Need to Know: Canada/ McGill University

Objective of the “Need to Know” Document
The Need to Know document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or Need to Know document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/contact/advising

Spring Semester/Year Program Ending Date: The Canada year programs end in April. Grades are usually submitted in a very timely fashion and are available by the end of spring semester at Berkeley. Seniors can go on the Year or Spring Semester programs and return to Berkeley for graduation ceremonies at the end of the spring semester.

McGill University
The EAP program at McGill University in Montreal is a brand new option for 2014-2015. The 3.0 GPA requirement is firm at time of application, no exceptions.

Montreal
Montreal is currently rated the best student city in Canada and 10th in the world, outranking both New York and San Francisco. Located within the predominantly Francophone province of Quebec, studies at McGill University are a particularly excellent choice for students pursuing French language and culture, both within classroom settings and outside the classroom. Both French and English are widely spoken throughout the city: it is truly a bi-lingual city. EAP students can access a full range of departments and majors, from anthropology to business, including French and many other fields of study. McGill also has a large and diverse international student body. Students have the opportunity to integrate into a Francophone social and cultural life both on and off campus.

University of British Columbia
Field of study: The University of British Columbia, as the second-largest university in Canada with an enrollment of over 32,000, has over 100 departments and offers courses in a wide-range of subject areas. However some areas of study in both undergraduate and graduate fields are off-limits because of limited enrollment for Canadian students and some have only limited course availability. Check the Academic Section of the Student Guide for particulars.

Bamfield Marine Research Station: Anyone contemplating doing the Bamfield fall semester in marine biology program should know that it is a rigorous program for serious students who have graduate school in marine biology in mind. The Bamfield Marine Research Station is located on the remote west coast of Vancouver Island. It is not possible to do a partial program. The Bamfield option requires a commitment to a full semester of 5 courses. You will be enrolled at the Univ. of British Columbia while on the program but will not have any contact with the actual UBC campus for orientation or instruction: everything happens at Bamfield on Vancouver Island, and you live at Bamfield the entire semester. For more in-depth information ask the Canada adviser if you can read the Canada trip report from November 2002.

The Killam Fellowship for Undergraduates funds a Canada Fulbright exchange for U.S. students who want to study abroad for a year or a semester in Canada: http://www.killamfellowships.com

The Killam Fellowships Program provides an opportunity for exceptional undergraduate students from universities in the United States to spend either one semester or a full academic year as an exchange student in Canada. The program provides a cash award of $10,000 ($5,000 per semester) as well as an allowance of $500 to offset health insurance costs. In addition, all Fellows are eligible to apply for a mobility (travel) grant in an amount not to exceed $800.

You must be a U.S. Citizen with a U.S. passport, have junior standing by departure for your study abroad program, have a good GPA and possess certain ambassadorial qualities. Students need to identify 4 Canadian universities they wish to apply for and rank-order them. Your first choice should be either McGill University or University of British Columbia on
EAP. Deliver one copy of the Killam Scholarship to the Berkeley Study Abroad Office. On your EAP program you will be expected to engage in research or an internship and community service. Students must participate in an Orientation in fall and a Field Trip to Washington in spring. Semester only students must attend both the fall Orientation and the spring trip to Washington.