GAP YEAR PROGRAMS

HOW A GAP YEAR CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

PLUS:

17 INCREDIBLE PROGRAMS
A gap year – a break from traditional academics – is a chance to push the reset button before plunging back into academia. Students can use the time to cultivate the maturity, balance and independence that life after high school requires.

The programs represented in TeenLife Media's 2020 Guide to Gap Year Programs span all kinds of gap year possibilities, schedules, and budgets. You could spend a year interning in Washington, D.C., or two weeks polishing your Spanish in Spain. You could rock climb in the American West or mountain climb in Nepal. You could sharpen your music skills or make an impact in a community.

Gap programs don’t have to be expensive. Many of these programs offer financial aid or can help you figure out other funding strategies. And colleges are starting to be more flexible about financial aid for students who take a gap year. So don’t think of a gap as a year “off” but as a year “on” for travel, community service, interning, field experience, academics, language immersion, working – or whatever you can imagine that might shape the next stage of life. Our guide can help you figure out exactly what your own gap year might look like.

And if you want to discover more exciting, experienced-based programs, whether it's for a year, a semester, a summer or a week, visit TeenLife.com/subscribe and join our community. Email me at mschwartz@teenlife.com to tell me what you discover during your gap year.
You’re in high school, working hard to create a strong academic record, getting involved in all of the right extracurricular activities, and doing anything and everything you possibly can to get admitted to the college of your dreams. But is it starting to feel like getting into college has become the primary motivation for everything that you do?

If the answer is “yes,” then you may need to reevaluate. Take a step back and truly think about what your educational, personal, and professional goals beyond high school might be. Explore what you want to study and why. Maybe take a year off to do something different. Maybe a gap year.

More and more American graduates are doing just that—postponing college to engage in a potentially life-changing gap year experience. Ranging from service-learning trips all over the world to organizations closer to home that serve local communities, there are a plethora of quality gap year programs to choose from, some of which are listed in this guide. Ultimately, what you do with your gap year is far less important than allowing yourself to pursue your own dreams and ambitions. The benefits of time taken off after high school, regardless of what you pursue during that year, are many.
Often, parents worry that students who take a gap year will lose their hard-earned study skills when they put their formal education on hold for a year. However, the opposite is true. At Middlebury College, for example, students who took a gap year have, on average, higher GPA's than those who didn't. They even do better than their high school academic credentials (GPA, test scores, etc.) would have predicted, more so than their non-gap year classmates.

These academic benefits are not surprising, considering students who have taken a gap year are typically more focused, more mature, and more prepared to take advantage of all of the opportunities that higher education affords. The significant confidence and personal growth from taking a gap year helps them define themselves more clearly from the very start of college. And that in turn, helps them come closer to realizing their own potential as students while in school. Now isn't that what your education should be all about?

It might sound scary to deviate from the norm in such a dramatic way, and taking a gap year does require some serious planning and consideration. Cost, for example, is a factor, but for many programs financial aid is available. Some programs, involving farming or language immersion, offer a small salary.

Despite the appeal and perks of taking a gap year, the logistical end of things can be a little tricky too. When you're considering your post-high school options, just bear in mind that if you decide to take a gap year, it probably still makes sense for you to apply to college during your senior year. It is far easier to go through the process with the help of your family and school, especially with resources like counselors, teachers, and others who stand ready to assist you.

You can always defer your enrollment for a year. Most schools will gladly accept your deferral, especially upon knowing about your gap year decision. According to Kristin White, the author of The Complete Guide to the Gap Year, here are average numbers of freshmen who delay their college start at some leading schools: Cornell (50 to 60), Dartmouth (20 to 30), Georgetown (15 to 25) and Yale (30 to 40).

Then, come September of the following year, you'll have the college you've chosen waiting for you, and you'll be refreshed and ready to begin. Truthfully, “refreshed” is often an understatement or students who've gone on a gap year. Most come away from it feeling like a whole new person, one who's ready to take on the world.

So think about it. Think about the ways in which you could grow and benefit from the investment you and your family will be making in your college education. Most importantly, think about doing something for the pure love of it, and not because it might help you get into college.

Robert Clagett is the former Dean of Admissions at Middlebury College. He also worked in admissions at Harvard University for more than twenty years and has taught at The Governor’s Academy in Massachusetts and at the International School of Hamburg in Germany.
Masa Israel Journey Gap Programs offer college-bound high school graduates the opportunity to experience another culture while volunteering, interning, studying, developing Jewish identity, and having an adventure before college.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Masa Israel Info FindIt@Masaisrael.org

DESTINATIONS: Israel

SESSION LENGTH: 5-10 months

SESSION START: End of August (or January for semester long programs)

INTERESTS: Academic, Adventure/Trips, Art, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Health & Wellness, Leadership, Career Exploration, Special Interest, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Dorms, Apartment

FINANCIAL AID: Yes

APPLICATION: Rolling admission

COOL FACT: Participants can choose from any number of life-changing programs designed for Jewish high school graduates looking for a productive time out before diving into college: high-tech to the arts, Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and everything in between. Masa Israel Journey is the international gateway bringing Jewish young adults from all over the world to experience the wonder of Israel with tailor-made expeditions lasting 2-10 months.

STUDENT PROFILE: ABIGAIL WINOGRAD

Masa Israel's Nativ Leadership Program has one semester of volunteering, with leadership training and fascinating seminars scattered throughout the year to aid our understanding of the country and ourselves. We got the authority to craft our year the way we wanted to and really take charge of our lives. I absolutely felt like a more confident, compassionate, and intelligent person by the end of the program.
CESA has been offering language programs abroad for students from the USA, United Kingdom, Europe and beyond for over 40 years. We know all our language colleges and can draw on years of first-hand experience. All courses are held in accredited, quality language schools, for beginner to advanced-level students. Learn a foreign language and experience the culture with other students, in the country where the language is spoken.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Katherine Hughes
info@cesalanguages.com

DESTINATIONS: France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, Portugal, Russia, Morocco, Japan, China, Guadeloupe, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Mexico

SESSION LENGTH: One week to an academic year
SESSION START: Every month of the year
INTERESTS: Academic, Language, Special Interest, Travel/Culture
HOUSING: Homestay, Dorms, Apartments
FINANCIAL AID: No
APPLICATION: Set deadlines only apply if a visa is required (e.g. Russia/China or long term Japanese courses. Not relevant for majority of the language courses on offer.

COOL FACT: CESA staff believe that the most important element of our courses is the core interaction between the knowledgeable teacher and the open-minded student. By concentrating on providing high-quality, face-to-face instruction with trained native-speaking teachers, we can offer far better assimilation of the language, longer-term language skills retention, and ensure you have a great time. Even core grammar skills can be made interesting and memorable – we promise!

STUDENT PROFILE: LEANNE TYME

I wanted an experience where I could both learn and enjoy myself. I did a lot of research and spoke to the CESA team who gave me a lot of guidance. My most memorable moment was the language school boat party, in Montpellier. We sailed away into the sunset with a barbeque, sangria, music and great company! My advice is don’t just copy what your friends do, do something you know you will genuinely enjoy!
A Broader View Volunteers is a USA non-profit charity that arranges culturally immersive service trips/volunteer opportunities and gap year programs in 30 countries worldwide. Programs are available year-round, with flexible start dates. Placements are from one week up to 12 weeks. Travel with ABV and gain a broader view of the world!

**ADMISSIONS CONTACT:** Sarah Ehlers

volunteers@abroaderview.org

**DESTINATIONS:** Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Mexico, Egypt, Bolivia, Laos, Thailand and Rwanda

**SESSION LENGTH:** 1 to 12 Weeks

**SESSION START:** Year-round

**INTERESTS:** Academic, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Health & Wellness, Career Exploration, Special Interest, Travel/Culture

**HOUSING:** Homestay, Dorms, Apartments

**FINANCIAL AID:** Scholarships, Grants, Work/Study

**APPLICATION:** Rolling admission. Paperwork and final payment are due 45 days before traveling.

**COOL FACT:** We love travel and culturally-immersive experiences. A Broader View Volunteers was founded in 2007 with a love for humankind and a motivated spirit to help others. We were created on the belief that one person can make a difference in the lives of others through meaningful, service-learning volunteer work.

**STUDENT PROFILE: MARGARET JONES**

I loved my experience in Cusco, Peru with A Broader View. The programs I worked in were really wonderful (orphanage and kindergarten). I was able to make so many important connections with people of all ages. I really connected with a young girl at the kindergarten and many girls at the orphanage. It was important to me to make new friends and this trip was full of that. I loved meeting everyone and being helpful in any way I could. The work I did felt very important and it was a very positive experience.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Are you ready to take time for your future? NOLS is the leader in wilderness education. With an immersive, hands-on approach, NOLS instructors teach expedition skills such as rock climbing, backpacking, sea kayaking, mountaineering, and wilderness medicine, paired with experiential learning in leadership and decision-making. Wherever in the world you travel with NOLS, you'll emerge with confidence, courage, and global perspective. Connect to the outdoors and reconnect with the world.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Day Scott
info@nols.edu

DESTINATIONS: North America (Alaska, Pacific Northwest, Northeast, Southwest, Rocky Mountain-Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Canada-Yukon), Mexico; East Africa, Chile (Patagonia), India, New Zealand, Scandinavia

SESSION LENGTH: 7- to 30-days; Semesters; Academic Year

SESSION START: Year-round

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Environment/Conservation, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Tents

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships

APPLICATION: Applications accepted year-round; limited spots. Apply at NOLS.edu.

COOL FACT: At NOLS, we believe everyone can be a leader. We provide the environment and training to help you discover your full potential. With NOLS, navigating a glacier in the Rocky Mountains becomes a lesson in communication, canoeing down rapids in the Adirondacks shows you how to work as a team, and climbing through canyons in Utah reveals a strength you didn't know you had. Emerge with confidence, courage, and a global perspective.

STUDENT PROFILE: NATALIE HAUPTMAN

NOLS allowed us to do things we would never get to do and grow as a person in ways that I did not realize was possible. The expedition taught us things that we could never learn in a classroom, and in turn, we learned more about ourselves than we had ever known before.
College is a great time to study a language abroad, but why wait? Spend a gap year with CET and get started now by studying Arabic, Chinese, Italian, or Japanese. No matter where you go, you'll take advantage of carefully designed programs for gap students with four core components: intensive language instruction, an immersive housing experience, opportunities to connect with the local community, and staff support every step of the way.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Brian Wiehr
bwiehr@cetacademicprograms.com

DESTINATIONS: China, Italy, Japan, Jordan

SESSION LENGTH: Summer: 8 weeks; Semester: 15 weeks

SESSION START: January, February, June, August

INTERESTS: Community Service, Language, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Dorms, Apartments

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships

APPLICATION: Fall: May 1; Summer: March 1; Spring: October 1 (Japan, Italy), November 1 (China, Jordan)

COOL FACT: CET Gap programs in Amman, Beijing, Osaka, and Siena operate alongside CET college programs. We have provided academically rigorous language instruction since our first program opened in Beijing in 1982. Our success in China inspired other programs around the world, and you benefit from this experience. Your peers will be undergraduate students from universities throughout the US like Vanderbilt University, the University of Michigan, American University, and University of Virginia. You get a taste of college life from your peers with extra support from CET teachers and staff.

STUDENT PROFILE: CLARA G

As a gap year student, I was nervous going into the program. However, I realized I didn't need to worry because every student was under the same Chinese-learning umbrella, which united everyone despite age, school, or Chinese level. This program was beyond helpful to my language skills, personal growth, and increasing my sense of responsibility, all of which have been and will continue to be essential in my journey to college.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Raleigh Expedition is an international volunteering program delivered by the youth-driven development charity, Raleigh International. The team has been delivering and developing responsible volunteer programs for more than 35 years and safety is at the heart of all they do.

The program engages students (aged 17-24) in creating long-lasting change through hands-on community, environmental and adventure leadership projects. Expedition supports young people in the development of essential teamwork, leadership, intercultural learning, and active citizenship skills and knowledge.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Dom Billins
info@raleighinternational.org

DESTINATIONS: Costa Rica, Nepal and Tanzania.

SESSION LENGTH: 4, 5, 7 and 10 weeks

SESSION START: February, March, June, July, October and November

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Career Exploration, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Tents

FINANCIAL AID: No

APPLICATION: Applications are accepted year-round. Please visit our website for country-specific application deadlines.

COOL FACT: Raleigh Expedition is fully accredited by the Gap Year Association (GYA). Accreditation by the GYA represents Raleigh’s commitment to the highest standards in safety, quality, and integrity. A student can count on an experience with Raleigh that is the highest caliber of field leadership, the best degree of office support, and the highest standards of safety.

STUDENT PROFILE: TOM

My 10-week Raleigh Expedition in Tanzania when I was 18 was transformative. It was the first time that I was part of a community of passionate people who gave everything to better themselves and others. My life would have taken a very different turn without that experience.”
Gap Year at The School of The New York Times is a designed for recent high school graduates who are deferring college, taking a summer or semester off or simply seeking an intellectual adventure as they consider future plans. During this program students interact with some of the world's leading thinkers who are covering the important issues of our time. With New York City as their classroom, Gap Year students emerge with an expanded world view, a sharp sense of perspective on a wide range of topics, and strong critical thinking and communication skills that will prepare them for college, career and lifelong success.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: 646-438-7269
info@nytedu.com

DESTINATIONS: New York City

SESSION LENGTH: Summer and Semester Terms

SESSION START: June, February

INTERESTS: Academic, Career Exploration

HOUSING: Dorms

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships

APPLICATION: Please visit nytedu.com to learn how to apply and begin an application. There are deadlines and space is limited. Students are encouraged to apply early to increase their chances of being placed in their top choice program.

COOL FACT: The school's faculty is comprised of New York Times journalists and industry experts who are thought leaders in their respective fields. Students benefit from The New York Times network, which offers access to people, places and ideas that will inspire and challenge your perspective.

STUDENT PROFILE: ASHLING LEE

New York City is the cultural capital of the world, it holds stories of people with diverse histories and backgrounds and is home to iconic cultural wonders of the world. To study here is to open yourself to different people from different places and different circumstances. It is to open yourself up to the world in ways in which I, and my peers, may never have done before.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
HMI Gap Semesters are an uninterrupted journey of self-discovery and growth in some of the most inspiring landscapes in the world. With courses in the American West and South America, students gain competence as outdoor adventurers while contributing to real-world conservation initiatives. They become part of a strong, intentional community, making lasting connections with people who encourage them to be the best versions of themselves and reach their full potential.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Claire Sutton
gap@hminet.org

DESTINATIONS: The American West and Chilean Patagonia

SESSION LENGTH: 80 days

SESSION START: January, February, September

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Language, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Tents

FINANCIAL AID: Yes

APPLICATION: Rolling admissions

COOL FACT: HMI is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that welcomes students of diverse racial, ethnic, social-economic and geographic backgrounds. Between 30 percent and 40 percent of HMI students receive financial aid, including many who receive full scholarships thanks to our generous community of philanthropic supporters.

STUDENT PROFILE: MAYA

My semester with HMI was one of the most fulfilling and empowering experiences of my life. What once seemed so daunting - living in the backcountry for weeks at a time - quickly became comfortable and fun, thanks in large part to the wonderful instructors. I took a gap year to redefine what ‘education’ means to me, and my experience in this regard at HMI was everything I could have hoped for and more. We learned deeply about places while in them, talked about conservation and wilderness not as some far off concepts but as ideas with real, visible implications for how we lived while in the field.
With a high emphasis on close contact, trust, and personalized attention to students and families, we are dedicated to organizing immersion programs abroad in Spain for high school students and recent graduates.

**ADMISSIONS CONTACT:** Patricia Miralles  
highschool@sevilleabroad.com

**DESTINATIONS:** Spain

**SESSION LENGTH:** From Two weeks up to one Full School Year

**SESSION START:** Year Round

**INTERESTS:** Academic, Adventure/Trips, Language, Special Interest, Travel/Culture

**HOUSING:** Homestay, Hotels, Apartments

**FINANCIAL AID:** No

**APPLICATION:** Flexible

**COOL FACT:** Our High School Study Abroad program in Spain is an unparalleled opportunity to immerse yourself in a unique country and culture. Spain offers a perfect location, a climate full of sunshine, a fascinating culture, and world-famous gastronomy.

On our High School Abroad program in Spain, we will enroll you in a high school of recognized quality in the Seville area. You will live with a host family specially selected for you, enjoying a wide range of activities and excursions, while all the time having the support of a local coordinator for anything you need.

**STUDENT PROFILE: EMMA STARK**

From a former student's perspective, I truly believe that Seville Abroad is the best way to spend your exchange in Spain. I had the experience of a lifetime and cherish my time spent abroad. Not only does Seville Abroad offer more amenities, like Spanish classes, extracurricular activities, and day trips around Andalusia, than other abroad programs, but they really get to know you on a personal level. Seville Abroad cares so much about their students, it feels like a family!
EF Gap Year offers students the ability to explore several countries in depth, learn a language, volunteer for a good cause, engage in meaningful cultural exchange, gain international work experience, and develop leadership skills. Our fully accredited programs are offered for either a semester (12 weeks) or full gap year (26 weeks).

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Kristina Lock<br>kristina.lock@ef.com

DESTINATIONS: Australia, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Peru, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom

SESSION LENGTH: 12-Week Semester or 26-Week Year

SESSION START: September, January

INTERESTS: Academic, Adventure/Trips, Career Exploration, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Language, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Dorms, Hotels, Apartments

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships

APPLICATION: We offer rolling admissions, so you can apply at any time and we'll start reviewing your application immediately. Applicants are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to apply for the 2020-2021 program is May 15, 2020, but programs usually fill prior to this date.

COOL FACT: With EF Gap Year you don't have to choose one focus, you get to combine language learning, volunteering and interning. This program is for someone who wants to travel all over the world. You'll visit more than 10 countries!

STUDENT PROFILE: CASSANDRA LEVESQUE

The highlight of my gap semester was winning the ‘Most Transformed’ award at the EF Gap Year graduation. I went into my experience not sure of who I was or what I wanted out of life. I studied French in Paris and volunteered in Thailand and it significantly changed me for the better. I’m grateful for the memories and the experiences that allowed me to grow in a way I never would have imagined.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Carpe Diem Education provides students an opportunity to explore some of the most fascinating regions on Earth, each offering a unique culturally immersive experience. Through educational curriculum designed to challenge perspectives, enrich cross-cultural understanding, and inspire personal growth, students reignite their passion for learning. Semester and year-long programs are available in Italy & Greece, Spain & Morocco, the South Pacific, Central America, South America, Southeast Asia and India. College credit and scholarships are available!

CONTACT: Anne Koenning
anne@carpediemeducation.org

DESTINATIONS: Italy & Greece, Spain & Morocco, the South Pacific (Fiji, Australia and New Zealand), Central America (Costa Rica, Guatemala and Roatán), South America (Ecuador and Peru), Southeast Asia (Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam) and India.

SESSION LENGTH: 3-month semesters or the Latitudes Year (2 semesters)

SESSION START: February, September

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Career Exploration, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Language, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Dorms, Tents

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships

APPLICATION: Online applications accepted on a rolling basis.

COOL FACT: Our Latitudes Year program offers students the opportunity to travel with a small group during the fall and then complete a Focused Volunteer Placement during the spring. This gives you the opportunity to deepen your experience in a more self-directed, independent manner while working with one of our partner organizations in one community that is closely aligned with your interests. You will have the opportunity to learn more about service-learning, community engagement, and cultural immersion.

STUDENT PROFILE: KATE CONE

My favorite part of my Carpe Diem experience was the volume of invaluable lessons I learned from challenging myself on a daily basis while being surrounded by the most incredible people I’ve ever met...My experience with Carpe gave me an entirely new outlook on my life and how I interact with the world. My level of confidence and comfort with being uncomfortable has grown immensely and that has made the greatest positive impact on me.
The GAP Year at SOAR is an outdoor adventure based GAP Year for young adults 18-24 with ADHD or learning challenges. We strive to empower our participants through travel, college classes, and volunteering. They discover their talents, increase their self-reliance, and experience life-changing adventures while preparing for their future.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Holly Cottom admissions@soarnc.org

DESTINATIONS: United States, South America

SESSION LENGTH: 8 Months

SESSION START: September

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Community Service, Leadership

HOUSING: Tents

FINANCIAL AID: No

APPLICATION: Apply online at soarnc.org/gap-year

COOL FACT: Gappers choose and plan their own expeditions!

STUDENT PROFILE: EMILY BETTIS

Each moment had its own beauty, but one I really remember was my last major hike, which was the Lost Coast. We hiked around 10 miles the first day, seven miles the second day, and another 10 miles on the last day from our campsite to where the van was parked. On the last day, we had to get through the high-tide zone before it reached high tide, or we would have to wait hours before being able to cross. We did it, and I was one of the people at the very front, leading the pack. My advice for those looking at possible gap year options: It’s OK to ask for help, but remember that it’s YOUR decision that ultimately matters the most.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Are you ready for a year of discipleship through adventure?! Journey is an 8-month gap year internship for young adults ages 18-26 located in Montana. Journey is designed to help you experience a life walking with Jesus, building foundations for life and faith, and serving the world in tangible ways. We combine learning and growth with adventure and experience. Every week we take the lessons learned in training and solidify them through experiences, whether in service to others or through outdoor adventure.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Adam Rice
journey@campbighorn.com

DESTINATIONS: United States, Mexico

SESSION LENGTH: 8 months

SESSION START: August

INTERESTS: Academic, Adventure/Trips, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Health & Wellness, Leadership, Special Interest, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Dorms

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships, Work/Study

APPLICATION: Please fill out the application on the website. Applications due June 15.

COOL FACT: Outdoor adventure and leadership is a way of life at Camp Bighorn! Some of the adventures you will learn how to lead include rock climbing, backpacking, white-water sports (rafting, paddle boarding, canoeing), ropes course, zip line, and team-building activities. The most impacting trips are the 21-day backpacking trip in the desert and a culture/adventure trip in Central Mexico.

STUDENT PROFILE: HUDSON

Journey was something I had never experienced before, a family outside of my home. Having the Lord as the foundation of our community let us grow and build off of each other without collapsing when trials came. But most importantly this place brought me back to God and helped me grow in my relationship with Him. As I stepped back into my life I noticed that the lessons that I learned from Journey stuck with me.
Global Citizen Year is a gap year fellowship using the power of a deep, global immersion to unlock curiosity, conviction and courage in next generation leaders like you. Ignite your passion and purpose by living with a host family in a community in Brazil, Ecuador, India or Senegal and apprenticing to local efforts advancing education, health, sustainability, and more. Become part of a movement of young leaders that the world needs now.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Sade Ojuola admissions@globalcitizenyear.org

DESTINATIONS: Brazil, Ecuador, India, Senegal

SESSION LENGTH: Academic Year (8.5 Months)

SESSION START: August

INTERESTS: Adventure/Trips, Career Exploration, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Language, Leadership, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships, Grants

APPLICATION: We offer rolling admissions, so you can apply at any time and we'll start reviewing your application immediately. The final deadline to apply is May 15. It's recommended to apply early to claim a space.

COOL FACT: Join a cohort of diverse young leaders from around the world. Global Citizen Year offers both merit and need-based aid so that 50% of Fellows receive a partial scholarship and an additional 30% receive a FULL scholarship. Whether you’re rehabilitating sea turtles, assisting at a health clinic, teaching English, or producing an indigenous radio program, you'll develop insights that shape your character, guide your higher education, and prepare you to move the world ahead.

STUDENT PROFILE: BARKER CARLOCK

I went from being able to speak one language to three. I went from having friends from a couple states to friends around the world. I went from wanting to be a medical anthropologist to a chemical engineer. But, most importantly, I went from being a regular kid from the suburbs to a mature, passionate student with global perspective, ready to dive head first into my higher education and making the world a better place.

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Join EF on the ultimate study-abroad adventure! Invest in your dreams. Achieve fluency, see the world, expand your international network – and launch your global future. Study for six, nine or 11 months and start in April, June, September or January. Looking for something shorter? Join our short-term courses, starting every Monday for two weeks and up. College credit, university preparation abroad, and internships are available.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: William Cavanagh
ILS@ef.com

DESTINATIONS:
France, Spain, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Japan, China, South Korea, UAE, Russia, Costa Rica

SESSION LENGTH:
2+ Weeks, Semester, Full Year, Multi-Language Year

SESSION START:
Year-round

INTERESTS:
Academic, Career Exploration, Travel/Culture

HOUSING:
Homestays, Dorms

FINANCIAL AID:
Grants

APPLICATION:
Rolling admission for short term programs and 4 start dates for our semester and year. First come first serve basis.

COOL FACT:

STUDENT PROFILE: ANNIKA LUNSFORD

With EF, I learned how to survive in a major city and be independent. At the same time, I made friends for life with other students whose experiences varied wildly. EF, for me, was a perfect experience because it provided me with structure but at the same time allowed me freedom. I loved the teachers who became my family from the first lesson, giving me nicknames and making jokes about how I only ate gnocchi al pesto. Probably one of the best parts of the experience for me was not just the art and being in a cool city, but my home. I had the best host family in the world! They were my parents and their two daughters became my younger sisters. I miss them so much, and we cried when I parted ways from them. I will love them forever, and I don't think I would've had half the fun if I hadn't had them. If I was given another opportunity to go back, I would.

FAST FACTS

STUDENTS/PROGRAM
+13

TUITION
$675 AND UP

COLLEGE CREDIT
YES

Request More Info: www.teenlife.com/request-gap
Based in Buenos Aires, Mente Argentina is an organization founded to provide international education opportunities and top quality personal support for international students through dynamic, individualized immersion programs. We strive to provide innovative programming that allows students to enjoy Argentina in a unique and different way while, at the same time, facilitating academic achievement and promoting global competence and personal growth. Today, Mente Argentina is the leader organization in Study Abroad, Spanish, Internships and Volunteer Programs in Argentina.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: hola@menteargentina.com

DESTINATIONS: Argentina

SESSION LENGTH: One week to an entire academic year

SESSION START: Every Monday during 2020 & 2021

INTERESTS: Academic, Adventure/Trips, Art, Career Exploration, Community Service, Environment/Conservation, Health & Wellness, Intensive Spanish Language, University Spanish Programs, Leadership, Special Interest, STEM, Travel/Culture.

HOUSING: Homestay, Student Dorms, Hotels, Shared & Private Apartments

FINANCIAL AID: Scholarships, Grants, Work/Study

APPLICATION: Rolling admissions. Please check application website for program-specific application deadlines.

COOL FACT: You can combine up to three programs at the same time! :) Exclusive accommodation is provided in the best areas of Buenos Aires such as Belgrano, Palermo, Barrio Norte or Recoleta (all utilities and expenses included). Cultural activities like Tours, dancing classes, seminars, events, and many others are included at no extra charge. What will your story be? - Join us!

STUDENT PROFILE: CLAIRE KEENAN-KURGAN

I really enjoyed being able to come to Buenos Aires, not even speaking very much Spanish, and just feeling very welcome and accepted here. Mente really helped with that by setting up all sorts of events and dinners where I got to meet all of the other Mente participants. It’s a wonderful city, it’s beautiful and easy to get around, and the coffee is great. Oh and of course the alfajores!
These Gap Year and Undergraduate Semester programs in Oxford provide a unique opportunity to take exciting study courses and experience the vibrant student environment of England's oldest and foremost university city. Four "pathways" courses are offered for Gap Year students and a semester program at college level in a range of subjects, which attract college credit. The student experience includes a varied and interesting choice of social activities and events, cultural visits, excursions and sports.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: Ruth Cooper
ruth@campusoxford.com

DESTINATIONS: UK

SESSION LENGTH: 4, 6 and 10 months

SESSION START: January, April, September

INTERESTS: Academic, Travel/Culture

HOUSING: Homestay, Dorms, Apartments

FINANCIAL AID: No

APPLICATION: Rolling admission throughout the year, please e-mail us for details.

COOL FACT: Take this unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the Oxford student experience and take courses that interest you, without formal tests and assessments. The interactive, teaching approach involves you in your learning and gives you the confidence to question, test your opinions and develop your critique. Student life in Oxford includes music and theatre, and the world-famous Oxford Union, where future leaders and personalities have honed their debating skills.

STUDENT PROFILE: OLIVIA

To a student fresh out of high school, Oxford was the perfect place to take an academic gap year. I got to explore courses I had never taken (such as medical biology and psychology) in a college town full of activity, but much safer than another city. I formed strong friendships and made useful connections that will serve me both in my own country and around the world.
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