

BRIDGING BORDERS

Some of the most enriching student experiences combine travel and study, where students can open their minds to new perspectives and worldviews.

Ontario universities offer a plethora of programs that introduce international perspectives and tackle global issues. These programs incorporate experiential learning to bridge barriers among cultures, foster relationships that grow Ontario's economy, and work

development profession. Students often go on to work in international development, and many pursue related graduate degrees.

Students at Nipissing University are helping to green-up the tourism industry in Jamaica while putting their business skills to the test. Upper-year business students travel to Jamaica to work with businesses on eco-tourism as part of Nipissing's iLead Business Experience Certificate. Students earn credits through internships



toward global social justice. Travelling internationally as part of a degree program can offer a better understanding of a field of study, develop curiosity into practical knowledge about the world and help build global networks.

At the University of Toronto Scarborough, the International Development Studies program challenges students to examine how and why countries develop differently. Students in the co-op program are placed with internationally reputable NGOs such as OXFAM, Right To Play and Canadian Feed the Children. Placements are completed around the world in countries including Bolivia, Cambodia, Malawi, Ghana and India. Students learn about the complex dynamics of development theory and gain practical experience essential to the

that require them to conduct extensive research on the goals, challenges and opportunities of the Jamaica-based businesses they'll be working with well before departure. Students address concrete issues facing international eco-tourism operators while travelling, researching, collaborating and solving real-life problems.

Western University also offers an interdisciplinary course focused on international development. As part of Rwanda: Culture, Society and Reconstruction, students learn about and travel to the country for five weeks. While in Rwanda, students partner with community organizations and contribute to community development projects related to education, health-care, child welfare and women's rights.