**How do I choose a program? What questions to ask myself?**

**Academics**

* How does study abroad fit into your personal or academic plans?
* Do you need to complete major, minor, elective, or language credits?  Be sure to discuss your study abroad program with your advisor.
* Is there a particular area of study that you would like to focus on while abroad?
* Do you want to study abroad for a year, semester, summer, or participate in a short program led by Park Faculty?
* Would you prefer a program in which you are with mainly American students? Or would you like to participate in a program in which you get the chance to completely immerse into the culture?
* During your time abroad, do you prefer to have unstructured time and freely use your time outside of the classroom? Or would you prefer a program in which time is structured and there is constant programming going on?

**Location**

* Have you been out of the country?
* Do you have a specific culture, region, or country of interest?
* Would you prefer a traveling program with multiple destinations?
* Would you prefer to live in a major metropolitan area, a small city, or a rural area?

**Timing**

* How long do you want to be abroad?
* When would be the best semester to study abroad for you? (fall/spring/summer) Why?
* When would be the best year for you (sophomore, junior, senior)?

**Housing**

* What kind of living arrangements do you prefer? (single dorm, shared dorm with roommate(s), apartment, host-family, off-campus apartment, on-campus)
* Would you prefer to live with a host family, with local students, with other U.S. and international study abroad students, or with other Park students?
* Do you have a special need in terms of housing?

**Finances/Cost**

* Do you have financial constraints?
* Can your current scholarships, grants or tuition waivers be used during a study abroad program?
* Have you brainstormed community-based funding ideas?

**Identity**

* Are my potential locations a good match for my identity? Have more questions about this? Talk to us.
* What are some myths or rumors you have heard about study abroad?

**Eligibility**

* Do you meet the minimum eligibility requirements for study abroad and the admission requirements for your selected study abroad program?