How did you feel when Chris first mentioned studying abroad? 
We thought this would be a great experience for Chris. We were very supportive of the idea.

Did you have concerns about your son studying abroad? How did you overcome these concerns? 
The concerns we had involved his safety and his ability to earn credits toward graduation. Chris was very good at communicating his plans and desires. Reading about the program was also very helpful.

What are the benefits of study abroad? 
We thought this would be a great opportunity for Chris to travel and gain a world view. The experience also expanded his interests. He now has interests in theater, museums, and history, which were not there before.

What advice do you have for parents of prospective study abroad students? 
Communicating with your son or daughter about their plans is key. Talk with them regularly over Skype. We suggest going to visit them. Being able to see where they live, go to school, and experience the culture helps to create a connection.

What advice do you have for parents who are concerned about the cost of study abroad? 
Chris was responsible for the additional costs and he planned accordingly. One thing to keep in mind is that it isn’t just the cost of the program that needs to be considered. You have to consider the additional travel costs while studying abroad. Chris kept his travel relatively inexpensive by staying in youth hostels and visiting other friends studying abroad in other countries.

How did your son change after studying abroad? 
Chris came home very confident because he was able to travel throughout Europe. He gained a broader perspective of the world and appreciation for the arts and other cultures.