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# GLOBAL GREYHOUND GAZETTE

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Official publication of the Center for Global Education at Moravian College.

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## From Spain to the USA

WRITTEN BY RAQUEL LOPEZ DE BOER

I'm a neuroscience and chemistry major at Moravian College. I also play basketball and am a 26 Point Ambassador. I'm originally from Spain, and I came to the United States in 2017 in order to study neuroscience. I was 18 years old when I decided I wanted to study neuroscience. I was on Twitter and read a post from the Society of Neuroscience that discussed Alzheimer's disease. That article opened my eyes to a new idea, purpose, and goal. From that moment, I started looking for a way to achieve that goal-- Learn as much as I possibly can about the brain and the nervous system, and one day, being able to understand Alzheimer's disease fully.



In Spain, the only way to study neuroscience was through graduate school, but I wanted to learn about it as soon as possible. Luckily, that summer my friends from the United States (Mary and Ron Keller) came to visit my family for a month, and after talking with them about my future plans, they made a proposition that was going to change my life. They invited me to stay in their house for a year to be exposed to the language, while I figured out a way to keep moving forward in achieving my dream. I accepted, and without any second thoughts, I packed as many things as I could and left Spain. I left behind all the things I loved to pursue a path that was unclear and full of inconveniences and difficulties.

## *Announcements from Manny, Amy and Anize*

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- NEW! Drop In Office Hours Monday-Thursday 2-4pm in CGE
- All other inquiries must make an appointment
- October is Global Diversity Awareness month!
- International Club is hosting a Pumpkin Carving event on Tuesday, October 29 from 4-6pm in the CGE house.
- Join fellow students to play soccer every Sunday in the ARC from 6:30-8:30pm.

# All About Student Visas

**BY BRYN WIRAGH**  
**EDITOR AND COPYWRITER**

If you are studying abroad for a semester, the most important step is obtaining a visa. A visa is an official endorsement from the country of stay to allow you to legally stay there for more than 90 days. The difference between a visa and a passport is that passports serve identification purposes, while visas authorize your stay. Students studying abroad from the United States to another country will generally have to apply for a student visa to ensure they can study for the whole duration of the semester, which will generally be more than 90 days.

The requirements for applying for a visa vary by country. Some countries require you to go to the closest embassy to apply an interview in person, which is typically in a major city such as New York City, Philadelphia, or Washington, D.C to turn in your application materials. Be sure to be prepared and well-informed for these interview questions.



*The entrance to the Charles Bridge in Prague, Czech Republic.*



*My friends and I at the John Lennon Wall in Prague - I never would have met them if I didn't successfully receive a visa!*

Generally, every country warns processing may take up to three months, so gathering all necessary materials for the application happen as soon as you begin applying for study abroad programs at Moravian College.

In my experience, I had to gather 10 different required documents to apply for a student visa in the Czech Republic. Some of these required documents take time themselves to gather, such as a notarized bank statement, criminal history background check, travel medical insurance, and proof of accommodation from the exchange university. Some visa applications require an application fee, so be sure to make that payment.

To some, visas and their application process may sound intimidating, but as long as you are organized and keep on top of things in a timely manner, you will be fine! As always if you have any questions or need help, please stop by the Center for Global Education during drop in hours Monday-Thursday from 2-4pm or to make an appointment.