“One crucial step the United States could take to improve its long-term understanding of and effectiveness in world affairs is to establish study abroad as an integral component of U.S. undergraduate education.”

Lee Hamilton, JD’56, LLD’91
Former U.S. Congressman; Vice Chair of the 9/11 Commission; Distinguished Scholar in the IU School of Global and International Studies; Professor of Practice in the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs

“Since I study Arabic, I spent a semester in Amman, Jordan. I took classes, traveled the Middle East, and interacted with locals. People open up to you if you communicate in their language—and I think that other cultures seeing Americans extending themselves is an important part of changing our image abroad. Wherever my career path leads, I hope I can continue serving as a bridge between cultures. If I can play a part in American-Middle Eastern relations, that would be really fulfilling.”

Suzie Zimmerman
Anthropology and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures major in the IU School of Global and International Studies

“Success in promoting international education programs today … will help promote democratic values and international cooperation. They can serve to reduce poverty and injustice and promote new leaders and new leadership skills … that are essential to a better world.”

Richard L. Lugar, LLD’91
Former U.S. Senator and Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Distinguished Scholar and Professor of Practice in the IU School of Global and International Studies

“My international study experiences strengthened me as a person and led me to focus my job search on opportunities that use my fluency in Spanish to help others. I have travelled to Mexico and Jordan on one-month excursions, and I spent a semester in Lima, Peru. Right now, I am in the final round of consideration for a Fulbright scholarship in Mexico. If that doesn’t come about, I’ve been accepted by AmeriCorps to work in a shelter for undocumented immigrants in Austin, Texas. Study abroad opened both of these opportunities to me.”

Rachel Geissler
Anthropology and Spanish major; Art minor in the IU College of Arts and Sciences

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