

Vlogging Your Study Abroad Experience: What to Expect from the Study Abroad Correspondent Program

Expectations of Correspondents

When serving as a Correspondent, you are a representative of ISU and of the United States. We expect all participants of this program to act in a professional manner and provide timely video updates (flexibility is given within reason due to internet connectivity issues).

Prior Video Blogging Experience

You do not need to be an expert video blogger to be a Correspondent. We like that students get to share their unscripted, unedited videos with their fellow students. We only expect that you do your best to produce quality videos with an upbeat attitude and well-thought out responses to the prompts.

Technology

You can use your camera, a laptop or any other means to record these videos. We would love if you can do some filming out and about in your host city. However, we realize that is not always possible.

Video Prompts

The Study Abroad Office will work with you to figure out what topics you would like to discuss throughout your video series. From there, they will give you prompts of what to discuss during your video series along with deadlines to submit videos. Each video should be 3-5 minutes long and should allow students to get a real idea of what to expect from study abroad. The office will review your video prior to posting it on our YouTube Page.

In total, semester students will provide the office with **8 videos** in total.

Below is a sample of what the timeline for video submission might look like (depending on your program dates).

Pre-Departure Video – Due Mid December/ Mid August

The introductory video should give us some background on you. What year are you? Major? Why your host country/program? Then you can talk about whatever you would like in the remaining time. Some suggestions are below.

- What are you going to pack? What do you think is going to be important to bring there and what do you want to leave behind?
- Discuss some of the tools you utilized to choose your program and the obstacles you faced as you began the planning process.
- What are you most looking forward to most? What is the first thing you plan to do, see or eat?

In-Country Video 1 – Due Mid January/ Mid September

Ideally, we would like one video within one week of arriving to your host country. This captures your initial reactions as authentically as possible.

- What surprised you? Was it what you thought it would be like? How has the adjustment process been like for you?

Remaining In-Country Videos (2-7) – Due throughout the semester

These videos should tell us about some of the features of your program and what you have learned throughout the experience.

- Tells us about your classes and about cool things you have discovered about your host city?
- What stereotypes did you find to be inaccurate of your host city?
- What is something someone going here should know?

Upon Return – Due Late June/ Mid to Late December

This is also a good opportunity to reflect of the program as a whole.

- What would you say is something you learned about yourself throughout this process?
- What was it like coming back to the U.S.?
- How has your perspective changed?

Compensation

This is a voluntary opportunity. However, if the program is completed in its entirety, you will receive a certificate of completion upon your return to ISU.

If you have any questions about anything pertaining to this project, please contact:

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