

International Affairs Opportunities and Resources Career Panel

Top Ten Takeaways

On Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018, the Rowan University International Studies program hosted a career panel about the opportunities and resources for students in the major. Dr. Corinne Blake, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Robert Bullard, Director of the Office of Career Advancement shared their expertise. Here are the top ten takeaways from the presentation.

1. Build connections with professors

To get jobs and opportunities, you need to network with people in your field of study. This begins right here at Rowan. Take multiple classes with the same professors, go to office hours and ask questions in class to cultivate a relationship. Then, when it's time to ask someone for a recommendation, you will know exactly who to go to.

2. Check the website

The [International Studies](#) page is a great resource for information about interesting courses, scholarship opportunities, study abroad, and much more.

3. Study abroad

The Study Abroad program provides some of the most rewarding opportunities college has to offer, so be sure to submit an [application](#). Studying abroad is your chance to explore your major in a completely different culture. For International Affairs students in particular, try to fit studying abroad in during the semester as opposed to during breaks. You will be able to communicate with local students while school is in session, and generally spend more time in a country.

4. Establish a useful minor

Talk to your advisor and see what a [minor](#) can do for your career after graduation. Having a wide variety of skills is a great way to make you indispensable to your next employer.

5. Work what you have

If your relatives or ancestry provide a means to gain citizenship abroad, use it! For example, having a dual citizenship in one European country makes traveling within the continent much easier. Look into the process and see if you have an “in!”

6. Get an internship and work abroad

You have probably heard this before, but internships really do provide practical experience within your field. It will never be easier to find an [internship abroad](#) than with the numerous resources on campus. There are also many outside organizations such as World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms ([WWOOF](#)), [Peace Corps](#), and the [Fulbright Program](#) that provide work and volunteer experience abroad.

7. Hone your resume and cover letter

Something a lot of people get wrong on their resume? Their name! Be sure to always double, and triple check the content on your resume. Take the time to cater your resume to the job that you are applying for and be sure to articulate any international experience. Finally, stop by the Office of Career Advancement on campus to have your resume critiqued by the professionals.

8. Nail the interview

A solid resume can only get you so far. Presenting yourself in a professional manner in an interview is the key to getting hired. Check out these [interview tips](#) to maximize your chances of success. It is also important to know how to articulate the importance of your major in an interview. Have some answers prepared for commonly asked questions and be sure to do research on the organization and position that you're interviewing for.

9. Learn another language

Knowing how to speak multiple languages allows you to travel smarter, improve your employability, and develop overall global perspective.

10. There is SO much you can do with a degree in international studies.

Through different concentrations, students can seek careers in international education, government, development, business, and many more. Employers will likely see real value in the global perspective earned through the major. To find out more about the opportunities and resources that Rowan provides, check out the [International Studies page](#).

--by Chloe Smith