



Monthly Newsletter: March 2019

International Exchange Office

"We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open." – Jawaharial Nehru

#### IXO Calendar

#### 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

#### Research Opportunity at University College London

University College London (UCL) in London, England, is offering students the opportunity to conduct medical research at UCL's Institute of Ophthamology under their Undergraduate Research Program (URP). This program is noncredit bearing, and will take place for eight weeks during Summer 2019. Undergraduate sophomore and junior students with a GPA of 3.5-3.7 or higher are invited to apply. Students with a GPA of less than 3.5 may be considered if they have a more extensive research background. For more information, visit https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioo/study/online-and-short-course-vision-and-eye-health-experts/summer-schools/summer-school-2019.

## **Student Opportunities**

#### **New Agreements**

AUS students have new opportunities to study abroad at universities in China, Italy, Spain and Canada. Students can now study abroad through an exchange program at:

- The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China: recommended for CAS, CEN and SBA students
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain: recommended for CAS, CAAD and SBA students
- University of Alberta, Canada: recommended for CAS, CEN and SBA students

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

- John Cabot University, Rome, Italy: recommended for CAS and SBA students
- Sant'Anna Institute, Sorrento, Italy: recommended for CAS students only. For this program, students will earn credits through Jacksonville University, Florida, USA.



The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin



Sant'Anna Institute, Sorrento





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#### **Summer Outgoing Programs**

Students are invited to come to our office and have a look through our Summer Opportunities Booklet, which features study abroad programs in the USA, the UK, Germany, Italy, South Korea and more. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that the program they choose will be allowed for credit transfer by the AUS Office of the Registrar. However, students should also remember that just because they can't transfer credits does not mean the program would not add value and be worthwhile. IXO currently does not have exchange agreements in place for summer study abroad, so all summer students must go as visiting students, which means they will apply and pay all required fees directly to the host university. For more information, please visit https://www.aus. edu/summer.

# IXO Program Comparison for Outgoing AUS Students

	Bilateral	ISEP	Visiting
IXO application fees	AED 300	AED 500	AED 300
Approximate time required to complete applications	2 weeks	4-5 weeks	3-4 weeks
Placement fees and deposit	Non- refundable fee of AED 1,000	Non- refundable fee of AED 1,196	As per host university requirements
Variety of choices	15+ universities	300+ universities	Unlimited
Minimum GPA required	2.5 (might be higher for some partners)	2.75	As per host university requirements
On-campus housing	As per host partner offering	ISEP will stipulate housing arrangement. Must pay sharing room fee at AUS	As per host university requirements

#### **International Internships**

International internships develop skills such as intercultural competency and independence that are increasingly important in our globalized world. For more information on pursuing an international internship via IXO, visit https://www.aus.edu/international-internships. You can also visit our office and take a look through our *Advising Booklet for International Internships* to see available opportunities. Students will always need to get approval from the internship coordinator in their college/school/major.

#### **IXO News**

#### Student Travel Plans for Spring Break

AUS is centrally located in the UAE and in the world. It is very easy to travel and explore, given that we are surrounded by so many convenient international airports and carriers. Our international students take full advantage of this while they are here. Abigail Knight, one of our Spring 2019 students from the University of Vermont, USA, will be travelling to Sri Lanka during the Spring Break. She also visited Lebanon in February with a group of fellow international students. They travelled via Sharjah Airport, which Abigail says was affordable and convenient.



Incoming Students in Lebanon





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#### Spring Break 2019 Study Tours

AUS students will be participating in a variety of international study tours during the upcoming spring break. Tour destinations include: Singapore with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; France and Germany with the AUS Finance Executives; and China with the AUSMUN delegation to the Asian International Model United Nations. Additional tours are planned for Summer 2019.

#### Visiting Delegation from the USA

IXO recently welcomed Dr. Ronald Rochon, President of the University of Southern Indiana (USI), USA, and Dr. Heidi Gregori-Gahan, Associate Provost at the Center for International Programs at USI, as part of a visiting delegation from USI. They received a tour of the AUS campus and met the IXO Team. Dr. Heidi Gregori-Gahan worked with our Director, Dr. Linda Angell, for six years as part of the ISEP Council of Advisors, and currently serves on ISEP's Board of Trustees.



University of Southern Indiana Delegates with IXO Team Members

## **CEN Visiting Guest-in-Residence**

AUS will soon welcome visiting guest-in-residence (VGiR) Muhammad Ashraf Sabri, who will conduct research at the College of Engineering. Muhammad is being sponsored by Dr. Taleb Ibrahim, Professor at the Department of Chemical Engineering. He will stay at AUS for a full year to perform research related to industrial wastewater treatment. IXO welcomes many such VGiRs to AUS every year!

#### **IXO Events**

#### Trip to Lebanon Island, Dubai

Spring 2019 IXO students recently visited Lebanon Island in World Islands, Dubai. They enjoyed various activities including lunch, swimming, lounging at the beach, kayaking and volleyball. This was the first ever IXO outing to this unique new venue!



Incoming Students at Lebanon Island, Dubai

#### Friends of IXO Mixer

IXO started the semester off with the Friends of IXO Mixer, during which incoming students got to know various members of the AUS community. The mixer also gave incoming students a chance to ask questions about the region. Several groups participated in the mixer, including the Emirati Cultural Club, Pakistani Cultural Club and the International Students Club, among others.



Attendants at the Friends of IXO Mixer



Students Playing Social Bingo at the Mixer



**In XOut** 

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### Trip to Abu Dhabi

Our students spent a full day exploring Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE. They visited some of the must-see attractions around the city, including the Louvre Museum and Sheikh Zayed Mosque, the largest mosque in the UAE.



Incoming Students and IXO Team Members at Sheikh Zayed Mosque

#### Trip to Fujairah

IXO students recently visited Fujairah where our students viewed the bullfighting, and visited historic, traditional sites throughout the city, including the Fujairah Fort.



Incoming Students and IXO Team Members at Fujairah Fort

## Trip to Global Village, Dubai

Our incoming students spent an evening at Global Village in Dubai, where they explored

the pavilions of 27 countries, dined at a variety of restaurants and food stands, and enjoyed the various activities and performances happening at the Village.



Incoming Students and IXO Team Members at Global Village

## **Testimonial**

#### Dr. Luke Chao, Professor of Sociology

Dr. L. Luke Chao is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Department of International Studies. He has had several incoming study abroad students in the past, and this semester he is teaching an incoming student from the USA, Abigail Knight, in his Introduction to Sociology class. "[Incoming study abroad students] always bring their unique experiences and fresh perspectives to the class," he said. "This is especially beneficial in a sociology class, as I encourage all of my student to use their sociological imagination to understand the differences between groups of people, cultures, and societies."

## Alumni

#### Samuel Mark John, 2012 Alumnus

We recently enjoyed a visit from Samuel Mark John, a 2012 AUS alumnus who was a very good friend of IXO. He graduated as an accounting major at the School of Business Administration, and he now works as an auditor in Deloitte Middle East in Abu Dhabi. While visiting, Samuel commented about how much the office had grown since he studied here. We wish him all the best with his career.



Dr. Linda Angell and Samuel Mark John