can start your program's application process

### **Keep in mind!**

There are 2 application process, one for University of the Pacific and the other with the chosen program. They may have separate deadlines, required documents, and requirements

# Meet the summer team



## **Dream Team**



This summer, our Study Abroad Office flourished under the outstanding leadership of Jace Sapenther, who served as Coordinator. Jace brought strategic vision and strong organizational oversight to every initiative, ensuring seamless collaboration and forceful implementation of new projects. Farheen Shabbir, our talented Digital Project Assistant, expertly engineered and launched our updated card-form systems. Rafaela Reyes, as Digital Design Assistant, amplified our visual communication with refreshed digital assets and streamlined design solutions.

Their work was guided and well supported by Director Witold Wolny, whose mentorship and direction were pivotal in aligning the team's efforts with our broader institutional goals.

Together, this dynamic team reimagined the Study Abroad Office—rolling out enhanced merchandise, implementing cutting-edge technology solutions, and unveiling new programs that collectively redefined our approach to international student experiences. Their achievements mark a significant milestone in our office's evolution.

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#### **Witold Wolny - Global Education Director**

"This semester, my objective is to cultivate a dynamic, student-focused Study Abroad Office that inspires students to view the world as an extension of their classroom. I am committed to streamlining operational processes, expanding our network of global partnerships, and—most importantly—enhancing the visibility of our programs through strategic marketing initiatives, revitalized digital content, and the amplification of authentic student experiences. By presenting clear, accessible information in innovative and engaging formats, we will ensure that studying abroad is perceived as an exciting, inclusive, and attainable opportunity for all students."

## New member of the team

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## **Exciting News for 2025**

This year, we're launching a new tool to enhance and simplify the study abroad experience for all students: VIA TRM. This powerful software is designed to streamline the entire process—from program exploration to application—making it easier than ever to navigate global opportunities. With an intuitive interface and user-centered design, VIA TRM will serve as a central hub where students can access everything they need: program details, deadlines, advising tools, and more.

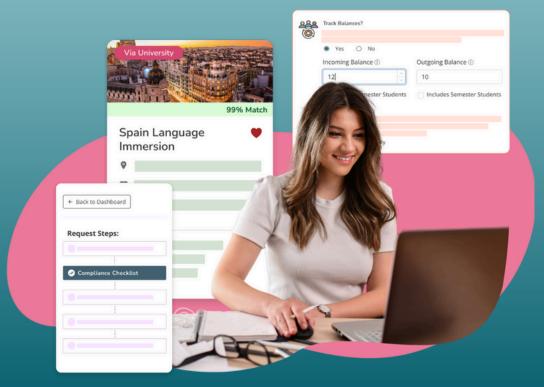






VIA TRM stands for "Traveler Relationship Management," and its mission aligns perfectly with ours: to remove barriers, increase access, and help every student go global. Whether you're just starting to consider studying abroad or ready to hit submit on your application, VIA will guide you through each step of the way.

Welcome to a new era of campus mobility—one that is smarter, smoother, and truly student-focused.



## International Drone Competition in Japan

This July, three Pacific alumni—Yusif Imanov, Christian Ceja, and Luis Bucio—traveled to Japan to proudly represent the University of the Pacific at the prestigious Tokyo Denki University International Drone Competition. This annual event brings together talented teams from across the globe to showcase innovation, technical skill, and precision in drone engineering and operation. Through months of preparation and close collaboration, the Pacific team delivered an impressive performance, earning second and third place in different competition categories—a remarkable achievement on the international stage. Their success was not only a testament to their expertise, but also to the University's commitment to fostering hands-on learning and global engagement.

Beyond the competition, the alumni embraced the opportunity to immerse themselves in Japanese culture. They explored historic landmarks, visited vibrant neighborhoods, and experienced daily life, deepening their appreciation for Japan's traditions and modern innovations. This journey was both a proud milestone for the University of the Pacific and a meaningful blend of learning, teamwork, and cultural exchange.











# **Country of the Month**

#### Media X Students take on Cannes, France

This past May, four Media X students—Isabella Edwards, Kayla Amarillas, Achish Enriquez, and Rafaela Reyes—traveled to France to attend the prestigious "Cannes Film Festival". Selected for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, they not only experienced the world's most renowned celebration of cinema but also completed internships, including with the American Pavilion and other global film organizations.

These internships opened doors in the international film industry, offering hands-on experience and unforgettable networking opportunities. But it wasn't just about movies and glamour. These students landed internships—some with the American Pavilion, others with international film organizations—gaining real-world experience in the heart of the industry. From yacht parties to gallery events, they networked, learned, and soaked in the global world of film. Our student Rafaela Reyes shared "During a gallery event, I met a French director who told me, 'To create a masterpiece, you must live the story first.' That advice changed the way I see filmmaking."



# Quotes from future study abroad tigers

"I decided to study abroad because I like to get to know new places and adapt to unfamiliar surroundings. I chose to study in Barcelona because the city is one of the most important business hubs in Europe, and home to several successful start-up companies. Since I am learning about business, this is a perfect fit for me to learn the strategies they have to offer. By being in a new place I will be able to amplify my professional skills, expand my cultural knowledge, step out of my comfort zone, and of course it will be a unique opportunity to build new relationships while learning about different traditions and values" - Jerome Ehrlich





"I've never traveled this far before, and the thought of stepping into a place with traditions and cultures so different from what I'm used to fills me with excitement. I know it will be a completely new experience—one that will challenge my perspectives and open my mind in ways I can't yet imagine. South Korea has always fascinated me, and I'm eager to immerse myself in its rich history, vibrant cities, and unique customs. Even though I'm a little nervous, I believe that stepping out of my comfort zone is the first step toward truly understanding the world." - Angel Juarez



