

CHURCH COMMUNICATION: BELGIUM OR NEW ZEALAND

INTERNSHIP WINTER, SPRING-SUMMER, or FALL 2025



This program provides a unique opportunity to improve skills learned from the School of Communications as you intern in one of three offices of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: the EU & International Affairs Office in Brussels, Belgium or the South Pacific Area Office in Auckland, New Zealand. The core purpose of the Church Communication internship is to build strategic relationships with opinion leaders who affect the reputation of the Church and whose actions and influence can help or hinder the Church's mission. As such, you will be involved with a wide variety of ever-changing activities and people in order to facilitate a proper projection of the Church in the Europe or Pacific areas. Depending on your emphasis in Communications, you could find yourself writing press releases, assisting in planning strategic media interaction, researching various media enquiries, creating content, assisting in interview and spokesperson training, developing relationships with opinion leaders, and participating in various modes of social networking, social media, and video production.

DATES

Winter, Spring-Summer combined, or Fall semesters are available (dates will be determined after acceptance to the program).

HOUSING

Students are responsible for making all housing arrangements. The School of Communications will suggest housing options and give final approval.

COURSES

Students are required to register for 3–6 credit hours during the program:
COMMS 496R—Academic Internship (3–6 credits)

Students may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program directors and ISP. Please contact the Comms Internship & Career Services Coordinator.

COST

\$1,056–2,112

Includes Latter-day Saint, undergraduate tuition for 3–6 credit hours (increased cost for graduate and non-Latter-day Saint students) and international health insurance.

Does not include airfare, public transportation, meals (variable), housing, personal expenses (variable), or visa (if applicable).

TRAVEL

Students are responsible for purchasing their own airfare to and from the program sites. Airline reservations must be made through BYU Travel. Students should contact a BYU Travel agent.

BYU Travel

280 HRCB | (801) 422-6293 | travel@byu.edu

PREPARATION

The internship is for Communications majors. Although English is the lingua franca for these Area Offices, having other language skills is helpful (including German, French, Samoan, Tongan, and Chinese).

Accepted students are required to participate in an international, cross-cultural preparation course (IAS 369R, 1 credit hour) held during the second block of the semester before departure. Part-time BYU students will need to pay an additional tuition fee for enrolling in the prep class.

Spouses also need to be credit-bearing participants on the program; they must apply online and take the preparation course. Students must meet all country- and program-specific COVID and health requirements for travel.

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. 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). Students in the School of Communications may qualify for funding assistance and should review options on the school's website: comms.byu.edu

APPLICATION PROCESS

BYU welcomes students from any university to apply to participate on our study abroad programs. However, internships and direct enrollment programs are limited to BYU Provo students. Students must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply. A nonrefundable \$35 application fee is required.

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 page.

Application Deadline for Winter: 18 October 2024; Spring-Summer: 7 February 2025; Fall: 7 February 2025

FACULTY

Dr. Mark Callister is the current Director of the School of Communications at Brigham Young University. Prior to joining the BYU faculty in 2005, he taught at Western Illinois University. He received his Baccalaureate degrees in International Relations and in English and earned a master's in business administration at BYU. In addition, he received a PhD in Communication with an emphasis on theories of persuasion and marketing communications at the University of Arizona. His general research interests include adolescents and the media, visual imagery in advertising, and the role of persuasion in nonprofit fundraising and storytelling. He teaches courses in research methods, persuasion, and world religions and the media.

360B BRMB | (801) 422-6143 | mark_callister@byu.edu

SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT

The duration of the program will not exceed 90 days. ISP can provide support in this process. Brussels, Belgium Internship: Program participants can enter, travel, and live in the European Union for no longer than 90 days (in a 6-month period) under the Schengen visa waiver.

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

International Study Programs
101 HRCB | (801) 422-3686 | isp@byu.edu

Communications Internship Coordinator
280 BRMB | (801) 422-5836 | comms_internship@byu.edu

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

International Study Programs (ISP) reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost. If it becomes necessary for ISP to cancel a program, all program payments made to BYU ISP will be refunded to the student's BYU Financial account. ISP is the only office authorized to cancel any of its programs.