

## SIENA ABROAD IDENTITY SERIES:

# PHYSICAL & LEARNING DISABILITIES

Some countries or foreign universities may not recognize learning or physical differences or have the capacity to accommodate them as well as here in the U.S. However, some will. Make sure to thoroughly research your program to get details about their options for accommodations so you can advocate for yourself and be successful.

You will always have support though. At Siena, the Center for International Programs, the Office of Accessibility, and the Counseling Center work together closely to ensure students have the opportunity to study abroad and receive support for obtaining comparable accommodations abroad.

## questions to consider

- What accommodations do I need for daily living - on an airplane, in housing, during classes, during program or class excursions?
- Am I willing to disclose my disability to others?
- What cultural perceptions and behaviors exist surrounding disabilities in my host country?
- Have I discussed my needs abroad with the Office of Accessibility and if necessary, requested an accommodations letter for my study abroad program?
- Will my disability prevent me from participating in certain excursions?
- Is my study abroad program or foreign university able to accommodate my needs? Who is my primary contact on my program for accessibility and accommodations?
- Is the region I'm traveling to accessible?
- What kind of technology resources are available to assist me?
- What academic policies exist to help students with learning disabilities?

## resources

- [Mobility International USA](#) (organization)
- [Wheelchair Travel](#) (blog)
- [Travelers with Disabilities](#) (U.S. Dept of State)
- [The Ultimate Guide to Studying Abroad with a Disability](#) (article)
- [Disability and Study Abroad](#) (YouTube)

