

Welcome Back!

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Spring 2019

The IXO Team wishes the AUS Community all the very best for the spring semester.



Incoming Spring 2019 Cohort

IXO Calendar

March 16

Deadline for Outgoing Visiting Students to Submit Applications to Study Abroad in Fall 2019

March 20

Pre-Departure Orientation for Outgoing Fall 2019 Study Abroad Students

March 31 to April 4

Spring Break

April 20

Deadline for Outgoing Exchange Students to Submit Applications to Study Abroad in Spring 2020

April 23

"How to Market Your Study Abroad Experience to Potential Employers" Workshop

Students Abroad in Spring 2019

Twenty AUS students are studying abroad in Spring 2019. These students are hosted by 16 universities in the USA, the Netherlands, the UK and South Korea. We have also welcomed 30 incoming study abroad students from 24 home universities in the USA, the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Canada. We wish all incoming and outgoing students a wonderful study abroad experience.

IXO News

Incoming Student Orientation

Our incoming students received an intensive orientation program to familiarize them with the UAE and Emirati culture and heritage. The orientation program included cultural and informational sessions, a traditional mandi lunch, and trips to the Arabian Wildlife Center, the Heart of Sharjah, the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, Etihad Museum, the Dubai Mall and Kite Beach.



Traditional Emirati Lunch



Holding a Falcon
(Photographer: Abbi Knight)

Incoming Student Interview

We interviewed Kalina Angelova Dobрева, an Arabic studies major from Sofia University in Bulgaria, and one of our incoming Spring 2019 students, to determine her initial thoughts upon arriving at AUS. "I fell in love with the campus immediately!" she said. "The students were so nice and hospitable as well as the professors, who also seemed to me like they had much to offer in terms of knowledge and this proved right even after the first day of classes! Since I am studying Arabic studies, I had previous knowledge about the Middle Eastern culture, but AUS has its own culture because it's an extremely diverse place and I love that!"



Kalina Dobрева

We hope you have a great stay at AUS, Kalina!

New Study Abroad Opportunities

Students now have new options for study abroad through an exchange program at:

- Coe College, Iowa, USA
- Chinese University of Hong Kong, China
- EM Normandie Business School, with campuses in France, Ireland and England
- Kent State University, with campuses in Ohio, USA and Florence, Italy
- La Rochelle Business School, France

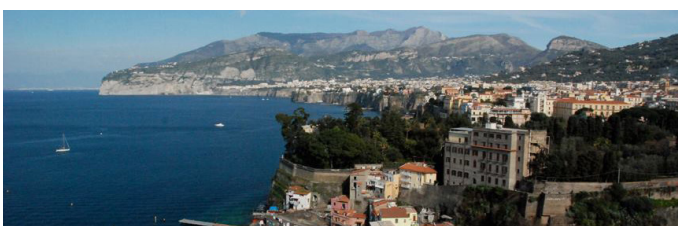
In addition, students can elect to study abroad as visiting students in Italy at:

- John Cabot University, Rome, Italy
- Sant'Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy (for this program, students will earn credits through Jacksonville University, Florida, USA)

Student Opportunities

Sant'Anna Institute, Sorrento

Sant'Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy, is offering two grants of US \$3,500 each to two AUS students for Fall 2019 only. Students who receive the grant must select accommodation in a double room in the Sant'Anna Institute Residence Hall. Students who study abroad at Sant'Anna Institute will earn credits through Jacksonville University in Florida, USA. The deadline to apply through IXO is March 16. For more information about the Sant'Anna Institute, please visit <http://www.santannainstitute.com/en/index.php>.



Sant'Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy

IXO Events

Free Yard Sale for Incoming Students

We thank our Fall 2018 students who generously donated items to this semester's "yard sale." Every semester, we collect items, such as clothes hangers and kitchen supplies, from those students who are returning home, and provide them via our "yard sale" to new incoming study abroad students. This orientation activity means new students don't have to start from scratch in setting up their dorm room.



Items on Display at the Yard Sale

IXO's Ninth Birthday

On January 2, we celebrated nine years since the establishment of the International Exchange Office (IXO). Since its formation in 2010, IXO has advised thousands of AUS students about a variety of international opportunities including study abroad, graduate programs, summer programs, international internships, and international scholarships.



Members of Our Team
Celebrate Nine Years of IXO



Birthday Cake

Gingerbread Person Decorating

Every year during final exams, IXO holds a Gingerbread Person Decorating Event. It's a fun and tasty way to help students blow off steam during the stressful finals week. It also gives the office a warm, familiar feel, especially for students who celebrate Christmas in their home countries.



Peer Advisor
Jonathan Ramshaw



Grace Morales

Nine Years of IXO

From January 2, 2010 through Fall 2018, the International Exchange Office at AUS has:

- welcomed **2,229** visiting guests from universities in **46** countries to spend a day at AUS
- hosted **770** students from **62** countries to spend a semester or a year studying abroad at AUS
- offered approximately **650** outings and international events for study abroad students and/or AUS faculty, staff and students
- sent **1,514** AUS students on **109** faculty-led study tours visiting **44** different countries
- hosted **251** visiting scholars/guests-in-residence to do research for some period at AUS
- sent **224** AUS students to study abroad in **11** different countries for a semester or a year

We hope to continue to facilitate enriching international experiences for years to come.

Visiting MSU Students

Members of our team gave a campus tour to a group of visiting Michigan State University (MSU) students. Our team showed them around the various facilities here at AUS. We hope they enjoyed their time here.



Michigan State University Students
with IXO Team Members

Student Testimonials

Suhair Mohammed, GWU

Suhair Remzi Mohammed is an Ethiopian international relations major currently studying abroad for a full academic year at George Washington University (GWU). Suhair received two internship offers while abroad, and is currently an intern at the Eurasia Center, where she focuses on women's empowerment in Africa. According to Suhair, studying abroad will "change you and challenge you to become the best version of [yourself]."



Suhair Elsheikh



Suhair and a Friend in DC

Zakeya Alsada, Boston College

Zakeya Alsada is a Bahraini national who graduated from AUS in 2014 with a major in economics. She is currently a Fulbright Scholar at Boston College, USA, where she is pursuing a Master of Science in Applied Economics. According to Zakeya, Boston is a "knowledge hub" which hosts many conferences where she has been able to showcase her work and meet people in the field. She describes Boston as a place "where you can find yourself and chase your dreams."



Zakeya Alsada (Middle) with Bahraini Fulbrighters Visiting from Other States

IXO Alumni Updates

Mohamed Metwally

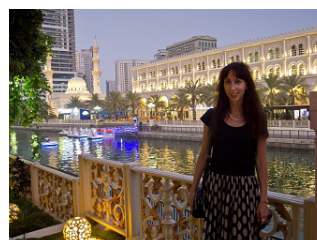
Mohamed Metwally stopped by our office for a chat during the winter break. He is an AUS electrical engineering alumnus who studied in the University of Vermont, USA, in Spring 2011. He went on to obtain his master's degree at the University of Vermont. Mohamed now works in software consulting and government system design in Colorado. We wish him all the best in his career.



Mohamed Metwally (Middle)

Alice Týnská

Alice Týnská from the Czech Republic studied at AUS in Summer 2018 under the Summer Intensive Arabic Language Program. She is an alumna from Masaryk University in the Czech Republic and has several master's degrees, including one in Norwegian language and literature. She currently works as a freelance translator, interpreter and language teacher. We enjoyed her visit over the semester break.



Alice Týnská



Some of Alice's Photography in Sharjah from alicetynska.com