

Bringing Notre Dame to the world and the world to Notre Dame.

April 06, 2020

Special Edition Dedicated to Spring 2020 Returnees



To all the study abroad returnees whose spring semester abroad was cut short, we can only imagine the range of emotions you went through when you learned the news that you would need to return home immediately and that your dream semester was abruptly coming to an end. It's still hard to believe that within a short time span of less than two weeks, we had to first recall students in Italy, then in Jerusalem, and finally everyone else around the world. Two weeks later, half the world is on lockdown and we are facing a very difficult reality.

We want to thank all of you for your support and understanding during this very challenging time. As you [read this article from Rome](#) and this [article from campus](#), it is evident that bringing you home was truly a team effort. However, without your cooperation, it would have been impossible to bring all of you safely home as the borders were closing and flights were being cancelled. Although this was not how you envisioned your semester abroad would have ended, we sincerely hope you enjoyed engaging with your host country for the short time you were there. Now that you are confined to the comfort of your home, we thought we would bring the world to you through virtual tours of a few wonderful places around the world.

Thank you and enjoy!

Study Abroad Team

Student Reflections

Puebla Experiences

Although the current COVID-19 global pandemic ended the spring 2020 semester abroad early for all University of Notre Dame students, our returnees from Puebla took the time to reflect on their experiences abroad and how it has impacted their lives.



Maya Elliott, a junior, shared that "studying abroad in Puebla granted me so much: the opportunity to improve my Spanish, try all sorts of new foods, immerse myself in Mexican culture, and take a slew of interesting classes at UPAEP. However, what really defined the program for me was the relationships I formed. The depth and extent to which I was able to bond with my host family, professors, fellow ND students, and Lisette exceeded all of my expectations." [Click here](#) to read more about the experiences of Maya and other Puebla students.

Around the Globe

While travel may be limited due to social distancing right now, you can still explore many places around the world that are offering virtual tours! Whether you are interested in visiting the [Vatican Museum/Sistine Chapel](#), the [British Museum](#) or the [Zoos in Victoria, Australia](#), you can do so from the comfort of your own home and might just find a corner of the world you've never explored before. Check out some of the other virtual tours below:



Campus Reflections



just a loss, pure and simple."

Professor [Leonard J. DeLorenzo](#), who serves in the [McGrath Institute of Church Life](#) and teaches Theology at Notre Dame, writes a letter to students on life after the pandemic. Please take a moment to [read his article](#), which offers a much needed prospective in times like this.

"You expected to be on campus, I expected to be in the classroom, and nobody expected that distancing ourselves from one another would be the primary duty of social life. And yet, here we are. The semester none of us ever considered contingent has been upended, and for those of you who are seniors, your days of living in a campus community have come to an unceremonious end. There is no way to soften the blow; it is

Study Abroad Advising

While the Study Abroad office is currently closed, all staff are working remotely and can be reached during normal business hours by email or phone. Appointments are being conducted virtually using Zoom and students are encouraged to reach out to their [program directors](#) to schedule a meeting! Additionally, you can email the Study Abroad Team with questions at any time at studyabroad@nd.edu.

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