

2012 Study Abroad Student Deaths

Death Date/ Day of week	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
1/7/12	Crispin Scott/ (20) Washington	Dartmouth/ Portland State University, Academy of Liberal and Beaux Arts/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Spain	<p>Barcelona/ Homicide/ Crispin had recently arrived in Spain. When he did not show up for orientation, he was soon found dead in a nearby apartment. Cause of death was initially said to be a recreational drug overdose. But an autopsy revealed barbiturates in his body of significant quantity. Oscar Castro, the owner of the apartment where Crispin had been found, became a suspect. A search of Castro's computer revealed thousands of photos of victims, drugged and naked. Police concluded Castro had been drugging, photographing and raping young victims. He was charged with Crispin's murder, admitted his guilt, and was sentenced to 16-1/2 years. In the aftermath of Crispin's death, Dartmouth severed ties with the Portland State University program.</p> <p>http://www.dartmouth.edu/press-releases/scott010912.html</p> <p>http://www.cnn.com/2012/02/13/world/e</p>	<p>Crispin was born in Tokyo, where his father worked for a U.S. company. He attended the American School in Japan through 7th grade. In college, Crispin was a math major, with an added interest in computer science and international studies. He was a member of the Dartmouth rugby team and Phi Delta Alpha fraternity. He chose Spain for his study abroad because he wanted to extend his Spanish language skills and study the European monetary system. Friends described Crispin as "brilliant but modest, caring and open."</p>

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			<p>urope/spain-us-student-death/index.html</p> <p>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2100532/Barcelona-landlord-arrested-drugging-death-Dartmouth-student-Crispin-Scott-20.html</p> <p>http://daveseminara.com/update-on-the-murder-of-dartmouth-student-crispin-scott/</p>	
3/16/12	Kelly Dalla Tezza/ (22) Maryland	Fulbright Scholar/ Post-undergrad, scholar program/ Bahrain	<p>Morocco/ Vehicular/ Kelly was in Morocco to speak at a Fulbright-sponsored conference on women's rights. Afterwards, she was returning to Bahrain when her tire blew. Kelly lost control of the car and died. Other passengers survived.</p> <p>http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2012/03/18/fulbright-scholar-parkville-native-dies-in-a-car-accident-in-morocco/</p> <p>http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/obituaries/bs-md-ob-dalla-tezza-20120321-story.html</p> <p>http://www.bc.edu/publications/chronicle/FeaturesNewsTopstories/2012/news/dellatezza032912.html</p>	<p>Kelly had completed undergrad at Boston College and had been accepted to Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and George Washington for graduate school. As a Fulbright scholar, she was studying, researching, and presenting on women's political influence. She was described as a "future global leader and humanitarian."</p>

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<p>4/6/12</p>	<p>John B. ("J.J.") Stinson Jr./ (20) Virginia</p>	<p>Virginia Tech/ Presidential Global Scholars Program at VT, Center for European Studies and Arcitecture/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Switzerland</p>	<p>Switzerland/ Fall with Medical Event/ J.J. was one of thirty students on a VT study abroad in Riva San Vitale. He went for walk and did not return. He was found under a tree, dead. It appeared he climbed a tree and had fallen, sustained injuries and died from hypothermia. No foul play was suspected.</p> <p>http://www.roanoke.com/community/the_burys/virginia-tech-student-dies-while-studying-abroad-in-switzerland/article_14b45d39-ce4b-5362-9bd5-61ac66679366.html</p> <p>http://hamptonroads.com/2012/04/va-tech-student-dies-while-studying-switzerland</p>	<p>J.J. was an honors student and philosophy major. He was active in the Boy Scouts, his church, theater and music. He was attending a semester long spring course at VT's Steger Center in Switzerland.</p>
<p>4/29/12 Sunday</p>	<p>Ravi Thackurdeen/ (19) New York</p>	<p>Swarthmore/ Office of Tropical Studies (OTS)/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Costa Rica</p>	<p>Costa Rica/ Drowned/ As an end of semester surprise, OTS took students on a celebratory trip to Playa Tortuga. Students were unaware that locals did not swim this at this beach for its dangerous rip. When Ravi and another student stepped into the water, they were immediately pulled out. A tourist was able to save one student. But Ravi, a skilled swimmer, treaded water for over thirty</p>	<p>Ravi was his high school's valedictorian. In college, he was a double major in chemistry and math. He was interested in public health, preventative medicine and ethnomedicine. Ravi was a certified EMT and served on the Swarthmore Fire and Protective</p>

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			<p>minutes. The program had no rescue equipment or cell phones to call for help. Ravi drowned. His body was found two days later. Ravi’s parents have filed a wrongful death suit against OTS and Duke.</p> <p>https://www.swarthmore.edu/news-events/funeral-service-held-ravi-thackurdeen-14-costa-rica</p> <p>http://www.recordonline.com/article/20150903/NEWS/150909705</p> <p>http://www.ticotimes.net/2013/05/06/her-boy-was-taken</p> <p>https://www.ballenatales.com/en/rip-current-a-silent-killer-100-preventable-death/</p> <p>https://www.leagle.com/decision/infdco20150903c52</p>	<p>Association. He was 2012’s Richard Rubin Scholar and served as research assistant in Professor Stephen Miller’s lab. Ravi planned to attend medical school. Family and friends said of Ravi that he was friendly, hard working and talented, an awesome friend and focused student, inspired and inspirational.</p>
5/12/12 Saturday	Austin Brashears/ (21) California	Boston University/ Boston University/ Undergrad, study abroad, interim travel/ New Zealand	New Zealand/ Vehicular/ Three minivans with 26 students were on their way to hike Tongariro Crossing. One vehicle hit gravel and flipped three times. Three students were killed, five injured, one critically.	Austin was active in his church, soccer, and the Boy Scouts, having achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. During high school, Austin was a straight A student. He also played

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			<p>https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/massachusetts/2012/05/12/boston-university-mourns-loss-three-students-new-zealand-crash/Qlnl843DcbBwcGvV52w8FM/story.html</p> <p>http://www.oregister.com/2012/05/13/student-from-oc-killed-in-new-zealand-crash/</p> <p>http://dailyfreepress.com/2012/05/14/eng-junior-austin-brashears-had-passion-for-alternative-energy-adventure/</p>	<p>varsity water polo and volleyball. In college, Austin was a mechanical engineering major, with a concentration on environmental technologies. He was fascinated with alternative power sources, and particularly studied how those resources were being applied in other countries. It was said of Austin, “[He was] the smartest kid I’ve ever met.”</p>
5/12/12 Saturday	Roch Jauberty/ (21) France	Boston University/ Boston University/ Undergrad, study abroad, interim travel/ New Zealand	<p>New Zealand/ Vehicular/ Three minivans with 26 students were on their way to hike Tongariro Crossing. One vehicle hit gravel and flipped three times. Three students killed, five injured, one critically.</p> <p>https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/massachusetts/2012/05/12/boston-university-mourns-loss-three-students-new-zealand-crash/Qlnl843DcbBwcGvV52w8FM/story.html</p>	<p>Roch was an economics and international relations major, with a minor in business. An avid basketball player, he had started an intramural basketball team on his college campus. Friends described him as enthusiastic and always smiling. His political science professor said, “[Roch] would often talk to me after class about things</p>

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			http://dailyfreepress.com/2012/05/15/cas-sophomore-roch-jauberty-remembered-as-true-friend-excellent-student/	I had said during lecture and he was very witty.”
5/12/12 Saturday	Daniela Lekhno/ (20) New Jersey	Boston University/ Boston University/ Undergrad, study abroad, interim travel/ New Zealand	New Zealand/ Vehicular/ Three minivans with 26 students were on their way to hike Tongariro Crossing. One vehicle hit gravel and flipped three times. Three students killed, five injured, one critically. https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/massachusetts/2012/05/12/boston-university-mourns-loss-three-students-new-zealand-crash/Qlnl843DcbBwcGvV52w8FM/story.html http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/brooklyn-raised-student-boston-university-students-killed-new-zealand-wreck-article-1.1077014 http://dailyfreepress.com/2012/05/14/daniela-lekhno-remembered-by-friends-professors/	Daniela was a business major with a concentration in finance. She was described as a good listener who would thoughtfully analyze all topics. Teachers and peers described her as smart, selfless, and a classroom leader who “raised everyone’s game.” Daniela was a member of Alpha Delta Pi. Friends said she was “a beautiful writer,” “passionate about her education.”
5/18/12 Friday	William Cullen (“Cullen”) Klein/	Florida State University/ Tianjin Foreign	Tianjin, China/ Fall/ Cullen was on his dormitory roof to view the	Cullen was a focused student, having graduated high school in 3 years. As a

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	(19) Florida	Language University/ Undergrad, study abroad/ China	<p>nighttime skyline. He fell 14-stories.</p> <p>http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/21/world/asia/china-florida-student-dies/index.html</p> <p>http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/FSU Student Dies While Studying in China 152289485.html</p> <p>http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/floridatoday/obituary.aspx?pid=157862338</p>	<p>practicing Catholic, Cullen attended a Jesuit retreat and participated in mission work in Haiti. In college, Cullen was a Chinese and Spanish language major, with a minor in French and Arabic. He was awarded the prestigious two years Master's Degree fellowship at Tianjin University.</p>
5/19/12	Evan Dube/ (19) New Hampshire	Bates College/ Shetland Islands Climate and Settlement Project/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Scotland	<p>Scotland/ Medical Event/ Was at a beach cookout and went into cold water with other students. Came out of the water and collapsed. Resuscitation efforts were immediate, but unsuccessful. Evan was taken to the hospital and pronounced dead.</p> <p>https://www.bates.edu/news/2012/05/21/dube/</p> <p>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2147622/US-student-Evan-Dube-archaeological-dig-Shetland-Islands-collapses-dies.html</p> <p>http://www.wmur.com/article/nh-teen-evan-dube-dies-while-studying-in-</p>	<p>Evan was interested in theater, volleyball and Model UN. He was described as a "great debater, very bright, a great speaker." In college, Evan was a classical studies major, where he also built an admirable theatrical resume.</p>

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			scotland/5173889	
6/12/12 Tuesday	Joshua Shane/ (21) Kansas	Arizona State University/ ASU, faculty-led program/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Thailand	Phuket, Thailand/ Drowned/ Students who were at the beach with Joshua became caught in a rip tide. They called Joshua to help them, which he did. Joshua was the only student who didn't make it out of the water. Family later learned that students were placed in Thailand during monsoon, and that the rainy season is linked to a spike in drowning deaths. From May 18 th to June 12 th of that year, at that beach there had been at least seven drowning deaths. http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/local/co_p_shop/thai-police-find-body-of-missing-asu-student/article_0433933a-b585-11e1-9c65-001a4bcf887a.html http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/missing-arizona-student-found-dead-thailand-disappearing-late-night-swim-article-1.1095478	Joshua was passionate about social justice and the environment. In college, he was a sustainable development major, where he served as President of the ASU chapter of Oxfam America.
6/20/12 Wed.	Louis Frierson III/ (20) North Carolina	University of North Carolina/ Japan Gakushuin University/ Undergrad, study	Japan/ Not Available/ No cause of death reported. https://webapp1.meaningfulfunerals.net/?action=obituaries.obit_view&id=1518539&	Louis graduated high school with the highest GPA in the Cisco 1 and 2 programs and was recognized by the College

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		abroad/ Japan	h id=13343	Board as an AP scholar. He loved computers, video games, music, art and writing. In college, Louis was a majoring in Japanese and Computer Science. He made the Dean's List his freshman year and had aspirations of creating a video game that would become his own brand. His family said "he was a dreamer...[who] saw no limits."
6/23/12	Bradford ("Brad") Lanier Killen/ (18) Texas	University of Texas at Austin/ U-Texas "Maymester" program/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Czech Republic	Prague/ Not Available/ No cause of death was reported. http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dallasmorningnews/obituary.aspx?pid=158285250 https://www.dailytexanonline.com/person/bradford-lanier-killen	Brad loved playing music, reading literature, and spending time in nature. He walked, biked, and skateboarded everywhere. He was a freshman philosophy major and at his college started The Existent, an existential philosophy club. Peers credited Brad with open-mindedness and a strong work ethic.
7/18/12	Chad DiGregoria/ (26)	Boston University/ Boston University, Central Lydia	Tekelioglu, Turkey/ Fall/ Chad went in search of artifacts related to his	Chad was a magna cum laude graduate of Providence College in

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	Massachusetts	Archeological Survey/ Graduate school, research program/ Turkey	<p>research. When he failed to return for dinner a police search party used his cell phone GPS to track him. Chad’s body was found the next day, about one hour from campus. He appeared to have fallen in a rugged area of hills and caves.</p> <p>https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2012/07/20/boston-university-graduate-student-found-dead-turkey-from-apparent-fall/tEkDhTsakonlfyE4I3ua0M/story.html</p> <p>https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2013/04/29/boston-university-struggles-with-string-student-deaths/bsPS4PbLBrKTPYi1M9RwxL/story.html</p>	<p>Rhode Island. He then attended BU, where he was a third-year PhD student in archeology. At the time of his death, Chad was involved in several excavations focused on Aegean prehistory. He was described as “one of archeology’s most promising students,” with “a sharp intelligence and great energy and discipline.”</p>
7/19/12	Samantha (“Sam”) Hale/ (21) Indiana	Indiana University- Purdue University, Indianapolis/ IUPUI Service Learning Program/ Undergrad, study abroad, service learning/ Greece	<p>Greece/ Fall/ On June 29th, the last night of Sam’s study abroad program, she fell from a 4th floor balcony. Sam was taken to a hospital in Athens. She died twenty-one days later. News coverage indicated that a police investigation did not identify the cause her fall.</p> <p>http://www.heraldtimesonline.com/stories/2012/07/23/statenews.qp-9438175.sto</p>	<p>Sam loved music, animals, computers and kids. As an informatics major, Sam was one of seven students on a four-week course studying the use of digital media on the island of Paros.</p>

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			http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/indystar/obituary.aspx?pid=158976279	
11/21/12 Wed.	Alyssa Weaver/ (20) Virginia	Northwestern University/ Arcadia University (Philadelphia) and University of London's Goldsmith's program/ Undergrad, study abroad/ England	London/ Medical event, injury, suicide/ Alyssa's family elected to be open about the cause of her death. They hope that what happened to their daughter will contribute toward prevention efforts, both on Northwestern campus and in the broader higher education community. https://dailynorthwestern.com/2012/11/23/campus/weinberg-junior-alyssa-weaver-dies-while-studying-abroad-in-london/ https://dailynorthwestern.com/2012/11/26/campus/weinberg-junior-alyssa-weaver-commits-suicide-on-study-abroad-in-london/	Peers described Alyssa as enthusiastic, saying she "brightened everyone's day." In the aftermath of Alyssa's death, friends and teachers expressed shock, and NU resolved to reexamine mental health services.
11/23/12 Friday	Alexander Reinis/ (20) Texas	Trinity College/ IES Abroad/ Undergrad, study abroad/ England	London/ Medical Event, illness/ Alex lived in student housing. He was feeling unwell. The next morning, Alex's roommate could not rouse him. Medics were called, but Alex quickly died. Bacterial meningitis was determined to be the cause.	Alex was said to be smart, kind, and mature. He was "the nicest guy," "popular with other students" and "made great class presentations."

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			http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/education/article/Trinity-junior-dies-abroad-2284974.php http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesman/obituary.aspx?pid=154759083	
12/1/12 Saturday	Casey Shulman/ (22) Virginia	University of Virginia/ Semester at Sea/ Undergrad, study abroad/ Dominica	Dominica/ Vehicular with Medical Event/ While snorkeling with fellow students, a boat reversed course and drove over Casey, causing lethal injuries. http://abcnews.go.com/US/university-virginia-student-diver-killed-boat-propeller-dominica/story?id=17868006 https://news.virginia.edu/content/uva-community-mourns-loss-fourth-year-student-casey-schulman http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/uva-semester-at-sea-to-cut-ties-in/article_4de00b9e-f42b-11e3-a421-001a4bcf6878.html	In high school, Casey received an IB diploma and was a member of National Honor Society. Casey's college major was foreign affairs. Peers said her "smile could light up an entire room." She "spoke with clarity about issues that mattered."
12/2/12 Sunday	Morgan Lide/ (17) Georgia	Wheeler High School/ Kennedy-Luger Youth Exchange	Bali, Indonesia/ Drowned/ Morgan went swimming with her host family along the coast of Bali. The group lost sight of	Morgan was a promising high school senior, an honor student in math and science, discovering a

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		Program/ High school, federally-funded education abroad program/ Indonesia	<p>her. She later washed up to shore, but was unresponsive.</p> <p>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2242745/Morgan-Lide-High-school-student-drowns-study-abroad-year-Bali.html</p> <p>http://www.cbs46.com/story/20259610/marietta-student-downsin-bali-while-studing-abroad</p>	<p>passion for art. The prestigious State Department Kennedy-Luger program had chosen Morgan for this study abroad program. She began her study in September of 2012 and blogged about her experiences as “Morgan in Indonesia.”</p>

Non-lethal incidents in 2012 include:

Robberies

Sexual assaults

Near-drowning

Fall

Mob violence

Attempted murder by stabbing

Motor vehicle accidents (car, bus)

Lost in inclement weather