University of Washington Bothell

Language Learning Study Abroad and Scholarships

Why study abroad?
Studying abroad expands your understanding of the world and helps you develop usable skills, such as adaptability and intercultural communication, that are in high demand by employers and graduate programs.

“…five years of studying the Dutch language and culture has allowed me to immerse myself in Dutch society… I would recommend to anyone interested in studying abroad to learn the language of their destination country… this will allow you to really dig beneath the surface of the country’s culture and people. Having done so not only shows courtesy, but it also steps beyond the barriers of being a tourist.”

Matthew Rice, IAS
Netherlands, Spring 2014

Can I afford it?
Absolutely! Program fees vary greatly depending on the program, but with good planning an affordable study abroad experience is possible. Most types of financial aid can be applied to the programs offered through the UW and there are specific scholarships available to students studying foreign languages. Be sure to plan ahead! Make an appointment with us and we can help you start your scholarship search, and Study Abroad Advising and the UWB Writing and Communication Center can help polish application essays.

When can I study abroad?
You can study abroad any time during your college career and we have programs ranging from a couple weeks to a full year, all of which guarantee UW credits. We encourage students to consider studying abroad early in their college career so the opportunity is available to study abroad again if they desire. There may be more flexibility in course scheduling during a student’s first couple of years while they complete general area of knowledge requirements. It is important to meet with your academic advisor to make sure your study abroad credits will fit well with your academic schedule. If you love it the first time, you may want to consider an IE3 internship or even REU undergraduate research abroad.

Do I need to know a foreign language?
Not necessarily. While many exchanges and affiliated programs may have a foreign language requirement, there are plenty of programs primarily in English. Study abroad does provide a fantastic chance to start learning a new language as you will practice the native language when speaking with locals. A lot of programs also incorporate introductory language lessons into their curriculum, or in the case of language programs focuses on them.

What kinds of programs are there?
The UW offers more than 200 programs to meet the needs and ambitions of all students. Here are the six program types available:

- **Short term** specialized 1-2 week programs
- 3-4 week **exploration seminars** in early fall
- **Quarter-long UW programs** led by UW faculty members
- Semester long **affiliated programs** organized by other groups or companies
- **Semester/year long university exchanges**
- **IE3 internships abroad**

There are also many **funded language programs** such as the Boren Awards and Critical Language Scholarship, explained further on the backside of this handout.

Contact us:
Global Initiatives
Student Success Center
UW1-160
studyabroad@uw.edu
425.352.3707

Appointments:
https://wco.uwb.edu/secure/

http://www.uwb.edu/globalinitiatives/abroad

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**Temple of the Dawn, Thailand**
Jamie Clark, CUSP
Spring 2014

**The River Maas, Netherlands**
Matthew Rice, IAS
Spring 2014

**Mfuwe Day School, Zambia**
Shauniece Drayton, CP
Summer 2013

Explore! The link at the bottom of this page will take you to the UWB study abroad home page, and from there you can look at the tips and resources on the website, search for programs, or set up an appointment to meet with a Study Abroad Advisor.

Things to consider when looking for a program:
What do I want to study?
How long do I want to go?
Where do I want to go?
Spanish Ecuador — The Meeting of Cultures
The purpose of this program is to provide students with an opportunity to apply their Spanish language knowledge and the culture of Latin America in a total immersion experience. Program includes 28 hours of Spanish language classes, 12 hours of Salsa dancing, 8-10 hours of sports activities and weekly guided visits to places of interest in Ecuador.

Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Ecuador

Goethe Institute German Language Program
The Goethe Institute caters to beginning, intermediate and advanced students of German. The Goethe Institute offers intimate and interactive learning environments. Classes are small (10-15 students) with instructional emphasis placed on comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, conversation and grammar. A variety of teaching tools are employed to cater to various learning styles.

Affiliated Program, Quarter, Semester, or Year, Germany

Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies
The Center is the premier American program for the teaching of advanced Japanese and has provided language training to more than 1730 individuals. The Center now resides in Yokohama, Japan with space, services, and various amenities provided by the municipal government. The objective is to acquire the ability to naturally, correctly and appropriately express thoughts and opinions.

Affiliated Program, Summer Quarter or Year, Japan

Uppsala International Summer Session
Since 1963, each year around 220 students and professionals from all over the world participate in the UISS to study Swedish and to learn about the Swedish culture and society. Their reasons and backgrounds vary, but after attending UISS they have at least one thing in common: a better proficiency in the language and a deeper understanding of the Swedish culture.

Affiliated Program, Summer Quarter or Year, Sweden

Qasid Arabic Institute
Qasid Arabic Institute provides comprehensive instruction for students from beginning to advanced Arabic. Many scholars of Arabic have noted that the Jordanian dialect is among the closest to Classical Arabic (fusha), making Amman an ideal setting for studying Arabic.

Affiliated Program, Quarter, Semester, or Year, Jordan

American Councils Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program
The American Councils Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program (RLASP) serves both graduate and undergraduate students. The academic program is designed to improve participants’ oral, listening, reading, and writing proficiency in Russian language and to develop their knowledge of Russian history, politics, culture, and society.

Affiliated Program, Summer, Semester, or Year, Russia

CET Intensive Chinese Language
At CET, students propel their Chinese language skills to new heights. The all-Chinese curriculum and language pledge ensure that Chinese is the sole means of communication for the entire term. This program is for intermediate and advanced language learners who are ready to do what it takes to achieve communicative competence in Chinese.

Affiliated Program, Summer Quarter or Semester, China

LANGUAGE LEARNING SCHOLARSHIPS

The Critical Language Scholarship Program (CLS)
The CLS Program offers fully-funded summer language institutes for U.S. university students who study one of the 13 critical foreign languages and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Languages are Azerbaijani, Bengali, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Punjabi, Turkish, Urdu, Persian, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian.

Boren Awards for International Study
Funded by the National Security Education Program, Boren Scholarships and Awards encourage undergraduate and graduate students to study less commonly taught languages and cultures in regions critical to UW national security interests. Recipients commit to work for the federal government for one year post-graduation.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS)
FLAS Fellowships support undergraduate, graduate and professional students in acquiring modern foreign languages and area or international studies competencies. Awards are for students studying foreign languages locally or abroad.

CIEE Language Intensive Focus Track Scholarship (LIFT)
For students participating in a CIEE affiliated study abroad program through the UW, the LIFT scholarship provides additional funding for students studying Arabic, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, or Russian for a full year.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
The DAAD Offers a variety of opportunities for Americans to study, conduct research, or work in Germany, including study abroad scholarships, summer study programs, and research internships in science and engineering. May require proficiency in German language.

Benjamin A. Gilman Critical Need Language Award
Recipients of the Gilman Scholarship are eligible to receive an additional supplement for studying a critical language abroad. The Gilman aims to bring diversity to study abroad.

http://www.uwb.edu/globalinitiatives/abroad