



or any UNH student interested in absorbing a country's culture in person — books and passport included — the world awaits.

Students from the University of New Haven, like the pioneers who traversed American soil, are charting new courses to foreign countries this year. With a major expansion of its study-abroad options, the University has elevated itself to among the top study-abroad providers nationally.

UNH President Steven H. Kaplan signed contracts with the top two study-abroad providers in the nation, the Center for International Studies in Northampton, Massachusetts, and Cultural Experiences Abroad of Tempe, Arizona. Students will be able to choose from academic options in more than a dozen countries.

"The world is shrinking, and our students need to be aware of global cultures," says Dr. Christie Montgomery-Boronico, the University's Study Abroad program coordinator. There are three aspects to the expansion. The University is working with faculty to identify an international track for every major offered. It is also establishing programs to be led overseas by UNH faculty members, and has given freshmen the option of studying abroad.

Erik Zakrzewski '07, who is majoring in hospitality management and tourism, is a study-abroad advocate. He spent fall semester 2005 participating in the one-hundred-day Semester at Sea, a floating campus equipped with classrooms, a library, and even an Internet cafe.

Students attended classes onboard, then visited the countries they had studied. "The ship circumnavigates the globe," Zakrzewski says. "I took global history, philosophy and travel literature. I learned about Japan, India and several other countries. Then I saw the Taj Mahal in India, went sky-diving in South Africa, and went to festivals in Brazil."

For Zakrzewski, who grew up in New York, travel has become a key ingredient in his recipe for life. "I have found out so much about other people and other cultures," he says. "For me, it's a no-brainer to travel. You can find out about anything on the open road."