

IXO News

IXO Calendar

March 3

Deadline for Incoming Students to
Apply to Study Abroad at AUS in
Summer and/or Fall 2018

March 17

Deadline for Outgoing Visiting Students
(i.e., Paying all Fees at Host University)
to Submit Applications to Study Abroad
in Fall 2018

May 5

Deadline for Outgoing Students to
Apply to Study Abroad for Spring 2019

IXO Turns Eight!

IXO celebrated its eighth anniversary on
January 2, 2018.

Since our founding of IXO in 2010, we
have: welcomed over 700 students
from hundreds of universities across
26 countries; sent more than 450
AUS students to study abroad at 76
host universities in 11 countries; and
facilitated hundreds of students and
faculty to attend study tours around the
world.

IXO also has welcomed many hundreds of
international visitors and scholars to AUS

New IXO Students Arriving

Thirty-five incoming study abroad
students from 27 home universities in
Morocco, the Netherlands, the UK and
the USA arrived and settled into their
new lives here at AUS. They received an
intensive orientation program, including
various outings throughout Sharjah and
Dubai.



Sharjah Aquarium and Maritime Museums

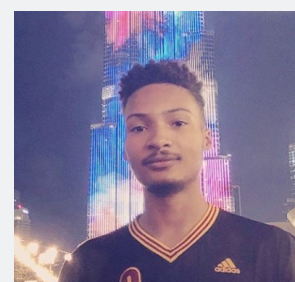
We interviewed two of our incoming
students to determine their initial
thoughts upon arriving at AUS.

Dania Na studies at Maastricht University's
School of Business and Economics in the
Netherlands. She has Syrian heritage, and
is excited to live in such a multicultural Arab
country.

Jordan McRae studies architecture at
Howard University in Washington, DC. He
found it easy to settle here, making new
friends across AUS. He is very impressed by
the fabrication equipment in the College of
Architecture, Art and Design Labs.



Dania Na



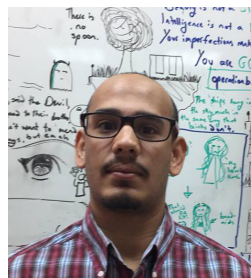
Jordan McRae



Ahmed Elsayi



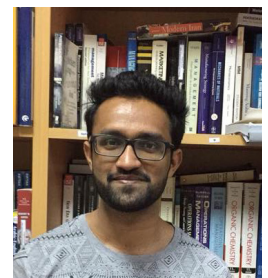
Jonathan Ramshaw



Omar Al-Gafri



Anna Terekhova



Vishnu Narayanan

Welcome New Team Members

We are delighted to welcome our new Peer Advisors for Spring 2018. Most recently returned from their own study abroad experiences, and are now anxious to encourage others to go abroad. Surely their energy and passion for international exchange will inspire more AUS students to have this experience of a lifetime!

Ahmed Elsayi, a chemical engineering major, studied abroad at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. He describes it as the best experience of his life. Living independently led to him know himself better. He travelled widely and made lasting new friendships all over the globe.

Jonathan Ramshaw, an international studies major, previously studied at Conestoga College in Canada. He loves the UAE and finds that working in IXO as a Peer Advisor enables him to regularly meet new people from around the world. He is planning future exchanges to Japan and possibly France.

Omar Al-Gafri, a mechanical engineering major, studied abroad at Purdue University in Fort Wayne, Indiana, USA. He feels that studying abroad was one of the smartest decisions he has made in his life. He met a lot of people from different cultures that later became close friends. He enjoyed it there and he wants to study abroad again.

Anna Terekhova, a management information studies major, studied at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. She told us that her experience was unforgettable. She especially enjoyed the beautiful campus and the caring community. In addition, the interesting classes she took made her semester abroad fun, fruitful and gratifying.

Vishnu Narayanan, a finance major, studied abroad at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. He said, "It's safe to say that studying abroad has been the most exciting, enriching and happening time of my life so far."

Sustainability Office Renovation

Peer advisor Shaza Khalil, along with her Interior Design Studio V (IDE 401) Team, designed and renovated the new office for AUS Sustainability. The team used completely recycled materials, in line with the nature of the office. The result was a user-friendly and welcoming office space that will surely enhance productivity.



Shaza and Team in the New Office Space

New IXO Promotional Films

In Fall 2017, teams of students from Principles of Media Production and Performance (MCM 281) taught by Susan Smith, Associate Professor of Mass Communication, developed short, 5-minute videos promoting IXO's incoming and outgoing study abroad program to potential participants.

Excellent videos resulted—several for the incoming program and one for the outgoing program. IXO will be posting these to its Facebook page and other



It Takes a Village!

Every semester the IXO Team enjoys seeing Alumni Peer Advisors return to voluntarily assist with our Incoming Orientation.

This term we were joined by five recent graduates: Mohamed Abubaker, Mohamad Bassam, Mutaman Elyas, Tariq Alsayed and Orangica Ibrahim. Volunteers Rose Armour and Tia Bendaly also assisted. Truly, it takes a village to orient every new batch of arriving study abroad students!



Summer Opportunities

Summer Study Abroad

To see the many exciting study abroad opportunities that are offered in summer, AUS students are encouraged to stop by IXO and look through a booklet full of summer study abroad options. For more information about the process to apply for summer study abroad, look at our website: <https://www.aus.edu/summer>

For example, Susan Smith, Associate Professor of Mass Communication, is planning a 3 week study tour to Ladakh, India, this summer, worth 3 credits. This opportunity to participate in video and photography workshops and projects is available for current AUS students, and also a possibility for incoming summer study abroad students. If interested, students should email ixo@aus.edu for a brochure, or stop by the office.

Summer Program Scholarships

Exciting news for all students who want to study abroad in two of the top-ranked universities in the world!

Students can apply now for £14,500 in scholarship funding to study abroad for Summer 2018 at either:

- 1) The Exeter College (Oxford University) Summer Program or
- 2) The Sir Richard Dearlove International Security and Intelligence Program at Cambridge University.

More information can be found on the program websites:

<http://exetersummerprogramme.com>
<http://theCSI.org.uk/isi/>

Visitors Hosted at AUS

Recent Visiting Delegates

January

Common Purpose, Exeter University, UK
University of Alberta, Canada
Washington & Jefferson College, USA
Peking University, China
Beijing Institute of Technology, China
University of Massachusetts in Amherst
(UMASS Amherst), USA
Morgan State University, USA
Louisiana State University, USA

February

Deakin University, Australia
University of Waterloo, Canada
EuroAce (Internships), Spain
La Rochelle Business School, France

New Visiting Researchers

January

Engineering

Dr. Uraz Turker, Gebze Technical University,
Turkey

Mohammad Abuzayyad, Fun Robotics, UAE

Business/Economics

Dr. Xueli Tang, Deakin University, Australia

Angela Gonzalez, University of Exeter, UK

Stephano Amato, University of Pisa, Italy

Arts/Sciences

Dr. Renu Bai, University of Nottingham, UK

February

Engineering

Dr. Nina Evtushenko, Institute for System
Programming, Russia

IXO Alumni Updates

Natale Antonel

Natale Antonel, an Argentinian exchange student who studied at AUS in Fall 2013, was so inspired by his time abroad here that he recently started his own company specializing in intercultural consulting and communication training. Moreover, he has been signed on to serve as the only Argentinean Representative for Embrace Arabia (www.embracearabia.com), certified to consult and train on Arab culture and the Gulf Region.



Natale Antonel

Match Made in IXO!

IXO enjoyed a recent visit from newlyweds Ahmed Jabr and Maroua El Maliani. Ahmed, a graduated IXO peer advisor, met Maroua while she was studying at AUS via ISEP Exchange from Leiden University in the Netherlands in Fall 2016. Ahmed studied abroad himself via ISEP Exchange, attending Utah State University in Spring 2015.

Truly a match made in IXO!!



Ahmed Khalid Jabr and Maroua ElMaliani