The purpose of this presentation is to provide important information about study abroad policies and the application process. The content primarily focuses on **semester study abroad**, and topics include the types of programs offered, finances, academics, eligibility criteria, acceptance decisions, application deadlines and more.

Students can refer to this PowerPoint when completing the required quiz for the semester abroad application.
Types of programs

- **Partner Programs** allow for studying alongside local and international students. The methods of teaching and assessment are significantly different from those in the U.S. and may include large lectures, assigned but ungraded homework, and more heavily weighted exams. Partner programs provide the highest level of academic and cultural immersion and require a great deal of self-sufficiency and independence. The support networks reflect the cultural values and style of the host university and are typically less hands-on than Bentley’s administration.

- **Affiliate Programs** are administered by highly respected study abroad organizations approved by Bentley. Students enroll in courses designed for American study abroad participants and typically follow an American model of teaching and assessment. Students may have the option to take some or all courses at foreign universities with local and international peers, in which case teaching and assessment methods are very different from those in the U.S. Affiliate programs typically offer a high level of on-site support.

To determine the program type, check out the “Program Category” found on the brochure page. See screen shot here →
Finances

- **Tuition & Fees**
  - Students pay Bentley University [tuition](#) for their semester abroad
  - Housing costs vary by program; in some cases housing is billed by Bentley while in others it is billed by the study abroad program/university directly
  - Students pay an [administrative fee](#) of $500
  - A [fee chart](#) is located on our website where the tuition, housing costs and extra fees are outlined by program
  - Personal expenses may include travel, books, visa, etc. and vary widely by program

- **Financial Aid**
  - Students may apply federal, state, local & Bentley aid to a semester abroad
  - Bentley aid is guaranteed for 1 semester only

- **Scholarships**
  - [Gilman Scholarship](#) (for Pell Grant recipients only)
  - [MCC Scholarship](#)
  - Other scholarships available for students on programs through IES, API, CIEE, Semester at Sea, The Alliance for Global Education and The American College of Thessaloniki
  - Many more scholarships are available than those listed above and on our website, so do some research!
Academics

- Save elective courses for your semester abroad; this allows for more flexibility in course selection abroad
- Major courses are not guaranteed but it may be possible to take them abroad
- Previously Approved Courses lists can be found on each program’s webpage
  - As shown here the list displays the course abroad as well as the Bentley equivalency. Click on the small blue arrow (circled), and the Bentley equivalency will appear in a dropdown.
- Course approval process
  - All course syllabi must be reviewed by Bentley faculty to determine eligibility for credit. In order to get a course reviewed, you must send the syllabus to your study abroad advisor.
- Credits & Grades
  - Students studying abroad on Bentley partner and affiliate programs earn Bentley credits and Bentley grades for all approved courses. If the host institution utilizes a different grading system, grades will be translated to the 4.0 system according to Bentley’s equivalency scale. The Bentley transcript will show the term abroad with all approved course titles, Bentley credits, and Bentley grades in the 4.0 system. The grades from abroad will not be factored into the Bentley GPA.
Academic Planning
Planning ahead helps to ensure that your semester abroad fits in seamlessly with your graduation requirements.

- Make sure you have declared your major before you apply
- Check out and understand your Degree Works Audit!
  - (Mybentley > academics tab > Student Self Service > Academic Records > DegreeWorks)
- If accepted to study abroad, you will complete a Plan of Study using your Degree Works Planner. This allows you to better understand your degree requirements and how study abroad will impact your academic progression.
- We strongly suggest that you become familiar with the Degree Works Planner now. See instructions on the next slide.
1. Click on Plans tab and select Blank Plan.
2. Enter plan Description, (i.e. “POS,” institution, term).
3. Use the + sign in the upper right to add terms.
4. Review Still Needed requirements list at right.
5. Drag specific Courses to the applicable term (i.e. EC 111, GB 213, etc.).
6. Use the + sign in each term to add classes with Choices (i.e. MG @, LIT @, etc.); see page 2 for details.
7. SAVE often!
8. Add Notes to cover important details or reminders (i.e. course intended for minor).
9. Review the plan to ensure all requirements are included.
Eligibility Criteria

- 3.0 Strongly recommended
  - Certain programs require 3.0
  - Applicants with a GPA below 3.0 should meet with an advisor to discuss program options prior to submitting an application. A GPA of 2.5 is the minimum for consideration.

- Declared Major

- Good academic & judicial standing

- Pass one of the following prerequisite courses:
  - GLS 101, 102, 110, 114, 116 OR any Modern Language course
Acceptance Decisions

- We have hard decisions to make! Here’s what we consider:
  - Do you meet the requirements? (refer to “eligibility criteria” slide)
  - Did you write high quality essays?
  - Did you receive a good faculty recommendation?
    - Don’t forget to ask your professor if they will complete your recommendation before entering their name in your online application!
  - Does your preferred program have limited spots available?
  - Have we achieved a balance between fall and spring?

- All students should thoughtfully consider their second choice program
  - High demand programs are not recommended for a second choice. These programs include API in Barcelona, Bond University in Australia, Lorenzo de’Medici in Florence, and Semester at Sea.

- Be open to studying abroad without your friends
  - Our priority is always to give students their first choice program and semester, but it’s not always possible. It’s important to be open to other programs, even if you have a high GPA.
Housing @ Bentley before & after study abroad

- Students studying abroad in the fall will be placed in open individual spaces in on-campus housing in the spring
  - The Office of Residential Life cannot guarantee that students will live with their friends upon their return to Bentley
  - Contact the Office of Residential Life with questions

- Students studying abroad in the spring will select their housing and roommates for the fall semester through the normal housing process
Internship/job search

- Many students are able to secure internships from abroad for when they return home. Here are some ways to do that:
  - Start planning early
  - Connect with Career Services for advising before studying abroad
  - Research Bentley alumni network in your host country to make connections before you go
  - Familiarize yourself with the recruiting season for your particular field
    - Some students think on-campus recruiting only happens in the spring when in reality many companies begin their on-campus recruiting in the fall
  - Interview via Skype from abroad (over 160 Skype interviews conducted last year)
- Consider getting an internship abroad
  - Many programs offer internships for credit which can be completed alongside academic coursework
Semester & Summer programs: January 31\textsuperscript{st} 2018
- Fee Waiver Deadline: January 8\textsuperscript{th} 2018 (apply by this date and have the $50 application fee waived)

Faculty-led International Courses
- January: September 29\textsuperscript{th} 2017
- March: October 31\textsuperscript{st} 2017
- May: January 31\textsuperscript{st} 2018
Next steps

- Do you have further questions?
  - Visit the website
  - Set up a meeting with an advisor via our [web form](#)
    - An advising meeting is required for students applying to:
      - API in Barcelona
      - Bond University
      - Lorenzo de’Medici in Florence
  - Attend a themed info session. Sessions will be held throughout the semester, and a calendar can be found on our website. Each one is unique, so students are welcome to attend any that are of interest. Themes include:
    - How to Pick a Program
    - The Best Programs You’ve Never Heard of
    - Academic Planning & Study Abroad
    - Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Keep your family in the loop & share this presentation

- Start an application in [BentleyAbroad](#)
  - The application generally opens in early October
  - All students are required to take the Study Abroad 101 quiz as part of the semester application process. Students may use this PowerPoint for reference when completing the quiz.
THANK YOU

Cronin Office of International Education
Adamian 161
781-891-3474
GA_Study_Abroad@Bentley.edu