

Benefits of studying abroad

There are undeniable qualitative benefits to studying abroad, such as learning about different cultures, expanding your network of friends, becoming independent and more, but research carried out by government organisations also provide us with important quantitative data. Both the UK Higher Education International Unit and the European Commission have found a positive correlation between studying abroad and employment outcomes.



of employers are looking for transversal skills such as curiosity, problem-solving skills, tolerance and confidence.



of employers think international experience is important for recruitment



of employers say graduates with international background are given greater professional responsibilities



LIVING ABROAD

Deciding to study and live abroad is a bold move, a serious step that requires a certain level of maturity and commitment compared to your peers. It is also a personally enriching experience as your day to day interactions with people from different cultures will teach you to broaden your horizons and cultivate cultural awareness. It is also an unforgettable experience, during which you will form long-lasting friendships.



STEPPING OUTSIDE ONE'S COMFORT ZONE

By stepping into an unfamiliar social, cultural and professional environment, you demonstrate to future employers your ability to step outside of your comfort zone, your openness to new challenges, and your ability to adapt to any situation. It shows your determination, your ability to take risks and your confidence to go out and experience something new.



BUILDING TRANSVERSAL SKILLS

On a daily basis, you will have to learn to fend for yourself, be flexible and communicate in another language. Without noticing it you might develop project management skills as you deal and juggle with your responsibilities. As you grow independent and confident, you will also learn to be more resilient and refine your decision making skills. You'll become a real problem-solver and develop or consolidate your language skills, skills that are sought after among recruiters.



BENEFITS

Studying abroad will boost your résumé as you will have developed sought after skills gained by your international experience that will make you stand out from the crowd of job-seeking graduates. It will also open the doors to various opportunities in international organisations and businesses.

According to Universities UK International's Gone International report, "There is a correlation between outward mobility and improved academic and employment outcomes. Graduates who were mobile during their degree were less likely to be unemployed (3.7% compared to 4.9%)" and "Those in work were more likely to be in a graduate level job (76.4% compared to 69.9%) and earn 5% more than their non-mobile peers."

Sources

IES abroad: https://www.iesabroad.org/study-abroad/benefits | Gone International Report by Go International: http://go.international.ac.uk/gone-international-mobility-works | European Commission: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1025_en.htm | Erasmus Impact, European Commission - Education and Culture: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/erasmus-impact-study_en