



The KESHER Study Abroad Guide

Compiled by Traci Stratford, Indiana University '09
KESHER Student Leadership Council 2007-2008



Introduction

The opportunity to study abroad while in college is not one to be taken for granted. A surprisingly large number of people in the United States ever venture out of their home state, let alone to another country. Living and breathing a country different from that of your native home can be a frightening and overwhelming experience but more importantly, spending time abroad can and will be life changing.

This guide entitled “*Studying Abroad? Your KESHER to Judaism while Overseas*” is meant to help make your time abroad a little easier. By no means is this resource covering every university and country Jewish students are studying in. However, a Reform Jewish young adult has studied at every location on this list and many of the schools may surprise you.

A majority of the information collected is accessible on the Internet, and websites were included for all the counties and institutions. A majority of this guide was comprised while studying abroad at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Be’er Sheva, Israel. However, the decision was made not to include Israel in this resource. While studying abroad in Israel is important and should be considered by any student interested, this guide is meant for those traveling to places where the Jewish community may be harder to find.

Information and programs are always changing and this guide includes the most recent and up-to-date information available. If you see a discrepancy, have a comment or either studied at one of the listed universities and would like to add a personal comment to its entry or studied somewhere else that you would like to see included—please contact the KESHER student editor. To access a great database of international Reform congregations, Please go to: <http://wupj.org/Congregations/Overview.asp>

Good luck abroad!

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<http://www.keshercollege.org>

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Studying Abroad? Your KESHER to Judaism while Overseas By Traci Stratford, KESHER Student Leadership Council 2007-2008

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AUSTRALIA

*In Australia? Here is a website of useful Jewish links:
<http://www.nste.org.au/>*

Australian National University *Canberra, Australia*
Website: <http://www.anu.edu.au/>

About the City and University:

- * Federal Capital of Australia
- * Modern, planned city of 300,000
- * Surrounded by mountains, large lake, beautiful parks

“Researchers and their work have led the University to be ranked in the world top 50... Life as an ANU student is much more than just attending classes. The university experience extends from the social to the cultural, from mentoring to health cover, and from planning your weekend to planning your career.”

-anu.edu.au

Jewish Community in Canberra:

The Jewish community here is small, but has embraced their size and become one cohesive community for all Jewish representations.

The ACT Jewish Community Centre

Website: <http://www.actjewish.org.au/>

ACT offers both Orthodox and Progressive (Reform) services and a wide array of Jewish Programming. Reform services are held at the Jewish Community Centre on Fridays at 6:00 PM and the First Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM.

University of Sydney *Sydney, Australia*

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Website: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/studyabroad/>

About the City and University:

*The university has an excellent reputation for research and teaching, and offers a diverse range of courses.

*There is a vibrant student life on campus, with plenty of sporting facilities, student activities and clubs.

*Sydney is the oldest city in Australia, also known as the Harbor City and is most famous for the Opera House and Sydney Harbor Bridge.

“Studying in Australia will be an experience to remember all your life, whether through the Study Abroad and Student Exchange Program or at the summer and Winter Schools. It’s the perfect way to meet people from Australia and around the world, and to experience a different way of life as you gain invaluable knowledge through study and interaction with fellow students from different cultures and walks of life. At the University of Sydney we aim to provide you with an education that will truly make you stand out from the crowd. We invite you to join us for the experience of a lifetime!”

-University of Sydney Study Abroad Brochure

Jewish Community in Sydney:

The Jewish community in Sydney currently numbers around 40,000 people. They are spread all around the city and there is a Jewish Community Centre and the Sydney Jewish Museum in Darlinghurst (East Sydney). There is even a kosher kitchen at the Jewish Residence Halls at the university. (On Abercrombie Street)

North Shore Temple Emanuel, a Progressive Synagogue is North of the Harbor in Chatswood. Website: <http://www.nste.org.au/> The congregation holds a Kabbalat Shabbat service every Friday night at 6:30 and Shabbat morning services at 10 am.

University of Queensland

Brisbane, Australia

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Website: <http://www.uq.edu.au/studyabroad/>

About the City and University:

*Brisbane is surrounded by beaches, national park rainforests and is a great place for outdoor activities.

*A city with rich culture, Brisbane is home to plenty of museums, cafes and multi-ethnic restaurants.

*The university is home to almost 38,000 students from more than 113 countries.

*UQ offers a wide variety of class choices, top-notch faculty and a great location in Australia.

“UQ’s longstanding reputation for quality is reinforced by affiliations with prestigious national and international groups, including the Australian Group of Eight (Go8) and Universitas 21. Internationally the University ranks in the world’s top 35 in a ranking compiled in by the prestigious Times Higher Education Supplement. It also consistently ranks as one of the best universities in the Asia-Pacific region by the Shanghai Jiao Tong University’s Academic Ranking of World Universities.”

-www.uq.edu.ac

Jewish Community in Brisbane:

The Brisbane Progressive Jewish Congregation exists to provide a welcoming, friendly environment where Progressive Jews can worship, learn and grow, and where everyone can contribute to the Jewish and broader community of Brisbane. They accomplish this by providing for the religious, cultural, educational and social needs of Progressive Jews in Brisbane through services, learning programs and social activities that celebrate the principles of Torah, Talmud and Progressive Judaism.

Shabbat services are held on the first and third Shabbat of the month at the Coorparoo School of Arts. Website: <http://www.bpj.org.au/>

BELIZE

Galen University

Website: www.galen.edu.bz/

San Ignacio, Belize

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About the City and University:

* Belize lies along the Caribbean coast just south of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. It is a small, English speaking county with the world's second longest barrier reef.

*Galen offers integration of concepts of sustainable development, field trips linked to many courses, innovative educational programs, affordable tuition, a student-centered institution where diversity is valued and is committed and highly qualified faculty.

*Galen offers academic study in the following areas: Archeology, Anthropology, Environmental Science, Business Administration, International Business, Marketing, Economics and Finance, Tourism Management

*Beliz is a great place to live in a lush tropical campus, see Maya ruins and cities and explore the jungle (canoeing, hiking, bird watching, etc).

"The mission of Galen University is to provide excellence in undergraduate, graduate, and professional education to prepare students to achieve their dreams and goals. Galen University is committed to providing an exciting and stimulating learning environment, innovative and supportive teaching, scholarship, and active service to the community - with a unique focus on "sustainable development" throughout our courses, programs, and service."

- www.galen.edu.bz/

Jewish Community in Belize:

There are very few, if any Jews in Belize. After World War II, they gave 600 visas to fleeing Jewish people to enter the country, but most have left or died. Neighboring countries, especially Mexico and Guatemala have communities that are easily to visit.

COSTA RICA

University of Costa Rica

San Pedro, Costa Rica

Website: <http://www.ucr.ac.cr/>

About the City and University:

*UCR (a public university) is the oldest and largest institution of higher learning in Costa Rica. There are around 38,000 students.

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*The university is split into 6 study areas: Agricultural Sciences, Arts and Letters, Basic Sciences, Engineering, Health and Social Sciences. Each of these studies is then divided into colleges, departments and research centers.

*San Pedro is a suburb of San Jose located in the Central Valley of the country and surrounded by three volcanoes, hillsides and coffee plantations. The city itself also has a number of bars, restaurants and discos at relatively low prices.

Jewish Community in Costa Rica:

It is believed that the Jewish community in Costa Rica numbers around 2,000 and it's also estimated that there are another 1,000 Jews who are not identified. According to the Jewish Community of Costa Rica (JCCR.org), the dominant sect is orthodoxy but there is a Reform group that meets weekly at 7:30 pm for Shabbat services and caters primarily to America Jews. This congregation is called B'nai Israel.

Contact information:

Old Road Escazu--700m west of pops in the Sabana corner building, left side

Phone: 506 231-5243

E-mail: congbnei@racsa.co.cr

FRANCE

American University of Paris

Paris, France

Website: www.aup.fr

About the City and University:

*AUP is an independent college of liberal arts and sciences employing 44 full-time and 61 part-time professors. There are 1,000 students representing 100 nationalities. The Student to teacher (full-time) ratio is 17:1. Courses are taught in English.

*The university is in the urban center of Paris, located in the seventh arrondissement, on the Left Bank, near the Eiffel Tower and the Seine.

*Paris is a cultural center of the world. There's an unbelievable amount of things to do, things to see, places to go--from the Eiffel Tower to Mulan Rouge. Not only does the university offer many student clubs and organizations, the city can fill any gaps.

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“Today, we are proud to say that AUP is transforming from a unique liberal arts, globally-focused college into a small world university of the first rank. We envision becoming over the next decade a distinguished institution—employing the American model of education so admired in the world, but with a European perspective—made up of a global, multicultural faculty and student body, with extraordinary educational and scholarly potential for both.”

[-www.aup.fr](http://www.aup.fr)

Jewish Community in Paris:

Jews have been living in Paris since the 13th century. Today, ancient Jewish homes and synagogues serve as great places to see architecture of the time. Notre Dame is also the place to see the famous *Synagogue* statue, a woman holding a serpent and wearing a blindfold—meant to represent the Jewish people.

There are a number of Reform congregations in Paris. Kehilat Gesher (Website: <http://www.kehilatgesher.org/>) is a French-American congregation that brings together both Reform and Conservative Judaism. Another congregation is CJL—Communaute Juive Liberale Ile de France (Community of Jewish Liberals in France). Their website: <http://www.cjl-paris.org/>

University of Lyon

Lyon, France

Website: <http://www.universite-lyon.fr>

About the City and University:

*Lyons is located 2 hrs (by train) south east of Paris in the Rhone-Alps region and is encompassed by the beauty of the Alps Mountains, Rhone valley and Massif Central. It truly is the heart of southern France.

*The University is comprised of 90,000 students (13% foreign) and has 10,000 researchers and teaching-researchers in 510 public and private laboratories.

*A majority of the courses at University of Lyons are taught in French, with the growing exception of some science and management courses at the post graduate level.

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“Lyon has an Opera House and a National Symphony Orchestra, a National Centre for Contemporary Art, a House of Dance, the Lumière Cinema Institute in homage to the 1st film in the history of cinema (which was made in Lyon) and a wide variety of sites of artistic creation. There is an exceptional range on offer in all fields: film, theatre, music, dance, museums, theme cafés, university public lectures and more. Many major events punctuate cultural life: for example, the biennials dance festival, the biennial contemporary art festival, the “Nuits de Fourvière” (popular and classical concerts, plus theatre, from the Roman amphitheatre). And, every year, on 8 December, the city is illuminated for the Festival of Light.”

-universite-lyon.fr

Jewish Community in Lyon:

Lyon currently has a Jewish population around 20,000. Many Jews came to settle here after World War II. There are more than 20 synagogues in the area, but only one Progressive congregation.

Lyon - Communauté Juive Libérale Rhône-Alpes
7 Quai Jean Moulin
Lyon, France
Tel: 04-72-00-27-13

CZECH REPUBLIC

Charles University

Prague, Czech Republic

Website: <http://www.cuni.cz/UKENG-1.html>

About the City and University:

*Prague is the capital of the Czech Republic and is a city with stunning architecture from many centuries upon the hillsides along the winding Vltava River.

*Charles University was founded in 1348 and is one of the oldest universities in the world. The student population is over 42,000 and included are over 4,000 foreign students.

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“Charles University now contains 17 faculties (14 in Prague, 2 in Hradec Králové, and 1 in Plzeň), 3 collegiate institutes, 6 additional establishments for educational, scientific, research and developmental activities and other creative activities and for information service, 5 university-wide facilities and the vice-chancellor’s/ rector’s office as an executive establishment for Charles University management. There are more than 7000 University employees, 4000 of them are academic and research workers.”

-www.cuni.cz

Jewish Community in Prague:

The number of Jewish in Prague today is only a few thousand, however it has been growing. There is one Progressive Congregation in Prague, Beit Simcha (website: <http://english.bejtsimcha.cz/>). They have services every Friday evening.

There is an extremely rich Jewish history in Prague dating back to the 13th century. The Jewish Museum in Prague (<http://www.jewishmuseum.cz/aindex.htm>) is a great place to explore beautiful synagogues and the rich Jewish history that once lived in this city.

DENMARK

Danish Institute for Study Abroad

Copenhagen, Denmark

Website: <http://www.dis.dk>

About the City and University:

*DIS is located in the center of Copenhagen and within walking distance you'll find the main universities and research libraries of the country; parliament, government offices, European Union agencies, and Denmark's Central Bank; superb art collections and national museums; the national research hospital; the Royal Theater; the national media; and Danish and international company headquarters.

*The university is home to a plethora of student activities, clubs, sports—everything from American football and frisbee to film clubs and an international club.

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“DIS is located in the very center of old Copenhagen – only two minutes’ walk from City Hall Square and the central pedestrian and shopping street ‘Strøget’. The buildings date from 1798 and are protected by the Danish Preservation Act. Here you will find student lounges, administration, student services, classrooms, group rooms and architecture studios, the DIS library, and computer labs with PCs including free Internet access. Most classrooms are just across the street, so unlike in many other big-city study abroad programs you don’t have to travel between facilities and classes.”

-www.dis.dk

Jewish Community in Copenhagen:

Shir Hatzafon is a Progressive Jewish congregation in Copenhagen.

Website: www.shirhatzafon.dk/

Their purpose is to promote and support the development of a Progressive Jewish community in Denmark. It is their goal to create a strong Progressive Jewish congregation in Copenhagen that can attract Jewish people from all of Denmark and the Øresund region (i.e., Copenhagen, Malmö and Southern Sweden). They aim to strengthen the collectivity of Jewish life and expression in Denmark. By means of worship services, studies, discussions, celebrating Jewish holidays and a wide range of other activities, we seek to contribute to making Jewish life and Jewish traditions meaningful in our present time.

EGYPT

The American University in Cairo

Cairo, Egypt

Website: <http://www.aucegypt.edu>

About the City and University:

- * Capital city
- * Melting Pot of Ancient and Modern Egyptian Civilizations
- * Home of one of the Seven Wonders of the World: The Great Pyramids of Giza
- * Located on Tahrir Square and 5 city blocks in downtown Cairo
- * More than 500 international students study at AUC every year.

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“Egypt’s strategic position international students the unique experience of living immersed in the region’s rich culture, prominent history and incredibly diverse society, allowing them to gain valuable insight and better understanding of the inner workings of an Arab country. The university is fully accredited in Egypt and the United States. The language of instruction is English.”

-aucegypt.edu

Jewish Community in Cairo:

Shaar Hashamaim Synagogue (5 Adly St.)

The last remaining Jewish Synagogue in Cairo and while it is open on the weekend for Shabbat, there is rarely-- if ever-- a minion.

IRELAND

University College Dublin

Dublin, Ireland

Website: www.ucd.ie

About the City and University:

*UCD is home to nearly 14,000 undergraduate students and hosts around 1,200 undergraduate international students each year.

*The university is comprised of 5 colleges and 25 schools; nearly 25% of the student population (totally roughly 17,000 students) is engaged in graduate study or research.

*Dublin in the capitol of Ireland, located on the east coast. The city has a vibrant population—Irish people are very friendly, great nightlife and cultural scene and if you’re there in the spring—St. Patrick’s Day festivities should not be missed!

“UCD provides excellent facilities to support teaching and learning. There are well-resourced libraries and extensive computing facilities. The university is rapidly moving forward in the area of e-learning, and you will find more and more resources to support your learning available electronically both on- and off-campus. Student health, welfare and counseling services are second-to none and there are superb opportunities for sports and recreation. UCD provides the range of services that students need to make their time at UCD enjoyable and fulfilling, educationally and professionally.”

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-ucd.ie

Jewish Community in Dublin:

Dublin Jewish Progressive Congregation (Knesset Orach Chayim) is located at 7 Leicester Avenue Rathgar

For more information about the congregation

Email: djpc@liberaljudaism.org or call 00-3531 4907645

ITALY

American University of Rome

Rome, Italy

Website: <http://www.aur.edu/>

About the City and University:

*AUR is a small-private school with between 500 and 600 student enrolled every semester. The average class size is between 15 and 20 students.

*Rome is one of the most famous cities in the world, if not the most well known. Rome is home of the Coliseum, Pantheon, Catacombs, Castle Sant' Angelo, St. Peter's Cathedral and the Sistine Chapel.

* AUR is located on Janiculum, Rome's highest hill, just a few minutes walk from the historical Trastevere district. The neighborhood surrounding AUR offers a full range of amenities, including restaurants, shops, cafés and outdoor markets and there are number of buses daily to the city center.

"Life at AUR is truly an experience unlike any other. While our campus is intimate, we like to think of the entire city of Rome as our "classroom".

Much of your time will be spent on campus using the facilities and partaking in student body events. Most likely, just as much of your time will be spent in Roman cafes reading course material, or on a bench near the Coliseum writing a draft of your final term paper. Wherever you are, here is where you will find information to help you get used to Life at AUR."

www.aur.edu

Jewish Life in Rome:

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There are around 15,000 Jews living in Rome today, most of whom are Sephardic. There are no Progressive congregations in Rome, however there are a number of orthodox shuls. For more information:

<http://www.jewishitaly.org/city.asp?Type=1>

Florence University of the Arts

Florence, Italy

Website: <http://www.fua.it/>

About the City and University:

* Florence offers many opportunities for enjoyment and learning; it is a very lively city: museum, galleries, restaurants, café, and a very exciting nightlife. And the most important thing, it is a very safe city: you can walk anywhere at any time of the day. The city of Florence is so full of artworks, museums and palaces. It's a small city—walkable in about a half hour.

*All courses are taught in English, with the exception of Italian language classes. FUA offers courses in five different colleges: Liberal Arts, Fine & Visual Arts, Life Science/Environmental Studies & Human Services, the College of Science and the College of Business and Economics.

* The FUA faculty is highly qualified and dedicated. A high percentage of the faculty is of Italian nationality, all with excellent proficiency in English. Most of our Studio Art instructors are critically acclaimed professionals in their fields.

“Florence University of the Arts offers the possibility of studying while living immersed in a culturally advanced atmosphere that has rendered Florence one of the most famous art centers in the world. Our students have the advantage of exercising the continuous evolution of artistic practice and theory supported by two architectural bastions that keep alive Florentine tradition, culture, and the unforgettable moment in human history we call the Renaissance.”

-fua.it

Jewish Community in Florence:

There are less than a thousand Jews living in Florence today, however one of three Progressive Synagogues is located here. Shir Hadash is located at Via Dante Alighieri 6, Firenze 5 and can be contacted via email:

contact@ShirHadashItalia.org or by phone: 39 055 284 541

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PERU

Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

Lima, Peru

Website: www.pucp.edu.pe

About the City and University:

*PUCP is a prestigious private university founded in 1917. There are over 15,000 students and 100 studying from international locations.

*Lima is the political, intellectual and cultural capital of Peru and is situated on the Pacific coast.

*Lima is the base for travel to the Andes Mountains, Amazon rain forest and pre-Columbian ruins on costal desert.

Jewish Community in Lima:

The Jewish community in Peru numbers 3,000 (almost exclusively in Lima). There are three synagogues in Peru and although there is not a Progressive community, one is a conservative synagogue, Sociedad de Beneficencia Israelita 1870 Jose Galvez street

SOUTH AFRICA

University of Cape Town

Cape Town, South Africa

Website: www.uct.ac.za

About the City and University:

*UCT is South Africa's oldest university, and is one of Africa's leading teaching and research institutions. They emphasis being an outstanding teaching and research university, while educating for life and addressing the challenges facing society.

*The university is comprised of 70 departments and has a total student population of around 20,000 (roughly 4,000 are international students from 96 different countries).

*Cape Town is one of the most popular South African tourist destinations. Not only does it have a great climate, but wonderful outdoor activities, nightlife and history, especially about the Apartheid.

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“UCT is South Africa's oldest university, founded in 1829 as the South African College. Its campus is located in one of the most beautiful spots on the Cape Peninsula, on the slopes of Table Mountain. This vantage point offers panoramic views and easy access to the city of Cape Town itself. UCT is a university that prides itself not only on its undergraduate education, but also on its graduate programs and the excellent research carried out by its faculties.”

-uct.ac.za

Jewish Community in Cape Town:

There are over 100,000 Jews in South Africa, and Cape Town has the second highest population behind Johannesburg. The Jewish population is generally affluent, well educated, has strong ties to Zionism and was relatively vocal against Apartheid. There are a number of Progressive congregations in South Africa, and three in Cape Town. For contact information: <http://www.saupj.org.za/whowe/addresses.html>

SPAIN

University of Barcelona

Barcelona, Spain

Website: <http://www.ub.es/homeub/en/>

About the City and University:

*Barcelona is a culturally diverse city on the Mediterranean Sea and a great place to experience Spanish culture as well as art (Picasso and Miro as well as architecture by Gaudi).

*There are nearly 50,000 undergraduate students at UB and 5,000 faculty and research staff members.

*The university was founded in 1450 and is situated in the center of Barcelona.

“Since it was founded in the Late Middle Ages, the University of Barcelona has always played an important role in providing academic and scientific services to the community. A point of historical reference for Catalan society, the university has witnessed the various changes and events that have marked Barcelona’s history and the history of Catalonia and Spain, an it stands today as one of the country’s most prestigious institutions for research and higher education.”

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-University of Barcelona Figures for the Academic Year 2006-2007
brochure

Jewish Community in Barcelona:

The Comunitat Jueva de Catalunya (The Jewish Community of Catalunya) is a Progressive congregation in Barcelona. Website: www.atid.es (in Spanish) They have services Friday evenings at 8 pm and Saturday mornings at 10:15 am.

University of Madrid

Madrid, Spain

Website: www.ucm.es (Spanish)

About the City and University:

*Madrid is the political capitol of Spain and home to nearly 5 million people. It is a modern, dynamic and cosmopolitan city with a rich cultural tradition.

*The University of Madrid is organized on the basis of several semiautonomous schools called *facultades*, which vary in size from a few hundred students to a several thousand. The university's total enrollment is well over 150,00 students.

*The university is generally speaking a commuter campus for local students, however there are ample activities for students to participate in, especially extra curricular sports.

Jewish Community in Madrid:

There is no Progressive (Reform) community in Madrid. There is a Sphardic Orthodox community. Website:

<http://www.comjudiamadrid.org/welcome.htm>

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TURKEY

Faith University

Istanbul, Turkey

Website: www.fatih.edu.tr

About the City and University:

*Istanbul is the 4th largest city in the world and home to more than 11 billion people. The major religion is Islam. This historically rich city (especially for the architecture fan) was named Constantinople by the Romans in 330 CE.

*Faith University teaches classes in English and offers more than 70 clubs and activities for their students to take part in.

*The university is very new, first classes were offered in 1997-98. It has a modern academic environment including faculty buildings, social facilities, student residences, cinema halls, cafeterias, dining halls, a library, a bookstore, a stationery, a tailor, a hairdresser, an internet café, etc

"It goes without saying that Faith University is a popular university chosen by many successful students because of the scholarships and the social and cultural facilities it offers them. Modern buildings and state-of-the-art laboratories, a distinguished academic staff, a lively, dynamic, colorful and sincere environment, a good library, dormitories, transportation services, concerts, excursions, national and international congresses and conferences, and art, culture and sports activities are just some of the resources and facilities accessible to our students. These resources and facilities have contributed tremendously to the many achievements our students have gained so far. Our rapidly increasing number of students every year indicates that we are progressing on the right path."

-www.catalogue.fatih.edu.tr

Jewish Community in Istanbul:

Istanbul is home to roughly 25,000 Jews (the second largest population in a Muslim country). There are 16 synagogues in Istanbul and all are Sephardic except for one. There are no reform congregations, but many of the synagogues are worth a visit—if not for the art and architecture alone.

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Ashkenazi Congregation, Yuksek Kaldirim No.37, Galata. Tel: +90 212 2442975

Neve Shalom Synagogue is the largest and most popular synagogue

Website: www.nevesalom.org/english/home.htm

(If you're entering for prayer, you must bring your passport)

UNITED KINGDOM

Lancaster University

Lancaster, UK

Website: <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/>

About the City and University:

*Over 1,500 international students from 110 nations study abroad at Lancaster and 14% of the undergraduate student population is from outside the UK.

*The city of Lancaster is a 10-minute train ride from the university and has plenty of opportunities for entertainment and recreation, including theaters, nightclubs, pubs and restaurants.

*Lancaster is ranked 8th in the UK for research and is recognized as one of the world's top 100 in social sciences.

"Study abroad and exchange students at Lancaster are fully integrated into our normal academic program. Your workload will correspond as closely as possible with that of regular second or third (final) year British students and you are integrated into Lancaster's residences, social life and extra-curricular activities. Most students feel quickly at home here and find it easy to meet other students and participate fully in the life of the University."

-lancs.ac.uk

Jewish Community in Lancaster:

The Jewish community in the United Kingdom is very large, with much of the Progressive Jewish life centered in London. However, there is a vibrant Reform community in Manchester, about 15 minutes away by train.

The KESHER Study Abroad Guide

<http://www.keshercollege.org>

KESHER is the campus program of the Union for Reform Judaism.



The Manchester Liberal Jewish Community Website:
<http://www.mljc.org.uk/> offers services weekly for Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat morning.

University of Kent

Canterbury, UK

Website: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/>

About the City and University:

*There are approximately 11,000 students at the Canterbury campus, including undergraduates and postgraduates, plus lecturers, research staff, members of the local community and overseas students on a year abroad. With over 130 nationalities represented, the campus has a very cosmopolitan feel.

*Canterbury is only 56 miles from London, 30 minutes drive from the Channel Tunnel at Folkestone or the Eurostar terminal at Ashford, and only six miles from the beach at Whitstable.

*The Venue, located near the student union was voted best student nightclub in the UK in 2007 and is open daily from 9pm to 2 am.

"The Canterbury campus is Kent's original site, founded in 1965. It is built on 300 acres of parkland overlooking Canterbury and is still growing and evolving. Modern buildings are surrounded by open green spaces, courtyards, gardens, ponds and woodland, and the view across Canterbury all help to make it an attractive and friendly campus."

-www.kent.ac.uk

Jewish Community in Canterbury:

The Jewish community in Kent is one of the oldest in Britain, dating back to the 1600s, however the community today in Canterbury is extremely tiny. While there are no synagogues in Canterbury, there are plenty in London proper as well as one within a rather short distance.

The Bromley Reform Synagogue

(Website: <http://www.bromleyshul.org.uk/>) Friday evening services begin at either 6:30, 7:30 or 8 depending on the week and Saturday morning services begin at 10:30. This synagogue also offers many programs and events for the community to take part in.

The KESHER Study Abroad Guide

<http://www.keshercollege.org>

KESHER is the campus program of the Union for Reform Judaism.



University of London
Website: www.lon.ac.uk

London, United Kingdom

About the City and University:

*The universities student population is around 90,000 and nearly 3,700 courses are offered each year.

*The University of London student union offers a wide range of activities and opportunity for students to participate in. Their website is ulu.ac.uk.

*London is probably one of the most well-known and popular urban centers in Europe. The city is home to everything from Shakespeare to all night pubs and the Queen of England herself. There's never a dull moment.

"The university is committed to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in a research environment, which draws on many different traditions, practices and methods in a wide variety of institutions, offering unsurpassed opportunities to students from all countries who are able to benefit from its courses so that they attain the highest academic standards and develop to the most exacting intellectual level."

-lon.ac.uk

Jewish Community in London:

The Reform community in London is made up of over 40 synagogues and nearly 40,000 members. There are a number of synagogues within walking distance of the university. For a complete list of London synagogues: <http://wupj.org/Congregations/Europe.asp#UnitedKingdom>

It is also important to note that in England, Reform Judaism is also referred to as Liberal Judaism and many congregations will identify with this title.

The University of Nottingham
Website: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/>

Nottingham, UK

About the City and University:

The KESHER Study Abroad Guide
<http://www.keshercollege.org>

KESHER is the campus program of the Union for Reform Judaism.



*The University of Nottingham has been ranked in the top 1% of all universities in the world (out of more than 7,500 institutions of higher education).

* Nottingham is one of the UK's most cosmopolitan cities: its compact centre combines proud history with cutting-edge modernity – from the world's oldest pub to designer boutiques.

* The university has a thriving international community of around 30,000 students from more than 140 different countries.

Jewish Community in Nottingham:

The Nottingham Progressive Synagogue offers services on Friday evenings at 8:30 pm (First Friday of the month at 5:30 pm) and Saturday mornings at 11 am. For more information: call (0115) 962 4761

The University of Nottingham also has a Jewish student organization, The Nottingham University Jewish & Israel Society and is located in the student union building. For more information, contact:

jsoc@nottingham.ac.uk

The KESHER Study Abroad Guide
<http://www.keshercollege.org>

KESHER is the campus program of the Union for Reform Judaism.