There are a variety of ways to stay connected to your education abroad experience after your program ends. We encourage you to get involved!

#### 1. Get involved with various global student organizations at MTSU.

There may be organizations related to your study abroad experience or organizations that you belong to/would like to join where others may want to hear about your experience abroad.

Sharing your study abroad experience with others and connecting with others who have similar experiences is a good way to stay connected to the culture you experience while abroad.

Link: MTSU Student Organizations & Service

#### 2. Become an Office of Education Abroad Global Ambassador

The Global Ambassador program at MTSU is a volunteer opportunity offered through the Office of Education Abroad designed to engage MTSU study abroad students who have participated in an MTSU study program.

Global Ambassadors work with Office of Education Abroad staff to promote study abroad opportunities. Global Ambassadors have a chance to earn a graduation sash and gain valuable experience (that can be added to a resumé or CV!).

We recruit Global Ambassadors for the Fall and Spring terms.

Link: Office of Education Abroad Global Ambassador Program

#### 3. Join the Office of Education Abroad International Buddy Program

The International Buddy Program aims to ease the transition to MTSU for our incoming exchange students. Help us extend MTSU generosity and spirit to these students when arrive and during their time here.

We have joined with International Admissions to include incoming international students (degreeseeking) in this program as well!

Buddies often help by providing tips about navigation on/around campus, attending campus events together, answering questions about MTSU and Murfreesboro, going shopping or out to a meal, and more! MTSU students commit to one semester of the program. Often, long-lasting friendships are created through this program!

We recruit for the International Buddy Program for the Fall and Spring terms.

Please see the link below for additional information about the International Buddy Program.

Link: International Buddy Program

## 4. Live in the Global Learning Community

The Global Learning Community (GLC) is an on-campus residence hall (actually, a house) on Greek Row. It offers a unique residential experience for students with an interest in global affairs and is especially ideal for international students, students considering study abroad, study abroad returnees, and/or those majoring in a field with an international component. MTSU students reside with incoming exchange and international degree-seeking students to make up this international campus community.

For additional information on the Global Learning Community, please see the link below.

Link: Global Learning Community residence

# 5. Add a global component to your degree.

Related majors & minors include:

- Foreign Languages
- International Relations
- Global Studies
- Religious Studies
- Interdisciplinary Minors (Russian Studies, African Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Jewish & Holocaust Studies, International Affairs, etc...)
- Study Abroad again
- Intern abroad to complement your degree plan

You may want to consider joining NAFSA, the Association of International Educators with a student membership. Learn about career opportunities, participate in programs & events, connect and network with professionals and other students, review research & policy in the field, and more.

Review majors and minors on the MTSU website or inquire with your Academic Advisor or the Department offering the major/minor you are interested in pursuing.

## 6. Consider joining a Language Table or Language Group

Language tables on campus give our exchange, international, and ESL learners a chance to practice language learning and provide an inter-cultural experience for MTSU students. Students can practice a language they are learning – such as Japanese – with native speakers, or start to learn a language. Inquire with the Foreign Language Department for individual language groups.

The MTSU Writing Center hosts a weekly Culture & Conversation Group where international students can practice their English-speaking skills in a conversational setting, learn about different cultures, and meet new people. Interested MTSU students are always welcome to participate. Please see the Writing Center website link, below.

Link: Culture and Conversation Group

## 7. Study Abroad again, Intern abroad, or consider the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)

The Office of Education Abroad can assist you with finding additional study abroad opportunities or internships abroad. Please contact our office or visit us during walk-in advising hours for assistance.

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) is a unique study abroad opportunity that provides intensive language and cultural immersion in select locations. The program is part of an initiative to expand the number of Americans studying foreign languages critical to national security and economic prosperity. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

Languages vary but include Japanese, Korean, Arabic, Hindi, Russian, Urdu, and more. Most languages offered do not require applicants to have experience studying the language.

The CLS Program covers most of the costs of participating in its overseas institutes.

For additional information about the CLS program, please see the website link below or contact Laura Clippard in the Honors College via email: <u>Laura.Clippard@mtsu.edu</u>

Link: Critical Language Scholarship