

GLOBAL GREYHOUND GAZETTE

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Get to Know Basma Tokhta, '21

BY BRYN WIRAGH '20 | EDITOR & COPYWRITER

Basma Tokhta lived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia until her husband was accepted into a master's degree program in Chicago. During their two years in the midwest, Basma decided to take advantage of living in the United States and learned English, a language which she knew none of upon her arrival. Basma and her husband returned to Saudi Arabia for one month and then returned to the US after he was accepted to study at Seton Hall University in New Jersey. Basma decided she also wanted to study in the US, so she took the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

Basma was accepted into Cedar Crest College in Allentown, PA where she majored in nutrition. She had her son, Basel, in the fall of 2018 and soon realized being a nutrition major was no longer working with her schedule anymore. With a quick turnaround, Basma applied to Moravian College and was accepted to begin studying accounting in January 2019.

She chose accounting because it was the best fit for her of the options offered. She soon found she enjoys the subject. It allows her to have an organized and more flexible schedule so she can balance time studying and with her family.

Basma enjoys Moravian because it offers 4 credit classes, as well as including an Apple laptop and iPad in tuition costs. She likes the size and location of Moravian's campus - where it has a North and South campus, as well as being in the middle of Bethlehem, a small city. Basma's favorite place to study on campus is the 2nd floor of Reeves Library where its silence is the perfect place to work. Basma is also member of the CGE team, where she appreciates the opportunity to work at Moravian while being a student. Best of all, Basma enjoys the Moravian community, where the students and staff are always friendly and respectful toward one another.



Announcements from Manny, Amy & Anize

- Drop In Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 2-3:30 pm in CGE.
- All other inquiries must make an appointment.
- On March 20, BSU & International Club are cosponsoring the Apollo Show - an event to showcase your talents! Register to perform [here](#) by Saturday, February 29.
 - Prizes of \$100, \$75, & \$50 will be awarded to the top 3 winners!
- International Club officer elections will be held in April.

How Studying Abroad Truly Does Change your Life

BY BRYN WIRAGH '20 | EDITOR AND COPYWRITER

The prospect of studying abroad can sound scary – you may feel that you won't be able to be away from your friends and family, that you won't be able to communicate, or that you can't possibly be on your own for so long. But by facing those anxieties (and with the right mindset), you will realize you can text, call, and FaceTime your loved ones as often as you want, you can learn a new language or just the most basic words to survive (nothing wrong with that!), and you can form your own community abroad. From my experience studying in the Czech Republic and Costa Rica, my confidence and awareness forever changed my lens on viewing life and the world.



My friend, Devyn, and I in front of the La Fortuna Waterfall in Costa Rica

CONFIDENCE – No matter what country you go to, there will always be cultural and etiquette differences – different expectations that the society has for its members. You learn how to respectfully speak to, have conversations with, and become friends for life with people whom you have little in common with – even people which English is their 2nd or 3rd language! If you take small trips during your time abroad, you will become confident in your abilities to live on your own and be independent – more than you could ever imagine. There are many times when I have traveled on my own or with friends and we had to figure out how public transportation works or had to figure out what foods were on a menu all in a new language. By conquering these small challenges of living abroad, making connections, communicating, and traveling, you will feel like you can take on the world (literally).

AWARENESS – When you live abroad, there will certainly be some level of culture shock. By embracing and being fascinated with the differences rather than letting yourself feel overwhelmed by them, your perspective and experience completely shift. By living somewhere different than what you are comfortable with – even grocery shopping – you will realize you may prefer a different way of living (physically, socially, academically, etc.), enjoy something you never knew existed or learn things you normally wouldn't in the US in your classes abroad. My most impactful experience that expanded my awareness while abroad was having conversations with people from other countries than myself that show you how differently (never right or wrong) people live.

MOST OF ALL, studying abroad may spark a lifelong passion for traveling and discovery of new places, cultures, foods and forming relationships with others. The bottom line is that you can be told all of this, but experiencing it makes a world of difference.