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10-2-2012

Do Yourself a Favor – Go to France!

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Recommended Citation

Burnett, Nicole, "Do Yourself a Favor – Go to France!" (2012). *Letters from Returnees: Sharing the Value of Study Abroad*. Letter. Submission 21.

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Do Yourself a Favor – Go to France!
Nicole Burnett

One of the primary reasons I chose Linfield, was because of the incredible study abroad opportunities that were offered - whether through Jan Term, a semester abroad, or a year abroad.

I was never planning to go to France. I had big plans to take advantage of a different semester abroad program at Linfield, until I sat down with one of my professors. I was already taking French to satisfy my requirements for a Bachelor of Arts, and my professor pointed out that a semester abroad was not only a great chance to travel and see new things, but to improve upon my language abilities and develop a skill that could serve me the rest of my life. Looking at my study abroad experience in a more long-term fashion made choosing a semester in France a "no-brainer."

My experience surpassed my wildest dreams. My host mother was so kind, patient, and as sweet as they come. There truly is no better way to learn a language than to be immersed in it, and she was such a great help in my pursuit of language skills. Even more importantly, my experience abroad tested my strength - I was away from all of my friends and family - in France with only one other Linfield student - and the experience taught me so much about my own capabilities to handle new experiences and challenges.

That confidence has served me very well throughout my professorial and personal life after Linfield. Not only are my language skills of value in the marketplace, but one of the first components of my resume potential employers want to talk about are my experiences in France. It is with delight that I explain to them what an impression my time abroad left on my life.

A semester abroad will challenge you. It will teach you new things and reveal a new version of you. Studying abroad in France will delight you and fill your mind with incredible memories. Seize this opportunity to travel and enjoy the freedom that year, or even a semester abroad can offer. Now is the time to be brave and take the leap. Apply to study in France. Your future self thanks you.