

## Episode #6 - IBDD (Part 2)

*[Opening Music, plays continually through the introduction]*

### Introduction

Hello and welcome to this episode of Global, Here and Now - a podcast where the Poole College of Management Global Programs team showcases a variety of unique ways to engage globally. I'm your host, Kelsey Oberbroeckling. Today, we are going to cover part 2 of the International Business Dual Degree (IBDD) program.

Now, let's go global

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On this episode of Global, Here and Now, we are going to dive deeper into the IBDD program and what the life of an IBDD student is like. Last episode, we introduced the program and the application process. Today, we're going to focus on the student experience, specifically that of our students who have been abroad. We also have a graduate of the program joining us.

The IBDD program has 5 language tracks, Spanish, French, German, Italian and Chinese. It can best be summarized with the tagline, "4 years, 2 degrees, 2 internships, 2 languages and 2 countries".

Completing the program requires a lot of hard work and focus, but the benefits and the experiences are **worth it**. But rather than hear it from us we're going to let our students tell you about their time with the International Business Dual Degree program.

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Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Our first interview today is with a fourth year student on the French track Jamie Richardson. Welcome, Jamie.

Jamie Richardson: Bonjour à tous, je m'appelle Jamie et je suis un étudiant américain étudiant le français. That was, Hello my name is Jamie and I am an American student studying French.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That was your French lesson with Jamie so Marcy as they say, that means, thank you everyone.

Let's start by telling us a little bit about yourself and how you found your way to the IB program.

Jamie Richardson: Alright, so my name is Jamie Richardson. I'm a fourth year or senior in the IB program specifically I'm on the Franco American track, meaning that I spent two years at NC State and then I'm spending another two years in France.

Jamie Richardson: I'm originally from Charlotte, but I am currently living in France, and more specifically the city of class or rooms and I've really been enjoying it. Despite the the code situation. I originally discovered the IB program at orientation through Mr Sandra and I instantly knew that it was a program for me. Traveling has been one of my greatest passions and there was no way that I was going to pass up this opportunity to live abroad, especially in a beautiful country like France.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Yeah, absolutely. Go ahead and tell me a little bit about your experience with French. Did you take it in high school, or start your language here at NC State and what's why French

Jamie Richardson: So yeah, that's actually a bit of an interesting story because ever since middle school. I had been studying Spanish And I really developed a love for learning languages I studied a little bit of Arabic there too. But when I got to high school, I decided to take French and that started in my junior year so I took my junior and senior year. And when I discovered this program I realized that it wasn't quite where it should be. To live abroad. And so I went ahead and I took some accelerated courses and then I even did a study abroad program in Lille And that allowed me to really advance my French through immersion and it's really opened up so many doors. I've made so many friends I'm starting to look at job opportunities here in France, and it's allowed me to travel internationally.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Absolutely. That is an interesting story like starting with Spanish switching over to French and then really getting deep into it with that immersive experience so well it sounds like it's a good fit for you. Tell me about your experience abroad. I know Covid, it is affecting it right now. But what's life like for you and France.

Jamie Richardson: Life overall has been great. But outside of covid things are things are very interesting. You see variations in life in terms of classes in terms of food that you're eating the restaurants and also just your daily interactions with people. So some examples would be like we have classes at different times each week. So it's not like a set schedule and the class last for three hours. But we don't have any homework. The campus is more like a high school where we just go for the day and then you return home to your apartment or wherever you're living Also I've realized that I've started to learn a lot more about different languages. So a lot of my friends come from Germany or Italy even Russia. And so you start picking up on small phrases and you're using it with them. And that's been a lot of fun.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: And so cool. So you're an International Student among other international students

Jamie Richardson: Exactly. That's been one of the coolest parts about this whole program.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Right to not just connect with the French people but people from all over the world. And of course you know you had the American experience when you're here at NC State your first two years. So I know that you've had the chance to study and work abroad and at home. So can you tell me what's been your greatest challenge and your greatest triumph.

Jamie Richardson: So starting with the challenge though definitely have to be language, even though that I've been studying French for a few years now. Doing things like opening bank accounts going to doctors appointments Getting a new cell phone. Finding an apartment. It's all very, very stressful. In the first place, but then when you have to do it in a foreign language becomes even more stressful and but the thing is is that's probably the best time to learn You develop vocabulary that you wouldn't have learned in the classroom and you develop The ability to interact in this multicultural environment. But on the other hand, the greatest triumph is the result of talking to people and that would be making friends and building connections you get almost a cultural education here. So instead of just having classes, all of a sudden Instead of just having like a standard college education where you're learning about your subjects. You're also learning about the cultural differences between people, you're learning how to interact with people and you're learning how to make friends. And I actually lived in an apartment alone. The first year. But this year, I decided to move in with a bunch of friends and I'm living in a house of like 11 people and that just shows like that's just how amazing it's been, and how many friends and connections you can build

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is so cool. You piqued my interest. So are you with mostly French students or international students or are these even students like what Tell me more about this living situation.

Jamie Richardson: So we're all students. Yeah, so there are five French Students, there are two German students there is a Swedish student another American student and a Canadian student all living in the same house. It really is. It's crazy, but it's

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is crazy. Especially going from, you know, living alone to living with 10 other people, and I'm sure you have all kept each other entertained in this, you know, kind of different time that we're living in. Well that's, that's so cool. So it sounds like you know your greatest triumph is the multicultural experiences and is that something that you expected from your experience, you know, I'm sure you thought of. French, French, French, but did you expect, like, you know, seeing the world come together like this.

Jamie Richardson: Oh, absolutely not. Because I was completely. I figured that I'd be in class with just French students Um, I thought I would just be interacting with French students and maybe other Americans within the program. But when I got here, I learned that a bunch of students are coming from other countries doing the same thing. But the yeah so it was really eye opening once I got here, and I'm very, very happy with how everything's turned out.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Yeah, I'm so happy to hear that. I mean, I know I B to D is a great program. But it's even better when we hear it straight from the IB to D student So wonderful. I guess the last question that I have for you is more of a fun one. What would be your dream job.

Jamie Richardson: So my dream job would be some sort of executive position at a multinational company. Now I know that sounds kind of vague on you know being a fighter jet pilot or something. But, but it's something that I believe that is attainable. Especially through this program. We're working on getting our second internship. We did our first one already in the US and that went amazingly Now I'm trying to find one in French, and I've realized that building up a resume of these multinational companies has allowed me to pursue this dream. Of being able to work in an environment where I can use my newfound knowledge of languages and culture and be able to travel and have an impact.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Right. It sounds like IBDD is definitely setting you up for success with your goals.

Jamie Richardson: Absolutely, absolutely.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Oh, that's awesome. Well, it was so nice to meet you and talk with you, Jamie, I wish you the best of luck as you are, you know, finishing out your last year your senior year, getting that internship. And then, of course, getting that dream job post grad.

Jamie Richardson: Course, thank you so much for having me on. Again, I greatly appreciate it.

### *[Transition Music]*

In the Fall of 2020, the IBDD program celebrated its 10th anniversary. The Poole College of Management recently published an article highlighting the program and alumni. You can read the article at [go.ncsu.edu forward slash IBDD 10](https://go.ncsu.edu/forward/slash/IBDD/10). Let's take a moment to learn more about some of our fantastic IBDD alumni.

### *[Transition Music]*

First is Harrison Fleming, a Spanish Track Alumnus. Currently living in Madrid, Spain, Harrison Fleming is a recent 2020 graduate of the IBDD Program working in the financial risk sector of Ernst & Young, a multinational professional services network. Fleming joined the program with the goal in mind of becoming an international businessman and to put himself in line for future success.

Fleming says Quote "At the beginning studying in Madrid, there were some cultural differences to become accustomed to. However, overcoming adversity and adapting accordingly to new environments and cultures is how one will succeed in life," end quote.

Fleming concentrated his studies in finance and business administration while abroad and got the opportunity to travel to Morocco, Italy, Ireland, Scotland and many cities in Spain. He attributes the IBDD Program with teaching him the meaning of hard work paying off and giving him the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships abroad.

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Next is Elizabeth Fisher, an alumna of the German Track. Driven by the opportunity to deepen language skills and cultural knowledge, Elizabeth Fisher joined the IBDD Program to challenge herself academically and socially. The recent graduate concentrated her studies on supply chain management while studying in Reutlingen, Germany, where she was quick to make friends with her classmates.

Fisher notes quote “While traveling over the weekend is fun, staying in Reutlingen on weekends allowed me to build a real community.” End quote

Fisher’s advice for current and future students of the IBDD Program is that results are based on the work you put in.

Fisher says quote “Find a way to be present in the time you are in, not wishing you could be somewhere else with different people but learn to find fun things to do and hidden gems in the community you are in,” end quote.

*[Transition Music]*

Harrison Fleming and Elizabeth Fisher are just two of one hundred and one alumni of the IBDD program, who each have unique and exciting stories about their time at NC State, Abroad, and Beyond.

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Hopefully this episode gave you a glimpse into the lives of IBDD students. Over the past 10 years, the IBDD program has seen 101 students master languages, become immersed in culture and emerge as leaders in international business. Thanks for listening to this episode of Global, Here and Now presented by the Poole College of Management at NC State. For more information and to listen to other episodes, please visit our website at [go.ncsu.edu/pooleglobal](http://go.ncsu.edu/pooleglobal). Stay safe, stay well and stay globally engaged.

*[Closing Music]*