



Capilano University students discover the world

Cap Tourism students, Samantha Glennie (second from left) and Cat Lapointe (second from right), are joined by two new Russian friends at a summer camp for volunteers in the Krasnodar region of Russia. Ten Cap students and four faculty members were there July 29 to August 10 to share their Olympic Games volunteer experiences with 400 Russian youths interested in volunteering during the 2014 Sochi Winter Games.

While the days of school being just about white boards and classrooms are long over, so is the typical narrative of 'What I did on my summer vacation.' This is evident through the words of the Capilano University students profiled here.

These world travellers spent part of their summer break taking advantage of some of the exciting international experiences Cap offers. These opportunities include: short term field schools to countries such as Guatemala, France, China, and the EU that are led by a Cap faculty member; full semester exchange programs to Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States; and international development work/project experiences that include travel and work in Vietnam, Tanzania and Paraguay. Our students can also participate in choral experiences in other parts of the world.

Many of these programs continue from 10 days to one year, providing students with the option to choose one that best fits their interests, pocket book and other commitments, such as family or work.

Each year, numerous students from Cap use these international experiences to combine their passion for travelling with acquiring an education. Along the way they gain a stronger sense of independence, as well as an enriched cultural, historical and global understanding.

For more information about Cap's study abroad and exchange programs, visit www.capilanou.ca/studyabroad. For information about Cap's European Union Study Tour, visit www.capilanou.ca/programs/Europe, and for information about our Music programs, visit www.capilanou.ca/programs/music-classical.

Community-Based Tourism Project in Vietnam – March 13 to March 27, 2011

"Students helped to improve the quality of life of people living in the remote Sa Pa region of northern Vietnam, applying classroom learning with practical experience." — Jennifer Reilly, project leader and Tourism instructor

"I liked the idea that I would have a chance to travel and challenge myself while being a positive contributor to the environment that I was traveling in. The opportunity to be a part of this program has made me not only a better student but also a better person. It opened my eyes to international opportunities that exist for those that would like to live abroad. I would highly recommend any study abroad program to all students. The world is becoming such a pluralistic environment and those who can learn about and understand alternative cultures will have a better chance at a successful future. Those who do not may be limited in their opportunities." — Jase Wilson, Third Year Bachelor of Tourism Management



JASE WILSON



JOSEPH YOUNG

China Study Tour – April 29 to May 22, 2011

"Students visited Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Tianjin, Beijing, Huizhou and Shanghai, learning about business in China and experiencing cross-cultural communications." — Sharka Stuyt, tour leader and Business instructor

"I wanted to get to know a country and a culture like one I'd never experienced before. It was my chance to learn outside of the classroom and take advantage of the study abroad opportunities Capilano offers. I returned with a better understanding of the Chinese people, their history and their direction for the future. The trip gave me a new outlook on the shape of the global community outside of Vancouver. It was an opportunity to learn and grow in an environment that's foreign and at times difficult. The study abroad program instills a global awareness and independence in students by challenging them to explore and learn outside of their traditional university environment." — Scott Gallon, Fourth Year Bachelor of Business Administration



VIVALDI'S CHURCH

European Union Study Tour and Internship Program – May 9 to May 27, 2011

"Through visits to major European Union institutions in Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg and Frankfurt, participants learned about the evolution and current issues of the EU." — Dr. Eduard Lavalle, tour leader and Political Studies instructor

"Last winter I was planning a backpacking trip through the Mediterranean for the summer, but two things happened: uprisings in the Middle East rendered many of my destinations unsafe for travel, and Cap instructor, Ed Lavalle, introduced to me the EU Study Tour. When I was given last year's itinerary, I was really impressed and decided that there was no way I was going to miss an opportunity like that. It was very pleasant to find out that I would be sharing the experience with nearly 50 other politically-engaged Canadian students. I have stayed in touch, and plan on staying in touch, with many of them. The educational portion of the trip - visiting EU institutions - granted me knowledge that is simply unavailable in classrooms and text books. My experience was worth every Euro spent." — Dexter Fergie, Arts and Sciences



SCOTT GALLON



DEXTER FERGIE



GREER RICHARDSON

Capilano University Singers in Italy – May 26 to June 9, 2011

"Choir members had the opportunity to experience Italian culture and perform in the original venues in Venice, Florence and Rome where composers, such as Vivaldi and Palestrina, wrote their music." — Lars Kaario, conductor, tour leader and Music instructor

"Our group went for the opportunity to gain historical context for the music we've been performing and to perform in historic locations. This was true for me as well! I also was just really excited to have had the chance to see all of the places that our pieces were originally composed for. For example, we performed Vivaldi's Gloria in the church he performed his works in Venice. I gained a deeper appreciation for the music we were performing and its historical significance, and created a deeper connection with my colleagues and instructors. To have had this kind of experience and to have been able to do it with the friends I made through the program was something very special." — Joseph Young, Music Diploma

Australia, Austria, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Guatemala, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam

France Field School – June 30 to July 29, 2011

"Participants learned European business and history while visiting important historic and cultural sites, such as Paris, Amiens, Juno Beach, Vimy Ridge, the Louvre and Monet's garden" — Anne Watson, tour leader and Business instructor

"I had never been to Europe and thought the France Field School would be a great opportunity to travel and study abroad. I also wanted to travel internationally, as I am considering working in Europe upon my graduation. I learned that there are many ways to live and work in other countries; for example, sitting in a café and enjoying a coffee was a foreign thought to me before visiting Europe. I also learned a lot about myself and now feel as though I am capable of adapting to other cultures. I came away with great friendships and a better understanding of how the European Union countries function cohesively. Study abroad is a great way to travel and earn credits. If you don't want to leave for a full semester, a field study trip is a great opportunity, as they are much shorter in length than a semester abroad." — Greer Richardson, Fourth Year Bachelor of Business Administration