

2004 Study Abroad Student Deaths

Death date/ Day of incident	Name (age) Home state	Home university/ Education abroad program/ Student status/ Country of study	Location of death/ Cause of death/ Details/ News links	About this student
1/27/04	Sean P. Reilly/ (25) Connecticut	Fairfield University/ Italian Study Abroad Program/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Florence, Italy	<p>Barcelona, Spain/ Fall, with Medical Event, injuries/ Sean was studying in Italy. He joined fellow students on interim travel to Spain. Sean went with a friend to a Barcelona basketball game, but did not return that evening, nor the next day. By the second day, students began calling hospitals and police stations. Three days after Sean had last been seen, he was located in a hospital with a massive head injury. It was reported that Sean had fallen off a bridge. It is not clear if there was an investigation.</p> <p>http://fairfieldmirror.com/news/accidentputsstudyabroadstudentinhospital/</p> <p>http://www.nydailynews.com/promising-sign-brain-injuries-article-1.622113</p> <p>http://www.nj.com/independentpress/index.ssf/2009/01/obituary_sean_p_reilly_25.html</p>	Sean was a business major on the Dean's list.
7/11/04 Sunday	John Paul ("JP") Krupa/ (21)	Moravian College/ [Unclear if education abroad	Guanacaste, Costa Rica/ Fall/ JP was attending an international studies	In high school and college, JP was a record setting sprinter. A

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	Pennsylvania	program was through Moravian or an independent program]/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Costa Rica	<p>program in order to improve his Spanish. He'd been in Costa Rica about a week, when along with two fellow students, John traveled to the Playa Flamingo resort, a few hours from San Jose. While there, John fell and died. The police and family believed there was no foul play. "We just want to get his body home," said JP's mother.</p> <p>http://articles.mcall.com/2004-07-16/news/3560772_1_costa-rica-anne-krupa-moravian</p> <p>http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/timesleader/obituary.aspx?n=john-krupa&pid=2426078</p>	member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, JP was majoring in criminology, with a minor in Spanish and sociology. JP was also a cancer survivor. He had just finished his sophomore year.
8/14/04	David Sneddon/ (24) Nebraska	Brigham Young University/ Beijing's University of International Relations/ Undergrad, study abroad, post-program travel/ China	<p>Beijing/ Not Available, status not known, missing since 2004/</p> <p>After a term of language study, David went hiking in the Yunnan Province and was never seen again. Although there were no witnesses and no physical evidence, Chinese authorities presumed David had fallen or gotten lost and died. However, because North Korea has a history of kidnapping foreign nationals who are skilled at languages and might be able to language train their personnel, and because David could speak both Mandarin and Korean, David's parents believe he was abducted by the DPRK. The Sneddon's have been building evidence for their</p>	Family describes David as a skilled backpacker and trekker. He had previously traveled to South Korea on a mission trip, and later for an internship. At the time of his disappearance, he was fluent in Korean and skilled in Mandarin. David was an Asian Language major, planning to study law and business

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			<p>claim, including reported David-sightings. China has disputed these claims, and the US State Department under President Obama has questioned them. But in August of 2017, eight senators joined forces to reinvigorate the thirteen-year old case. Parents are hopeful that they will soon know the fate of their son.</p> <p>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3772624/American-student-kidnapped-Kim-Jong-arrested-China-helping-North-Korean-refugees-escape-oppressive-country.html</p> <p>https://www.voanews.com/a/new-hope-us-student-china/3792015.html</p> <p>https://www.voanews.com/a/new-hope-us-student-china/3792015.html</p> <p>http://www.helpfinddavid.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Who-is-David-Louis-Sneddon.pdf</p>	<p>administration. At the time of his disappearance, he'd been preparing to take the LSAT.</p>
11/13/04 Saturday	Benjamin ("Ben") Jacob Shipley/ (21) Maryland	University of Maryland/ U-M's Study in London Program, London Metropolitan University/	<p>London, England/ Fall/ Ben was found lying on a sidewalk in London's Mayfair district. The case was said to be under investigation.</p> <p>http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2004-11-</p>	<p>Ben was an English major, interested in drama and art history. He planned to add Spanish to his college major. Ben's high school principle said, "Ben was</p>

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		Undergrad, study abroad/ England	17/news/0411170125_1_shipley-london-program-carver http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/baltimoresun/obituary.aspx?n=benjamin-jacob-shipley&pid=2835204	a multitalented young man...he got along with everyone and was well-liked." He was interested in and culinary arts and music, and had played in the school band. Ben was a talented sprinter, with some of the fastest times on his team.
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Non-lethal incidents in 2004:

Medical Event, injury—fire with severe burns