



Chrissy Accardi
Emmanuel College
Adventures in Austria

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My name is Chrissy Accardi. I am from Haverhill, Massachusetts, and I am a junior at Emmanuel College, majoring in Secondary Education and History. I like to run, cook, and travel. I transferred to Emmanuel my sophomore year from Wheelock to study secondary education.

Describe your study abroad experience.

I studied abroad in Salzburg, Austria, and the experience was more than I ever could have imagined. I didn't know anyone in my program, and I didn't speak German, which made the experience challenging, but it was a good kind of challenging. It was fun and I was constantly learning. I loved the food and the scenery in Austria. The mountainous backdrop was something that I never got used to. I always thought it was too beautiful to be true.

What advice would you give other COF students considering study abroad?

I would tell other students who are considering study abroad to just go. Pack your bags and go. It's okay to go alone (I would even argue it is better that way), and it's okay not to know the language of the country you are going to. You will meet people who will become your best friends, and you will learn the language as you go along. Although it will be difficult, and it may seem scary at first, it is completely worth it. I like to say that I closed my eyes and got on the plane because my program gave us very little information about classes, schedules, living situation, and other students in the program, but it turns out they do that on purpose. Nevertheless, I got on the plane and it changed my life for the better. I want everyone to experience that. By living and studying abroad, you learn so much about yourself and about the world, even more than you could learn in a classroom. The world is your classroom, and you are literally walking through history, and you are leaping out of your comfort zone. There is something very special in that, so if you have even the tiniest opportunity to study abroad, make it work. Just go.

Read more about my experience [HERE!](#)