**First Year and Pre-Major Study Abroad**

**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.

“Reflecting on these experiences, I have learned that anything is possible...If I hadn’t applied to that program and had the guts to say goodbye to my home and hop on that one-way plane...these experiences would have been deemed impossible...seeing different countries, cultures, meeting people from all walks of life, it has expanded my world but also in some ways, shrank it.”

- Aspasea McKenna, Class of 2013, Junior year in Japan

**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 is a list of scholarships available to students studying abroad on our website. Be sure to plan ahead! Make an appointment with us and we can help you start your scholarship search, both Study Abroad Advising and the UWB Writing and Communication Center can help polish up application essays.

**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**

Though not necessarily run through the UW, REU undergraduate research abroad is another fully funded opportunity students may pursue.

**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 the 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.

**How do I get started?**

Explore! The link at the bottom of this page will take you to the UW 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?

**“What an experience I have had so far! I’m learning something new every day, whether it’s Spanish or the everyday life of Ecuador.”**

- Meghan, Hawkins, CUSP, Early Fall 2013, Ecuador

**Contact us:**

Global Initiatives
Student Success Center
UW1-160
studyabroad@uwb.edu
425.352.3707

**Appointments:**

https://wco.uwb.edu/secure

http://www.uwb.edu/globalinitiatives/abroad
First Year and Pre-Major Programs of Interest

Please note that the programs listed are just a sample of what the UW offers.

Lessons From the Japanese Experience with Nuclear Power
An early fall course based in both UW Bothell as well as Japan. Students will explore lessons learned from the Japanese experience with nuclear power. This course also incorporates the cultural and social implications of nuclear power in Japan, as well as in the Pacific Northwest.

Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Japan

Scientific Explorations of Art and Architecture in France
A unique 6-credit study abroad program, based in Paris, France geared towards students with an interest in a novel exploration of art and architecture through a conceptual physics lens. This course welcomes students from all disciplines and levels to apply.

Early Fall Exploration Seminar, France

Program on the Environment—Andes to Amazon: Biodiversity, Conservation, and Sustainability
An ecological exploration from the high mountains to the rainforest of southeastern Peru. In this seminar, we will explore the fascinating diversity of organisms and ecosystems of this region.

Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Peru

Business India - "Half the Sky": Women, Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship
This program will immerse students in the Subcontinent’s vibrant culture and entrepreneurial spirit as we visit with the new kinds of leaders who have found ways to bring prosperity to a country where most people live in poverty and rooted customs and practices can block social change.

Early Fall Exploration Seminar, India

When In Rome: Interdisciplinary Studio Art and Italian Culture
A 12-credit interdisciplinary studio art and Italian culture and cuisine program based in Rome, open to all majors, for all levels of art experience (including intro level), and no prior language requirement.

Summer Term A, Italy

CHID Philippines: Made in the USA: Knowledge Construction and Social Action in the Philippines
This program will examine the United States’ occupation of the Philippines and its implications. We will examine American colonialism by focusing on the Philippines’ educational experience as a model. Exploring historical texts, western and indigenous theory, art, Hip Hop culture, and local travel, we will ask how Filipino identities are negotiated and what it means to live in the islands.

Summer Term A, Philippines

"The Sankofa Experience in Ghana" will take students to the Republic of Ghana to learn the history and culture of this diverse African country, while also uncovering the vast trans-Atlantic influence that the United States and Ghana have exerted on one another for three centuries.

Summer Term A, Ghana

iSchool South Korea: Information, Technology and Society in Modern Korea
This program provides an opportunity for students to witness how an ancient culture with numerous influences from across Asia has managed to create unprecedented economic growth in the last fifty years to become a global leader in information technology and a dynamic center of popular culture.

Summer Term B, South Korea

CHID Amsterdam: Visualizing the Invisible: Design and Creative Culture in the Netherlands
Following the Dutch model, our study in Amsterdam engages with design at multiple levels. Working with local artists and designers, students will visit galleries, studios and museums; they will study the history and witness the contexts, materials, concepts, and applications of Dutch urban design.

Summer Quarter, Amsterdam

CUSP Thailand: Globalization and the Societies of Southeast Asia
This program is a unique study abroad program based in Bangkok, Thailand that is intended for pre-major students. Through a combination of interdisciplinary coursework and active engagement with businesses, government agencies, and non-profits in the community, students will develop a more in-depth understanding of the key issues and challenges of globalization and how their own contributions can have a positive effect on the world in which they live.

Spring Quarter, Thailand

SIT Study Abroad Jordan: Modernization and Social Change
Jordan has made enormous strides in healthcare, literacy, and democratic and economic reform. However, it remains challenged by a lack of natural resources, environmental concerns, economic and social issues, and the impact of Palestinian immigrants and refugees. Examine crucial issues in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a moderate Arab state grappling with political responsibility, social change, modernization, the effects of the Arab Spring, and regional conflicts.

Affiliated Program, Semester, Jordan

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