

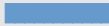


Middlebury School Abroad Evaluations - Program Report - 2007-2008


Personal Information

Home Institution		Response Percent	Response Total
Middlebury College		100%	7
Other Institution		0%	0
If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:			0

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

In what academic year did you begin your study abroad?		Response Percent	Response Total
2007-2008		85.7%	6
2008-2009		14.3%	1
2009-2010		0%	0
2010-2011		0%	0
2011-2012		0%	0
2012-2013		0%	0
2013-2014		0%	0
2014-2015		0%	0

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

What was the period of your study abroad?		Response Percent	Response Total
fall semester		0%	0
spring semester		100%	7
academic year		0%	0
spring semester followed by fall semester		0%	0

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

EVALUATION OF PERSONAL LEARNING

Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
It made me appreciate the organization of the system here at Middlebury.		
I studied at torcuato di Tella which has an american style of teaching. I found it easy to adapt to, aside from not really being able to participate.		
I found it extremely difficult to find the information and readings necessary for my classes. I spent way more time locating materials than I did reading and analyzing them. This helped me learn to navigate the city and educational system but did not dramatically increase my base of knowledge or analytical skills in a foreign country.		
<p>It was hard to adjust to the long classes. They were always in excess of 3 hours at a time. It was also a much more distracting environment with students coming in late, leaving early, answering cell phones, leaving to get food, eating and drinking in class, having conversations in class and student groups interrupting the class to give presentations. I adjusted to this simply by acting like an Argentine student and doing all the things they did. When in Rome...</p> <p>I don't think it had an affect on my learning because I tend to adjust very quickly to new environments. I benefited from this experience by learning how to pay attention when all the forces of the universe are against it.</p>		
The academic enviornment in Buenos Aires placed much more emphasis on personal responsibility. In many ways, you get out of your courses what you put in.		
<p>The different academic environment provided by UBA allowed me to become more independent and mature in my studying skills. Unlike in the United States, where professors may help you get on track and show compassion to a struggling or "misguided" student, the professors there do not grant second chances or turn a blind eye to laziness. If you seek additional assistance, and if you are genuinely struggling while still working hard, the professors try to help. However, it has been seen that too many American students do not follow-up on their professors and ask them or other classmates for advice due to shyness with the language.</p>		
a lot of memorization...little use.		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.		

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?						
	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	28.6% (2)	71.4% (5)	0% (0)	7
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.						

Please Comment:	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
	Argentina is similar in its development, racial make up, and a very european feel, but there are some differences which are quite palpable.	
	I had little knowledge of Argentina, I was surprised to find how developed/european BA was	
	There is so much american influence overseas, especially in large cities, that it is difficult to escape pop culture.	
	BA is just another big city. Cities tend to be very similar and have their own separate city culture although BA really goes the limit on "the city never sleeps"	
	Students were much more passionate about social issues in Argentina, as they were personally effected by the events around them.	
	Although Argentina is very westernized, there are many parts of the country that are very much pre-Colombian still today, and the consumerist culture only infects the major urban areas. Also, poverty is a much greater issue there than here.	
	argentines are crazy. super emotional	

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

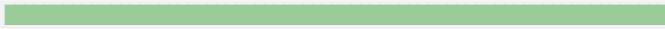
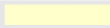
How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
	I learned so much about the way youth interact, the language--slang, music, etc.-- and it gave me a new insight from a colonized, and neo-colonized country on the politics, economics, and cultural imperialism of hte United States.	
	I had little understanding of Argentina and its history and culture. I have a much greater appreciation for Argentina's economic history and how that has shaped Argentina today. I was surprised to see how prevalent U.S. culture is in Argentina, how many people speak english or are studying it, and how much they know about the U.S. politics and culture through the media.	
	I didn't know much about Argentina before I went there but now I know many aspects of their culture - some which I prefer to our american culture and others which I dislike.	
	I didn't know anything about Argentina before studying there so I understand it much better now.	
	While we are hard-working scholars, americans are spoiled and out of touch with reality.	
	Living abroad has expanded my perception of Argentine culture (Steaks, Tango, and Wine) and shown me the incredible diversity that exists in this larger-than-expected country. The regional differences between Buenos Aires, Mendoza, the Northwest, and Northeast are enormous and I've come to appreciate Argentina much like the United States, as a mosaic of different tiles, as a salad with a variety of ingredients. It is now harder for me to define what it means to be "Argentine". I've also learned the Argentina is not the wealthy, stable, country that many Americans perceive it to be. Although the Argentine Peso is one of the strongest currencies in the region, the degree of poverty that I witnessed, a kind of poverty that is unheard of in the United States, left a profound impression on me. My perceptions of American culture have changed in that I see the immense gluttony that affects us all. Argentine meals are satisfying, not over-the-top-stuffing like here in the United States. Although they do incorporate a large amount of meat into their diet, they remain largely skinnier and healthier because of the lack of super-sized meals (although, McDonalds does offer the Super Size). Also, the obnoxiousness of North Americans and the perception of innate privilege were frightfully clear to me both with U.S. students from other programs in Buenos Aires as well as when I returned back to the United States.	
	argentines are passionate. but dont use fact fased info	

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
I learned that I dont like cities.		
I feel like I have gained a lot of confidence in both my language and my skills to live and travel in a foreign country. I also learned how to be more outgoing with the added challenge of a language barrier. I found having a relaxed attitude about studying abroad rather than trying to make it the "perfect" experience was helpful, especially at the beginning - but also that its important to make the most of a very unique opportunity.		
I learned a lot about myself while studying abroad. I learned what I need from friends and family and how I react to living in a large city.		
I found an ability to go with the flow and be patient to be very valuable there.		
I learned to live independently and define my life the way i chose.		
My time abroad exposed me to the terrible levels of poverty that exist in even more industrialized countries such as Argentina. The level of independence that I had while living in Buenos Aires and traveling by myself helped my self-confidence and allowed me to realize how capable I am of supporting myself after college.		
learned a language. independence.		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.		

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
It makes me want to study the histopry of latin America more in depth and the relation to the US and Europe.		
I have a better understanding of what it means to live abroad with few roots, and that makes me less inclined to live abroad for long periods of time, which I had originally found attractive. Academically, it makes me more interested to study the U.S. foreign policy, especially in Latin America because we have such a strong influence in the development of so many countries.		
I have become comfortable with speaking spanish. I also feel ready to travel in foreign countries alone.		
No change.		
I know now the range of options that await me after graduation. It was much more a time of personal reflection than academic growth. That's what writing a thesis senior year at midd is for.		
Study abroad has made me take an interest in the problems concerning the issue of poverty both in the United States and around the world. Also, I plan to spend some time living in another foreign country in the future and I definitely have learned that I have a lot more traveling to do.		
not. keep speaking spanish		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.		

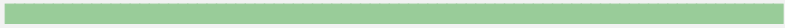
EVALUATION OF LEVEL OF INTEGRATION



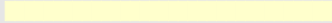
What was your housing situation during your study abroad?		Response Percent	Response Total
Homestay		85.7%	6
Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer		0%	0
Apartment		0%	0
Other (please describe)		14.3%	1
			1
	homestay to apartment		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			


Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration	Response Total
	14.3% (1)	42.9% (3)	14.3% (1)	14.3% (1)	14.3% (1)	7
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.						

Please comment on your response to the question above.		Response Percent	Response Total
			7
	It was great.		
	I enjoyed living with my host family, and they took me on excursions, and invited me to family dinners, so I really had a lot of practice with my spanish and was able to do things that those living on their own would not be able to do.		
	I had an argentine roommate who spent the entire day in his room with the door closed. We barely spoke besides to say hello and goodbye. He occasionally invited me to some event he was taking part in but that only happened several times.		
	I lived with a very open minded, very eccentric single gay man ("Homestay") in Argentina, a latin country where gays are much more discriminated against than in the US. Ergo the culture that he exposed me to was not the dominant Argentine culture and I did not integrate into any part of his life. I lived my own life the way I wanted to and found that the best way to integrate into the culture is to make argentine friends. Do not hang out with the study abroad kids because even if you speak spanish to each other, the cultural experience will not really exist.		
	I loved living with a 27-year old woman who was really interesting. we got along well and i enjoyed our conversations, but we led very different lives. I was essentially renting a room. this was ok though, as i had more independence.		
	My housing situation had the most profound effect on my study-abroad experience. My host family ensured that I spoke and practiced my host language every day. From daily lunches and dinners, to going on errands and day-trips to the countryside with them, I spoke with my host family more than anyone else and this ensured that I would thoroughly practice the host language every day. It also was extremely beneficial that none of them spoke English, although this was frustrating in the beginning of the semester, my Spanish skills greatly improved because of this. I lived in a very residential area, and so did not feel so much like a tourist as opposed to many other students who lived in more trendy, touristy areas of the city.		
	meh..the first woman was terrible and didnt speak to me		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes		100%	7
No		0%	0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?		Response Percent	Response Total
Poor		14.3%	1
Neutral		42.9%	3
Helpful		0%	0
Very Helpful		42.9%	3
Not Applicable		0%	0
Comments			2
	The students are friendly but don't want to spend time with you out of class		
	they werent very open		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 61 filtered; 17 skipped.			

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes		100%	7
No		0%	0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?						
	Not helpful at all	Only slightly helpful	Somewhat helpful	helpful	Very helpful	Response Total
	0% (0)	14.3% (1)	0% (0)	71.4% (5)	14.3% (1)	7
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 65 filtered; 13 skipped.						

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.	Response Percent	Response Total
		7
I played basketball and had an internship		
I enjoyed my internship because it focused on the rural towns in argentina, and a lot of the staff we young women so we would have lunch together on fridays.		
I played rugby which helped with my integration. My internship was with a NGO whose members were primrially european.		
internship with LIFE did not help integration because all the other people who had internships werent argentine and didn't speak spanish. I took circus classes at a Jewish Community Center called Macabi (free!) and really enjoyed it and made lots of argentine friends there.		
I worked a t a non-profit arts organization with a great group of peiople from all over the world.		
With the internship I was able to work with "real" Argentines in a surrounding outside of my university and my host family. At times I could pretend that I was Argentine to people on the phone and my language skills were tested every day.		
hospital internship. got to hang out with old ladies and talk to them about the country		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 67 filtered; 11 skipped.		

EVALUATION OF LANGUAGE LEARNING (if on a program in a non-English speaking country)

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?						
	A	B	C	D	E	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	42.9% (3)	57.1% (4)	7
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 77 filtered; 1 skipped.						

Legend for Rank Grid table:What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

Columns:

- A - No improvement
- B - Little improvement
- C - Improved somewhat
- D - Improved
- E - Very much improved

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	A	B	C	D	E	Response Total
	0% (0)	14.3% (1)	0% (0)	57.1% (4)	28.6% (2)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Legend for Rank Grid table:What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

Columns:

- A - No improvement
- B - Little improvement
- C - Improved somewhat
- D - Improved
- E - Very much improved

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	A	B	C	D	E	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	57.1% (4)	28.6% (2)	14.3% (1)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Legend for Rank Grid table:What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

Columns:

- A - No improvement
- B - Little improvement
- C - Improved somewhat
- D - Improved
- E - Very much improved

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	A	B	C	D	E	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	14.3% (1)	57.1% (4)	28.6% (2)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Legend for Rank Grid table:What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

Columns:

- A - No improvement
- B - Little improvement
- C - Improved somewhat
- D - Improved
- E - Very much improved

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?	Response Percent	Response Total
		6
I think I had set my expectations to high givent hat I was only in BA for 6 months. Also there is A LOT of foreigners and therefore a lot of English in BA which threw me off at first. But overall I think I did improve, just not much as expected.		
I would have liked to be able to speak the language with greater ease. Not speaking to my roommate ment that I would often go for several days without having a conversation. I think family stays (with an actual family) would help this tremendously.		
progress was as expected. Initially I didnt hang out very much with other study abroad students which meant feeling more lonely initially but helped immensely in my need and success in making argentine friends which directly contributed to better spanish. You won't get good at spanish speaking to your american friends in spanish.		
It was much less. Making friends with native speakers proved very difficult. And as a very international city, it was easy to gravitate tows people who could speak a little english. I did improove, however...just not as much as i would have hoped.		
My comprehension and speaking skills improved the most while studying abroad because those components were utilized every day while living with my host family and working on my internship. My writing skills improved the least as I rarely wrote. My reading similarly improved a great deal with the help of class texts, newspapers, etc.		
pretty much as suspected. it was my ultimate goal. biggest help was hanging out with argentinians.		

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **6** respondents; **78** filtered; **1** skipped.

EVALUATION OF PROGRAM/UNIVERSITY AND STUDY-ABROAD EXPERIENCE OVERALL

For the following questions, please rate your experience with Middlebury staff and staff abroad using the five-point scales provided.

Did Middlebury provide you with adequate information prior to departure?

	Poor 1.	2.	Good 3.	4.	Excellent 5.	Response Total
	0% (0)	28.6% (2)	28.6% (2)	42.9% (3)	0% (0)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor 1.	2.	Good 3.	4.	Excellent 5.	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	57.1% (4)	28.6% (2)	14.3% (1)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

	Poor 1.	2.	Good 3.	4.	Excellent 5.	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	57.1% (4)	14.3% (1)	28.6% (2)	7



Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

	Not helpful 1.	2.	Somewhat helpful 3.	4.	Very helpful 5.	Response Total
	0% (0)	0% (0)	28.6% (2)	28.6% (2)	42.9% (3)	7

Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes 	57.1%	4
No 	42.9%	3



Total # of respondents **85**. Statistics based on **7** respondents; **78** filtered; **0** skipped.

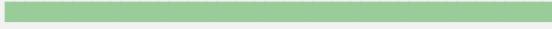
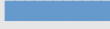

If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.		Response Percent	Response Total
			4
	Women - keep your guard up, but no need to be nervous, just a lot of sexism and objectifying. I noticed a lot of racism against black people when I was there.		
	Argentine men in BA tend to be very sexually aggressive and will always make rude comments. Get used to it fast.		
	Try to not be a typical "dumb American tourist", be careful how loudly you speak, and do not speak English. The more you stand out as an outsider the more likely your safety is of concern. I did not experience any form of discrimination as the Anti-Americanism I encountered was anti-American Policy as opposed to Anti-American People.		
	they hate chinese people.		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 4 respondents; 39 filtered; 42 skipped.			

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	<div style="background-color: #90EE90; width: 100%; height: 10px;"></div>	100%	7
No		0%	0
Please explain:			5
	it was great!		
	di Tella was great because the classes were small and accessible. So you could get to know the professor and other kids in your class, which was a great experience		
	go to latin america, don't go to UBA		
	Knowing other American students who spent a semester in Buenos Aires on other programs, I can say without a doubt that the Middlebury program is the most committed to language and cultural immersion, both of which make all the difference. The small size of the program makes you feel like a person rather than a number, and you become familiar with all of the staff. Group events are more intimate and make all the difference. The staff is extremely supportive for any and every issue and they are very thorough in all of their affairs, especially in looking for appropriate host families.		
	but perhaps uba instead		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?		Response Percent	Response Total
			6
	You have to be aggressively friendly if you want to meet locals, otherwise you will get sucked into the ex-pat study abroad vortex and will only be with americans.		
	Things don't function like Middlebury. Be prepared to spend many hours doing things which take less than one minute at Middlebury.		
	Middlebury's program is much more difficult academically than other programs like COPA.		
	Take advantage of everything you can. never say "no." You only do this once.		
	Go abroad the entire year and don't be afraid. You'll be able to handle it, and if you can't handle it, you'd know in the first month and can always change your mind. Make friends with the Argentines since they all want to be friends with you and practice English. Approach your professors since they appreciate hard work, especially in UBA. Do anything you can do get closer to your host family.		
	live the life		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 6 respondents; 78 filtered; 1 skipped.			

EVALUATION OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes		71.4%	5
No		28.6%	2
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes		71.4%	5
No		14.3%	1
N/A - Did not attend meetings		14.3%	1
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 7 respondents; 78 filtered; 0 skipped.			

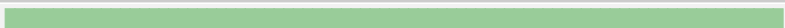
Please use this space if you would like to provide additional feedback on your pre-departure information, orientation, or program support.		Response Percent	Response Total
			2
	Orientation is really long and presents only a small amount of useful information. It is not necessary to constantly remind people that "this is not Middlebury". I understand that many students really need an orientation and lots of hand holding to adjust but you shouldn't require all the students to attend orientation, it should be optional and encouraged, but it is painfully awful and useless to students with experience abroad and independence.		
	it was all kind of a blur		
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 2 respondents; 21 filtered; 62 skipped.			

FOR STUDENTS FROM COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES OTHER THAN MIDDLEBURY

Why did you choose this particular program and site?		Response Percent	Response Total
			1
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 1 respondents; 9 filtered; 75 skipped.			

Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?		Response Percent	Response Total
Completely matched		0%	0
Was what I expected for the most part		0%	0
Was somewhat different from what I expected	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #c00000;"></div>	100%	1
Was vastly different than what I'd expected		0%	0
Comments			0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 1 respondents; 11 filtered; 73 skipped.			

Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #008000;"></div>	100%	1
No		0%	0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 1 respondents; 13 filtered; 71 skipped.			

Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?		Response Percent	Response Total
Yes		100%	1
No		0%	0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 1 respondents; 12 filtered; 72 skipped.			

Were there particular challenges unique to you as a student from another institution? Please explain.		Response Percent	Response Total
			1
No.			
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 1 respondents; 5 filtered; 79 skipped.			

Further comments:		Response Percent	Response Total
			0
Total # of respondents 85 . Statistics based on 0 respondents; 1 filtered; 84 skipped.			