Academic Recommendation for Study Abroad

Part I  To be completed by the student

Your name: ____________________________________________  Program name and country: ____________________________________________

Application for:  Spring 20__  Fall 20__  Academic Year 20__-20__  Application deadline: __________________________

I waive any right I may have to read or obtain copies of the recommendation that I am requesting:

Yes____  No____

Your signature: _____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Part II  To be completed by the recommender

The student has applied to a semester or academic year study abroad program through Penn Abroad. To succeed abroad, students must have a high degree of academic motivation and social maturity, especially on programs with much less structure than the typical U.S. university. Your recommendation helps to determine the applicant’s academic commitment, ability, and readiness to handle the challenges of study abroad. We appreciate your honest assessment.

The student’s application cannot be reviewed until your recommendation is received. Please submit your recommendation to Penn Abroad prior to the application deadline provided by the student. Recommendations can be sent or faxed directly to Penn Abroad, or returned to the student in a signed and sealed envelope (please sign the envelope over the seal).

1. For how long and in what capacity have you known the student?

2. What is your overall ranking of this student’s academic motivation and intellectual ability as compared to other students you have known at his/her educational level?

   Top 5%  Top 10%  Top 25%  Top 50%  Lower 50%  Unable to judge

3. Assessment of other qualities (as compared to other students you have known at his/her educational level)

   | | Outstanding | Good | Fair | I have concerns | Unable to judge |
---|---|---|---|---|---|
Ability to cope with ambiguity | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
Appreciation for others’ opinions | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
Organization and study habits | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
Maturity and responsibility | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

Please continue on next page
4. If I were leading a group of Penn students abroad (for study, research, or some other Penn-supported activity):

_____ I would be eager to have this student as a participant
_____ I would have some reservations about this student as a participant
_____ I would not want to have this student as a participant

Please comment here on any of your responses above. Alternatively, you may include comments in your response to question 5.

5. Please provide an honest assessment of the student’s academic preparation and motivation, as well as any special attributes relevant to study abroad. Does the applicant possess the intellectual and personal qualities for success in a foreign university/program? Would the applicant make a positive impression abroad as an ambassador for Penn? (You may cut/paste a recommendation letter here or attach a separate letter.)

Recommender’s Name: _____________________________ Title: ______________________________

Department: ________________________________ Phone: _____________________________

Email: ________________________________

Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Please send or fax to the address below, or return to the student in a signed and sealed envelope.

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