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**FORDHAM
UNIVERSITY**

PROGRAM

**CAREER
BOOSTER
EUROPE**



**FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
150 WEST 62 ST
NEW YORK, NY, 10023**



PANEL 1

11:00-11:45am

How do you prepare for studying in Europe?

In this panel discussion, we'll delve into the essential steps and strategies for effectively preparing to study in Europe. Our experts will guide you through the necessary steps you should take when considering an overseas education. From selecting the right program to navigating language proficiency, you will receive invaluable insights into the preparation process. Furthermore, they will delve into the myriad of benefits of studying abroad, unraveling the personal, academic, and career advantages that come with global exposure.



EVA BAKER

Goethe-Institut
New York

Eva Baker is the Director of Online Language Program U.S. and Canada at the Goethe-Institut New York. She completed a Master of Arts in English, German and German as a Foreign Language at the University of Mainz. She has been working for the Goethe-Institut since 2005, starting as teacher at the Goethe-Institut in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and then serving as the Head of Language Department at Goethe-Institut Australia.



SAAJAN PATEL

Campus France U.S.A

Saajan Patel is a Higher Education Officer at Campus France USA since May 2022. Before arriving to Washington, DC, he participated in the Teaching Assistants Program in France (TAPIF) as a Fulbright ETA grantee. Saajan's passion for international education has led him to teaching English and French, promotion of student mobility, as well as participation in the development of cooperation initiatives.

A born and raised Texan, Saajan is a graduate of the University of Houston with a BA in anthropology and French, where he also interned with the Cultural Services of the French Consulate in Houston supporting regional projects.



ELISABETTA SANINO D'AMANDA

Rochester Institute of
Technology

Elisabetta Sanino D'Amanda coordinates the Italian Studies program at Rochester Institute of Technology in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures since 2001. Her scholarly publications and presentations are on Italian cinema and Italian pedagogy, with a specific focus on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility. Her Internship Program in Genova, Italy, created and coordinated with the RIT Career Services, will celebrate 20 years in 2024 and has strong ties with Italian companies providing RIT students with a focus on Italian as a thriving European language of work.



CHRISTINA ANDRIOTIS

Yale MacMillan Center

Christina Andriotis is the Registrar and Programs Coordinator of the European Studies Council at the Yale MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies. She leads the coordination of the European Studies Council and all affiliated programs in providing support for students, faculty, and scholars throughout Yale in order to advance the study of European, Eurasian, or Russian Studies. She has led both the academic and administrative management of the now 5th annual international interdisciplinary conference of European Studies. The conference seeks to explore and discuss the most pressing challenges facing Europe, Russia, and Eurasia.

MODERATOR



EDITH BONCOMPAIN

French Institute Alliance
Francaise (FIAF)

Edith Boncompain joined FIAF in 2014 as Deputy VP of Education. In 2015, she became the VP of Education. Edith has more than a decade of teaching experience both in Paris and the United States. From 2012 to 2014, she was the principal of a French bilingual charter school in Harlem. Previously, she taught in two French-American private schools in New York. Originally from Lyon, she studied English language arts at the Université Jean Moulin Lyon III. She has been living in New York since 2006.

PANEL 2

12:00-12:45pm

Life in Europe as a student: First hand experiences

In this panel, you will discover the profound influence of global education. Our panelists will delve into the ways in which international study enriches lives, enhances academic knowledge, and opens doors to global career prospects. Whether you're a student contemplating an overseas journey, considering an international education, or interested in fostering global perspectives, this panel promises an in-depth exploration and invaluable insights into the world of study abroad.



HELEN KÖNIG
University Alliance Ruhr, NYC

Helen König is a Master's student of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund. Currently, she is interning at the UA Ruhr Liaison Office in New York. Helen herself has spent several years living and studying abroad, and most recently wrote her master's thesis at the Ono Academic College in Tel Aviv.



SYLWIA JASIŃSKI, MD
NYU Langone

Sylwia, originally from Poland, moved to Queens, NYC as a child. She pursued a career in medicine, graduating at the top of her class in 2013 from the Medical University of Gdańsk in Poland. She later completed her medical training in England and the U.S., specializing in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. She currently serves as an Assistant Professor at NYU Langone Long Island.



CHRISTIAN SAVINI
City College of New York

Christian Savini, a museum professional and writer in NYC, is currently pursuing an MA in art history at City College of New York. After graduating from Ithaca in 2017, he worked in freelance filmmaking and photography. In 2019, he studied art history at Freie Universität Berlin through the CBYX program, followed by roles at the Schwules Museum, Hamburger Bahnhof Museum, and Fotografiska New York. Since summer 2022, he's been in the Director's Office at The Studio Museum in Harlem, supporting various aspects of the institution.



SA'ADAT MOHAMMED
UNDEP

Sa'adat Mohammed is an accomplished legal practitioner, and educator. She recently graduated from Columbia University with a master's degree in International Educational Development with a specialization in Emergencies, Human Rights, and Peacebuilding, she has driven various impactful projects. Notably, she assisted in piloting a program to enhance conflict-sensitive interventions for international aid professionals. She is currently interning at the United Nations Development Programme. She grew up in Switzerland and obtained her first degree from the United Kingdom.



NICCOLAS HOWE
Fordham University, NYC

Nicolas Howe is an international studies and french culture and language major at Fordham University. He is currently writing his thesis on social media and its influence on the 2022 french presidential election. Nicolas has studied abroad in France, Australia, and Singapore, and taught locally at the Improv Boston theater.

MODERATOR

PANEL 3

2:00-2:45pm

What is the European job market like?

Comprising a union of 27 nations, 23 of which are participants in the Schengen Area facilitating seamless travel and work, the European Union holds immense promise for job seekers. However, mastering this expansive terrain can be a complex task. Our experts will immerse you in the multifaceted realm of Europe's job market. Whether you're a seasoned professional seeking to broaden your horizons or a recent graduate embarking on your career journey, this session promises to equip you with the knowledge and perspectives essential to thrive in today's European job market.



CHRISTIAN STEFFENS
UniCredit Bank, NYC

Christian Steffens, Head of Client Solutions Americas and Co-Branch Manager at UniCredit Bank, New York Branch, is a finance veteran with 30+ years' experience in investment banking, capital markets, and business across the US, Western, and Emerging Europe. Before joining UniCredit Bank NY, he served as UniCredit Bank's Country Head and Branch Manager in London, UK, and held various global roles, including Head of Equity Capital Markets (ECM), Co-Head of Global Capital Markets, and Global Head of Financial Institutions Group (FIG). Prior to his time at UniCredit, he also played key roles at Lehman Brothers and Merrill Lynch.



OLIVIA COSTACHE
UniCredit Bank, NYC

Olivia Costache, Head of People & Culture at UniCredit Bank, New York Branch, has extensive Human Resources experience, both at UniCredit and previously in the pharmaceutical industry. Previous to New York, she performed various roles at UniCredit Bank in Europe such as Head of HR UK, Senior P&C strategic Partner for Global Markets & Research and HR Business Partner based in London, UK, P&C Compensation for Client Solutions in UniCredit Bank Munich Branch, Germany and also led the Recruitment team of UniCredit Bank Romania.



ANNE-LAURE MONDOULET
Journalist, NYC

Anne-Laure Mondoulet is a French journalist based in Brooklyn. She covers the French business and community news for French Morning in New York and is a correspondent for Madame Figaro in France. She's also deeply involved in women empowerment and co-leads She for S.H.E (Sharing Helping Empowering), the community of French speaking women, in New York.



DR. JOANN HALPERN
Hasso Plattner Institute, NYC

Dr. Joann Halpern is the Director of the Hasso Plattner Institute, New York (HPI) and an adjunct professor of international education at NYU. Prior to joining HPI, she was founding director of the German Center for Research and Innovation, which was created as a cornerstone of the German government's initiative to internationalize science and research. Dr. Halpern regularly delivers presentations and conducts workshops on *Designing Your Life*, *Building Your Global Career*, and *Design Thinking* in countries around the globe.

MODERATOR

3:00-3:45pm

This thought-provoking panel is dedicated to parents seeking guidance on the transformative journey of study abroad and nurturing independence in their children. Our expert speakers will share their insights on how to strike a balance between support and freedom as young adults embark on international adventures. Discover how study abroad experiences empower students to become self-reliant, culturally aware, and resilient individuals. Join us for an enlightening conversation that will help you understand the profound impact of study abroad on your child's growth and development.



MARJE ZSCHIESCHE-STOCK
parent of Mathilda

Marje emigrated to the US 20 Years ago and now lives in Toronto, Canada. Being German, the importance of intercultural encounters has always been an important part of her life and parenting. Mathilda is now studying English Literature at McGill University, Montreal. Her time abroad in Paris as a student let her form not only a deep love for languages and travel, but to this day she has a deep connection with her former guest family. Experiencing a foreign culture and language had and has a tremendous impact on her life as a young adult.



JOHN MAASIK
parent of Aleksander Maasik
Indiana University,
University of Tartu

John lives in the Hudson Valley, NY and grew up as a child of the Estonia diaspora in the New York. His son, Aleksander Maasik, is studying International Relations at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. Its Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies teaches over 80 languages, including Estonian. Within IU's Study Abroad program, Aleksander was admitted as self-paying student at the University of Tartu in Estonia where he attended January-June 2023. It was a life-changing experience for Aleksander. He is now a Senior at Indiana University and looks forward to continuing his travels in his future career.



KATTY JONES
parent of daughter attending
Bard College Berlin

Most recently Katty was the assistant dean of academic programs at New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. In August she traveled to Germany with her daughter who started Bard College Berlin's four-year bachelor's degree. After researching schools across Europe, Katty's daughter chose Bard College Berlin based on her longstanding interest in Germany, the college's strong focus on humanities and social science with seminar-style teaching, the globally-diverse student body, and the ability to earn both a US and German bachelor of arts degree.

MODERATOR



DR. EVA BOSBACH
University of Cologne, NYC

Dr. Eva Bosbach is the Executive Director of the University of Cologne New York Office. Prior to coming to New York, she was Program Manager at the German Rectors' Conference in Bonn, Germany, and has published several comparative studies about doctoral education and the humanities in Germany and the U.S. Dr. Bosbach was awarded NYC Council and NY State Assembly Honorary Citations in 2017 and currently serves on the Boards of the German Centers for Research and Innovation (DWIH) New York and San Francisco. Born in Prague, she lives with her husband and two children in NYC.

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