University of Washington Bothell

Biological and Physical Science Majors
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.

“This...really forced me to confront all of my fears, and allowed me to discover what I am capable of as an individual. Whether it be confronting my fear of heights while I am walking over 100 feet up in the air through the canopy...to just stepping out of my comfort zone here at home to travel internationally...I discovered that there are so many experiences waiting to be had if I just push myself a little bit further.”

Ashley Baker, Biology
Ecuador, Early Fall 2013

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.
Biological and Physical Science Programs of Interest

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

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, while studying the conservation challenges confronting it.
Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Peru

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

IAS Environmental Studies in the Ecuadorian Mainland and Galapagos Islands
This seminar exposes students to relevant and current environmental issues in ecologically sensitive areas of Latin America such as the Amazon region, the Andes, and the Galapagos Islands.
Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands

Oceanography Micronesia: Coastal Ecosystems of Micronesia in a Changing Climate
Students will apply basic principles of geology, chemistry and biology to develop an understanding of Kosrae’s coastal ecosystems, learn about the ways global climate change is impacting those ecosystems, and experience the rich Kosraean culture.
Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Micronesia

Civil and Environmental Engineering: Water in an Arid Land: the Engineered Water Cycle
This course will examine the engineered water cycle in Jordan by studying the current and historic water resources in Jordan, drinking water treatment and distribution in Jordan including the use of cisterns and desalination, treatment of concentrated wastewater including efforts for safe reuse, and plans in Jordan for meeting future challenges.
Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Jordan

Wild Places and Forest Lands in Spain: International Law and Land Management
The course will study institutional arrangements for the management of forest lands and their natural resources and the practical impact of those arrangements on the sustainable preservation of wild places against the background of economic and social pressures for human use and access.
Early Fall Exploration Seminar, Spain

UWB STEM France: Scientific Explorations of Art and Architecture in France
This program will conceptually explore three topics of physics: measurement, light, and the physics of architecture. The course will study the intertwining relationships between these three topics as students make observations, take measurements, and examine the impacts of physics in the real world.
UW Program, Summer Term A, France

CIEE Summer Tropical Ecology and Conservation In Monteverde
Spend the summer exploring Costa Rica’s diverse and imitable ecosystems and gain comprehensive insight into their conservation through theory, hands-on exposure, and direct experimentation.
Affiliated Program, Summer Quarter, Costa Rica

CIEE Arts and Sciences
This program also offers wonderful opportunities, in the classroom and in the community, for students interested in critical issues of public health, development, history and culture. Through these mechanisms you will become a contributor to intellectual, cultural, economic, and social life.
Affiliated Program, Semester, with locations in Turkey, Ghana, Botswana, Australia, or Japan

Australia National University
Students can fully immerse themselves in Australian culture and student life, as well as the city of Canberra, while studying at one of the top ranked universities in Australia.
Exchange, Semester or Year, Australia

University College Dublin
UCD has established a long and distinguished tradition of service to scholarship and to the community; graduates have played a central role in the shaping of modern Ireland and in the conduct of international affairs. Today, University College Dublin is acknowledged as a center of excellence for research, and its degrees are respected worldwide.
Exchange, Semester or Year, Ireland

IE3 Molecular and Cellular Biology Research
Make a name for yourself in the world of genetic research while gaining some valuable experience researching cellular biology and genetic engineering at Charles University in Prague.
IE3 Internship, Czech Republic

IE3 Elephant Nature Foundation
Aims to increase awareness about the endangered Asian elephant, educates locals on their humane treatment, and provides sanctuary for rescued elephants at their nature park. Gain valuable experience by conducting promotional work, travelling to villages to educate, and assist in managing eco-tourism groups, conservation events and planning.
IE3 Internship, Thailand

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