





DIVERSITY IN RESOURCES: INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

In the contemporary world, the development of a global vision in the formation of human resources is the cornerstone fundamental to economic and social development, competitiveness, and democratization. Designed and implemented within this paradigm of global transformation, Southeastern Louisiana University's International Initiatives Office provides students and the regional community with cross-cultural experiences essential to success in a global economy.

With the largest International Initiatives Study Abroad program in the University of Louisiana System, Southeastern continues to enhance its program each year. Three years ago there were 10 study abroad programs; for the 2009-2010 school year, there will be 19. Another demonstration of the program's growth is this year's winter trip to Berlin and Dresden. This is the first time a winter study abroad program has been offered.

Study Abroad adds an invaluable dimension to a student's academic, cultural, and professional development and provides advantages in an increasingly competitive job market. First-hand experience in other countries and cultures provides them with a clearer understanding of themselves, their society and culture, their place in the global community, and their common human heritage.

According to Sarah Olivard, a senior bio-chemistry major who traveled to the Galapagos Islands last summer, "I saw some of the most beautiful, uninhabited islands in the world. I felt like I was dreaming for 10 days. I think it's very important to experience another part of the world in order to understand your own culture."