

“Let go of yesterday. Let today be a new beginning.”

-Joel Osteen



IXO Calendar

January 27

First Day of Classes

March 16

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

March 29 to April 6

Spring Break

April 20

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

Opportunities

Funded Graduate Program at Stanford

The Knight-Hennessy Scholars program at Stanford University in California, USA, provides select qualified students with full funding to earn a graduate degree from 150+ programs. You are eligible to apply to Knight-Hennessy Scholars during your final year of study for your first bachelor's degree or within four years of earning your first bachelor's degree. An online application is available. For more information about this program, please visit <https://knight-hennessy.stanford.edu/>.



Stanford University Campus

Faculty Summer Opportunity in Rome

John Cabot University (JCU) in Rome, Italy, is holding two five-week summer sessions this summer and is inviting visiting faculty of any nationality from American University of Sharjah to join them. The complete summer schedules are at this link: <https://www.johncabot.edu/academics/course-schedules-syllabi.aspx>.

Should you wish to be considered for summer teaching, please send an email with your CV and cover letter to Dean Mary Merva at mmerva@johncabot.edu.

IXO News

Incoming Students Spring 2019

Thirty-three new incoming study abroad students from 24 home universities in the Netherlands, Canada, Bulgaria and the US are arriving and settling into their new lives here at AUS. These new students increase our student diversity and will take courses across the university.

During the nine days leading up to the start of classes, IXO provides these students with an intensive orientation program, including outings to Mirdif City Centre, Arabian Wildlife Centre, the Heart of Sharjah area, Dubai and the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, the Immigration Office (to finalize visa applications), Dubai Mall and La Mer Beach in Jumeirah.

The goal is to prepare and successfully launch these students culturally, socially and academically into life here at AUS.

Home Universities in Spring 2019

- Appalachian State University, USA
- Barnard College, USA
- Boston College, USA
- Florida A&M University, USA
- Howard University, USA
- Husson University, USA
- Iowa State University, USA
- Lake Forest College, USA
- Louisiana State University, USA
- Maastricht University, Netherlands
- Northern Arizona University, USA
- Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Sofia University, Bulgaria
- Towson University, USA
- University of Alabama, USA
- University of Mississippi, USA
- University of North Carolina Wilmington, USA

- University of North Georgia, USA
- University of Rochester, USA
- University of the Pacific, USA
- University of Vermont, USA
- Utah State University, USA
- Wake Forest University, USA
- Wheaton College, USA

Extending Their Stay

Two of our exchange students from Fall 2018, Zack Malcarne and Lydia Shepherd, are staying for another semester at AUS. Zack is an international business student at Utah State University. Lydia is an international relations student at Northern Arizona University. Both students are working on enhancing their Arabic language skills at AUS. We are happy to see that they are enjoying their time, and we hope they have another great semester here.



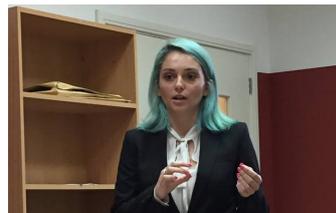
Zack Malcarne



Lydia Shepherd

Congratulations, Alyssa Vitrella

Congratulations to Alyssa Vitrella, one of our exchange students, who successfully presented her senior project last month. Her topic was related to ISIS and countering their online recruitment methods.



Alyssa Vitrella

Returning Students

The IXO bids farewell to those who studied abroad at AUS in Fall 2018. They were a fun group who made the most of their time here.

Returning AUS Students

During Fall 2018, 26 AUS students studied abroad at 22 universities in Canada, the Netherlands and all across the USA. Some of these students will remain at their host universities for a second semester, but many of them are returning to AUS for Spring 2019. We welcome back returning students and look forward to hearing more about their studies, travels and adventures.

DNA

We would like to congratulate three of our exchange students from Fall 2018 for participating in the play *DNA* by the Performing Arts Program at AUS. Amin Kilani acted in the role of "Danny," Tamia Wallace acted in the role of "Lou," and Lindsey Walsh served as the Stage Manager.



Tamia Wallace, Lindsey Walsh and Amin Kilani

IXO Events

Game Day

Our study abroad students, along with some of peer advisors, enjoyed a fun Game Day in the IXO lounge before preparing for their final exams. This allowed them to de-stress before final exam week.



Exchange Students Enjoying a Game Day

Global Village

We took our study abroad students to Dubai's Global Village, which always offers a fun evening of dining, shopping, entertainment and culture. This outing, along with the many cultural clubs at AUS, familiarizes them with the full diversity of cultures and peoples living in the UAE.



Global Village

Happy Birthday IXO!
Our office turned
nine years old on
January 2, 2019.

IXO Alumni Updates

Hams Alwalid, Study Abroad Alumna

Hams Alwalid was a chemical engineering major who studied abroad at University of Utah via ISEP Exchange in Fall 2014 and then worked at IXO upon her return until her graduation. She dropped in to our regular workshop "How to Market Your Study Abroad Experience to Potential Employers" last month. It is always lovely to see our former IXO Peer Advisors.



Hams Alwalid and Linda Angell

Congratulations, Cheriece!

Cheriece Davidson, one of our exchange students in Fall 2018, is a civil engineering student. She is now working at AECOM, one of the largest design firms in the world. Cheriece heard about this opportunity from one of our Peer Advisors, Himo Owais. After reaching out to one of the recruiters at the company, she was called in for an interview. She is currently working with AECOM on the Saadiyat Island projects with Abu Dhabi Tourism. We are truly proud of her accomplishment. Congratulations, Cheriece.

Visiting Guest-in-Residence Feedback

Melissa Tomassini is a master's student at the University of Siena, Italy. In November, she arrived in the UAE for a two-month stay as a Visiting Guest in-Residence at AUS to work on her dissertation research regarding public diplomacy strategies implemented by the UAE. She was hosted by Dr. Matteo Salvatore, Associate Professor in International Studies. Here is Melissa's feedback on her time at AUS and in Sharjah:

"[The International Exchange Office has] treated me with a lot of affection and I will treasure these memories...[During] my two-month stay...my research question [was] enriched...by the forward-thinking and cultural vitality undertaken by the Emirate of Sharjah, of which AUS is a proud emblem, with remarkable benefits for the outcome of my work."

We wish Melissa the best in her studies.



Melissa Tomassini

IXO Team Updates

Welcome, Bayan and Suzana

IXO welcomes two new Publicity Specialists in Spring 2019. Suzana Saoud, who will produce our newsletter, is a junior mass communication major with a concentration in public relations. Bayan Al Masri, a design management major, will enhance IXO's blog. Both new Publicity Specialists will work to enhance our social media. We look forward to working with them both.



Suzana Saoud



Bayan Al Masri

Farewell, Anna and Nadine

Two of our team members, Anna Terekhova and Nadine Abdul Majeed, are leaving IXO this semester. We thank them for their many contributions to IXO, and wish them all of the best for their next great adventures! They will be missed.



Anna Terekhova



Nadine Abdul Majeed

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