Before you go abroad
Meet with a Career Counselor to discuss your internship or job search plans before leaving campus; each industry has a different hiring timeline so you’ll want to know when you’ll need to submit applications and prepare for interviews. Login to Handshake to access our job and internship databases. Build and add to your network while you’re studying abroad by using LinkedIn and Swarthmore alumni networks.

Connect with Career Services while abroad
Career Counselor appointments are available via Skype 8:30am-4:30pm EST. To schedule an appointment, email career@swarthmore.edu. Know your networking resources – professors, career centers, host families, friends, program coordinators, Swarthmore alums (check the Online Alumni Directory and LinkedIn) – and reach out to them while you are abroad. Take advantage of school breaks to set up informational interviews or networking meetings and keep in touch after you return home. The Networking section of our website offers useful resources including email scripts to help with introductions: https://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services/networking

Internship search while you are abroad so you’re prepared with a summer plan when you return. Access internships on our Handshake, UCAN and engIN internship databases. If you need to interview while abroad, ask the employer if you can interview via Skype or phone. Note the dates you’re leaving and returning as some employers might not be flexible with internship start/end dates. If you have limited time to intern, look to volunteer, arrange an externship or plan a summer of networking if possible.

Externships can be set up in the U.S. for a time that works with your departure and arrival dates. Also, consider reaching out to an alumnus/a in the country where you’ll study to explore opportunities to intern or extern there. See the Finding Your Own Externship handout at: http://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services/extern-program-1

When you return to Swarthmore
Resume revisions will include adding the school where you studied and any additional experience (volunteer, internship, activities) you had while abroad. You may also include extensive travel, relevant courses and additional languages. See our Resume Guide at: http://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services/application-materials-interviews-housing for samples.

Interviews will likely include some conversation about transferable skills you developed while abroad. How can you better help an employer with these new skills? How can you transfer, for example, your resourcefulness understanding a new culture? Mock interviews are available in Career Services to help you practice.

Job Search: Are you considering working abroad after graduation? Look for international opportunities in Handshake and Going Global as well as our international links: http://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services/international-resources. Graduates often teach English or work for a US-based organization abroad and join the Peace Corps or other international service programs. Remember the folks (professors, program coordinators, internship supervisors, alumni) with whom you networked while abroad? Keep in touch with them, especially if you’d like to ask them for a reference when searching for international opportunities.