

EXPEDITION PLANET EARTH: AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND FIJI

STUDY ABROAD SPRING 2025



Following in the footsteps of the epic BBC Planet Earth series, this study abroad will explore the patterns and diversity of life on planet Earth from its driest deserts to tropical rainforests, glaciers, fjords, coral reefs and the abundance of life in rivers and oceans. You will travel through some of the world's most spectacular landscapes, home to an incredible array of endemic plant and animal species. We will discover the basic geology and astronomy underlying the remarkable story of how earth came to support such abundant and complex life forms. You will have an opportunity to meet and interact with indigenous people and cultures in each country to better understand their perspective and relationship with nature, providing you with experiences that will change your life. This is an active study abroad that will involve hiking through some of the world's most stunning landscapes, boating and kayaking through the coastal fjords of New Zealand, the coastlines of Fiji and the Great Barrier Reef. This trip is the quintessential definition of BYU's motto—*the world is our campus*.

DATES

16 May to 20 June 2025 (approx.)

HOUSING

From traditional bure huts in Fiji to hostels in the heart of New Zealand and Australia, the group will stay in a wide range of housing accommodations. All of the housing will be safe and approved by BYU International Study Programs.

COURSES

Accepted students will enroll in 6 credit hours from the following list:

PWS 150 Environmental Biology (3 credit hours) fulfills your science GE.

PWS 250 Field Ecology

PWS 494R Biogeography, Ecology, and Natural History of Australia, and the South Pacific (3 credit hours) will provide you with a deeper understanding and appreciation for the land and people.

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

COST

\$8,300-8,800

Included in the cost is LDS, undergraduate full tuition (increased cost for graduates and non-LDS students), international health insurance, housing, some admissions, and all domestic transportation. Not included in the cost is airfare to and from the U.S., books, passport fees, and personal expenses.

PREPARATION

Accepted students are required to participate in an international, cross-cultural preparation course (IAS 201R, 1.0 credit hour). This class will be held one day during the week from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. during the second block of winter semester 2024. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses will also need to apply online and take the preparation course. Part-time BYU students and non-BYU students will need to pay an additional tuition fee. Students are expected to keep all aspects of the BYU Honor Code and ISP rules during the program. International study programs are physically, emotionally, and mentally taxing and you must be in good health to participate. These programs often take place in international locations that do not have the same level of safety and services in terms of transportation, living conditions, residential accommodations, food, public behavior, and policing that you may be used to on campus. If you have further questions or concerns on this, please see <https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy>.

FUNDING SOURCES

Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a study abroad scholarship and may be considered for other scholarships. They *must indicate on their original online application* that they want to be considered for financial aid. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants. Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the \$35 (non-refundable) online application at kennedy.byu.edu/apply.

Applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete.

Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program.

The first payment is due upon acceptance. Please refer to the Payment Information document on the Kennedy Center website.

Priority Deadline: 1 November 2024

Final Deadline: 1 December 2024

FACULTY

Sam St. Clair and Bryn St. Clair are the directors of the program. Sam is a professor in the Department of Plant and Wildlife Sciences at Brigham Young University and Bryn has a Ph.D. in Biological Education. Feel free to contact us with any questions you have.

Sam St. Clair

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SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT

Students need to arrive at the beginning of this trip and remain with the group throughout the program. Students should not plan late arrivals to the host country and they should plan to stay the entire length of the program. Parents are not allowed to visit students during the official program time period.

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

International Study Programs, 101 HRCB

(801) 422-3686

isp@byu.edu; kennedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

ISP reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost estimates due to conditions beyond its control.