



Minot State
students
**STUDYING
ABROAD**

Featuring:
Else-Marie Nelson
Christopher Hodgson
Alexandra Danielson
Jordan Peterson

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Telemark County, nestled in the mountains of southern Norway, is a breathtakingly beautiful area covered by alpine forests, rolling hills and crystal clear waterways. The region is often described as 'Norway in miniature' with its glittering archipelagos and magnificent mountain plateaus. Life in the region offers an exciting mix of diverse scenery, rich culture, and kind-hearted people. In other words, Telemark is an ideal study abroad choice for MSU students!

Minot State University and Telemark University College (TUC) became partner institutions in 2007, and have been working to develop student exchange opportunities ever since. TUC and MSU are similar in many ways: both offer a small campus, easy access to student activities, friendly and helpful faculty and staff, and modern campus facilities.

Telemark University College is comprised of four campuses, located in four different towns within Telemark county. Each campus is centrally located in the heart of its community, within walking distance of student housing, stores, and train stations.

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This program, more than most study abroad programs, offers both academic and practical educational experiences! This is because Minot State University's relationship with TUC is special: Telemark campuses are located in the same region as Minot's Norwegian sister city, Skien. The sister city relationship, which began in 1981, was initiated by Norsk Høstfest founder and former president, Chester Reiten, who approached Skien officials because of the common heritage and similarities between the two cities. The three-decade long sister city relationship between the two communities has broadened horizons and increased connections for residents in

both countries. MSU students can benefit from the existing ties between the two communities, by becoming involved with community service organizations, businesses, and governmental agencies in Telemark.

MSU students can study in Telemark either during the fall or spring semesters, and can choose from a wide range of courses, available in the following subject areas: Business Administration, Scandinavian Culture Studies, Sports and Outdoor Life, Alpine Ecology/Environmental Management, Fine Arts, Physical Education, and Norwegian Folk Music.



The view from student housing in Bø, Norway.

Why choose Telemark University College?

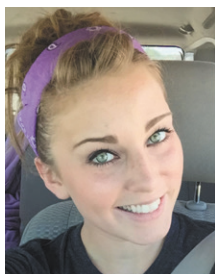
YOU WILL GAIN:

- A greater awareness of cultural differences
- An improved sense of self-confidence and independence
- An improved understanding of Norwegian culture
- An understanding of "Friluftsliv" or "open air life"
- Friends from all over the world
- The experience of a lifetime

! The application deadline for Summer & Fall 2016 programs is February 15th.

Kingston University

American Students Immerse Themselves
in British Life and Culture



Minot State student Alexandra Danielson, a junior majoring in Psychology from Virginia Beach, Virginia, is currently studying abroad at Kingston University located

in a suburb of London, England. One of the world's most visited cities, London has something for everyone: from history to culture, art to architecture. Kingston University is recognized for strong academic departments, high quality instruction, and its proximity to London.



Another MSU Student, Jordan Peterson, a history major from Minot, is also studying abroad with Alexandra in Kingston this fall. Alexandra and Jordan met in an

Honors Community class at MSU and are both excited to share this once-in-a-lifetime experience with someone from home. Many study abroad locations offer a wide variety of degree programs making it possible for friends to study abroad together.

Kingston University offers several undergraduate subjects including art, business, journalism and media, languages,

liberal arts, math, music, social sciences, and psychology. Kingston University may be of particular interest to Psychology majors because it is endorsed and supported by the MSU Addictions Studies, Psychology and Social Work department.

This is Alexandra's first trip abroad. Before leaving, she pondered the journey ahead of her: "I hope to learn about my ability to adapt and navigate new situations, as well as about daily life and education of another country. I hope to gain some independence, and experience interacting with people from different cultural backgrounds, which will help me as I move forward in my Psychology program, and eventually as a counselor."

If you and a friend are interested in studying abroad together visit the Office of International Programs to set up an advising session, and check out our featured programs at MinotStateU.edu/international.



Kingston "Hill" Campus

Telemark University College

Family Heritage and Education Merge in Norway



Else-Marie Nelson, a Minot native, is pursuing her lifelong dream of studying abroad this fall by

attending Telemark University College in Norway. Else-Marie is a sophomore at MSU majoring in Multimedia Studies. She will take classes in the Scandinavian Cultural Studies program, which expose students to Norwegian perspectives and ways of life. Students in this program are able to choose classes such as: Norwegian Perspectives on Outdoor Education; Scandinavian Film and Fiction; Norway and Telemark: Regional Identity; Culture and Local Development; Ecophilosophy; and Norwegian Language.

When initially considering study abroad options, Else-Marie was drawn to France as a location because she had studied the French language for five years. However, after learning about the academic programs offered at Telemark University College, and upon discovering the close connections between Minot and its sister city community located in Telemark county, she quickly decided that Telemark was the perfect fit for her. She was granted a \$5,000 scholarship awarded from the Telemark County Mayor's office which is designed to increase connections between Telemark and Minot.

Else-Marie's family has strong ties to their Norwegian heritage, and Else-Marie is thrilled to have the opportunity to visit the

country that her great-grandparents called home. "My family recognizes and celebrates many Norwegian customs and traditions. I am looking forward to living in, and experiencing, the culture that has shaped myself and my family to this day."

Participating in a study abroad program is an unparalleled experience that enables students to achieve incredible goals and fulfill countless dreams. Else-Marie is confident that her experience in Norway will greatly contribute to her personal and professional goals. "I hope to gain a greater understanding of the world I live in. I hope to become more confident in myself as I live, travel, and make decisions independent of the culture I grew up in. I hope to gain an educational experience that differs from what I am familiar with. I hope that my adventures and experiences make me a more well-rounded individual and student, who can see challenges and issues from a global perspective." Sightseeing is also among the items that Else-Marie plans to accomplish while abroad: she would like to visit the Eiffel Tower in Paris, explore the area around Stavanger, Norway where her family is from, and make friends from around the world.

Looking forward to her semester in Norway, Else-Marie shares, "I am honored to be representing Minot State University at Telemark University College this fall. I can't wait to begin my new adventure and see what this world has to offer!"

Students
who have
EVOLVED
through MSU's
study abroad
programs.



A New Perspective on Education

MSU Student reflects upon student teaching in New Zealand

Christopher Hodgson, an elementary education major from Minot, participated in the Global Student Teaching program in New Zealand during spring 2015. This unique program allows students to complete their teaching practicum while gaining a global perspective on educational techniques. Participants see first-hand how culture directly influences teaching and learning styles.

Below, Christopher reflects upon the opportunity to broaden his foundational knowledge in the field of education during his time in New Zealand:

“Every day, there was a period during the day called ‘Read and Feed;’ during this time, a bell would ring and the entire school participated. Teachers would read to their students while the students ate some of their lunch. One of the best things we can do for students is to model good reading.”

-Christopher Hodgson

Like any teaching experience, I gained insight into classroom management, differentiated instruction, and best practices. Not only that, I witnessed really different beliefs on how we should be teaching our students, going back to the basics and building a firm foundation on how to use what we know and not focus on rote memorization. My learnings weren't limited to the classroom. Going abroad and traveling, I was able to meet people from all over the world and discuss a variety of topics with others my age. I saw amazing sights, participated in once in a lifetime activities, worked on my bucket list, and met people that I will never forget.

My advice for other students considering study abroad would be to make sure you research your country before you leave: rules, customs, clothing, etc. It's very important to learn as much about the country as you can before you visit. Most importantly, have fun. It can be difficult being far away from everyone you know, living with strangers in a new land. So if you do go, take the time to adjust, but not too long, and don't be afraid to try something new.

The Global Student Teaching program offers student teaching placements in Australia, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, and Spain. To learn more about study abroad opportunities visit MSU's Office of International Programs and visit MinotStateU.edu/international.

Ceramics in China:

A visual arts study tour in the summer of 2016

No exciting plans for next summer?
Consider joining a life-changing program
that will allow you to explore China!

MSU art professor Linda Olson is planning a study abroad program in China that will take place next summer from May 18 to June 3, 2016. Throughout the 15-day program, students and community members will explore ancient and contemporary highlights in Shanghai, Longquan, Jingdezhen, Xian and Beijing. You will have the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of the Chinese ceramic continuum and visit ancient kiln sites and museums dedicated to the arts and/ or culture of the local regions.

Studying in China is an excellent opportunity for MSU students to explore the world's most populous country. Participants in this program will experience China's unique blend of ancient and modern civilization, as well as its scenic beauty and long history. China's 5000 years of history has bequeathed a seemingly endless amount of tourist attractions to visit, while natural wonders of breathtaking beauty are also scattered about the country.

Walk the Porcelain Road! View the famous Terracotta Army! Visit other significant cultural sites in China!

To learn more about this exciting opportunity, contact Linda Olson, M.F.A. at (701)858-3836 or linda.a.olson@minotstateu.edu.





Challenge Australia!

A two-week leadership development program

Are you looking for an adventurous way to spend next summer? *Challenge Australia* is the perfect solution! This exciting 2-week program emphasizes leadership, personal development, and team building all while offering the opportunity to explore Australia.

Participants in this program will experience a variety of settings in Eastern Australia including: the community of Brisbane; Kindilan Outdoor Centre; sup-tropical rainforest of Lamington National Park; Byron Bay, and Gold Coast, also known as “the surf city.” Learning activities are centered around challenging and inspiring outdoor recreation leadership activities, including zip lining, high/low ropes courses, canoeing, surfing and much more.

Leadership training is indispensable for all students no matter their course of study. Businesses value leadership ability among recent graduates and professionals. The Challenge Australia program builds leadership skills and develops team players while providing participants with a sense of accomplishment.

Challenge Australia is open to all Minot State students, but may be of particular interest to those studying business, marketing, management, sociology, nursing, sports education, athletic training, corporate fitness, environmental issues, or related areas. You will experience a new level of personal awareness and self-understanding on this transformative adventure!

Why choose Challenge Australia?

YOU WILL GAIN:

- Team development and leadership skills
- An improved sense of self-confidence and independence
- Personal awareness and self understanding
- Appreciation of the Gold Coast of Australia
- Mastery of challenging outdoor recreational activities
- The experience of a lifetime



The application deadline for Summer & Fall 2016 programs is February 15th.



Where in the World?

Introducing seven MSU students
studying abroad this Fall!

Meet students
who will
EVOLVE
through MSU's
Fall 2015 Study
Abroad programs.

Nathan Donnelly
Semester at Sea
Mediterranean & Atlantic

Layne Pflieger
Semester at Sea
Mediterranean & Atlantic

Chloe Ondracek
Non-Affiliated Program
Moscow, Russia

Else-Marie Nelson
Partner University
Telemark, Norway

Alexandra Danielson
International Studies Abroad
London, England

Jordan Peterson
International Studies Abroad
London, England

Jenessa Whitmore
International Studies Abroad
Heidelberg, Germany

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