

MELISSA C. BELTZ

FULBRIGHT/PÄDAGOGISCHER AUSTAUSCHDIENST
ENGLISH TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP TO GERMANY



In addition to teaching English as a second language to high school students in Thüringen, Germany, Melissa Beltz will study how sports and performing arts are integrated into curriculum in four types of German schools and the ways in which these activities are organized and supported in the local community.

“I want to incorporate sports and dance into my Fulbright because these activities have played an important role in my life. I danced for 10 years and watched my brother and sister play soccer/gymnastics, so it felt natural to explore the differences between American and German school sports,” said Beltz. “Sports in America and Germany are different – soccer vs. football, baseball, etc. However, because sports still play an important role in each country, it offers a great way to help teach the children about the United States and American culture.”

Beltz earned her bachelor’s degree, magna cum laude, in international language/business with a concentration in German from The University of Scranton in 2011. She earned the University’s 2011 Excellence in International Language Business Award at graduation. A dean’s list student, she was a member of Alpha Mu Gamma (national honor society for foreign languages).

At Scranton, Beltz worked as a research assistant in the Language Center, where she learned technology and techniques for teaching language. She also served as the webpage editor for the World Languages and Cultures Department. For the University’s student paper, *The Aquinas*, she reviewed the East German Film Festival held on campus. She served as a German tutor for the University’s Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence.

Beltz also volunteered for the Language Partnership Program at United Neighborhood Centers. An accomplished dancer, she was also a member of the Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Beltz, who has studied German since the eighth grade, spent a year abroad in Germany at the University of Bonn.

In the future, Beltz plans to work for an international company that operates in both the United States and Germany.

A graduate of Souderton Area High School, Souderton, she is the daughter of Christine and John Beltz of Harleysville.