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.

“I have done daily tasks such as opening up a Dutch bank account entirely in the Dutch language. Doing so not only shows courtesy, but it also steps beyond the barriers of being a tourist. I feel that my vocabulary and fluency in the language are improving by the day.”
Matt Rice, Germany, 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 UW-approved programs, 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?
With over 500 programs approved for UW students you are bound to find something that fits your needs.

**UW Faculty-Led Programs:**
- Short-term (2 weeks)
- Early Fall Exploration Seminars (3-4 weeks)
- Summer Term A or B (4-5 weeks)
- Quarter-long

**Partner Programs:** Summer or semester programs organized by non-UW organizations

**University Exchanges:** Semester / year long programs at UW partnering universities

**Internships:** Quarter long professional placements through Omprakash, CIEE, IES, etc.

**Fully Funded Summer Program:** Critical Language Scholarships

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 internship.

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 start?
Explore! Follow the link at the bottom of this page to review the tips and resources, search for programs, or set up an appointment to meet with a Study Abroad Advisor. Questions to consider when looking for a program:

What do I want to study?
How long do I want to go?
Do I prefer to go with a UW group or have an independent experience?
What degree requirements can study abroad fulfill?

Saba Moghim, Italy, 2018

“As I’m preparing to head back to States— to American culture, I’m not worried. From being immersed in this new, Kyrgyz, culture, I feel ready to be back in America. When I get back to States, I feel like I will be more comfortable than ever to be living in a country where multiple different cultures/ideologies exist.”
Feruza Ghias, Kyrgyzstan, 2015
Language Learning Programs and Scholarships of Interest

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

**Spanish Ecuador — Quito**  
*UW Faculty-Led Program | Early Fall | Ecuador*  
UW students will live with local families and have the opportunity to study Spanish language and Ecuadorian culture. Quito is the country’s capital and second largest city, and a picturesque, unique city where European and Indigenous cultures are in constant contact. It boasts a recently restored colonial quarter and a vibrant social life and an extensive transportation network.

**CLM Intensive Spanish Language Program**  
*Partner Program | Quarterly | Spain*  
Courses will be taken at the Centro de Lenguas Modernas (CLM) language institute alongside other foreign students, located in the heart of Granada.

**Laval French Language Program in Quebec City**  
*Exchange | Summer Quarter | Canada*  
This program is specifically geared to students who would like to focus on French language acquisition. It is tailored to each student's language level, and allows them to take content courses designed for speakers of French as a foreign language. Courses will be taken on the Université Laval campus in the city of Québec.

**Hokkaido International Foundation (HIF) Summer Japanese Language and Culture Program**  
*Partner Program | Summer Quarter | Japan*  
The Hokkaido International Foundation (HIF) Japanese Language and Culture Program is a two-month language program taught by Japanese faculty experienced in the teaching of American students. To help students improve communication skills in all aspects of Japanese, courses are coordinated with the student’s host family life.

**CIEE Accelerated Chinese Language Program in Shanghai, China**  
*Partner Program | Semester or Year | China*  
Take your beginner, intermediate, or advanced Chinese language skills up at least two levels while you explore Shanghai — China’s largest city by population. Students take courses at CIEE Shanghai and students enroll in three classes per semester, including two accelerated courses that focus on rapid language acquisition.

**CIEE Open Campus Block Programs**  
*Partner Program | Customizable Terms | Various Locations*  
CIEE’s Open Campus Block programs allow you to design your very own study abroad - customize your courses, term length, and destinations! Earn credits in up to three amazing CIEE Global Institute locations around the world.

**Language Learning Scholarships**

**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.  
[www.iie.org/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program]

**CIEE Language Intensive Focus Track Scholarship (LIFT)**  
For students participating in a CIEE partner 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.  
[www.ciee.org/study-abroad/financial-aid/lift]

**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.  
[www.clscholarship.org]

**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.  
[www.borenawards.org]

**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.  
[www.jsis.washington.edu/advise/flas]

Contact us:

**Global Initiatives**

**Student Success Center**

UW1-160  
uwbworld@uw.edu  
425.352.3986  
Appointments:  
https://uwb.campus.eab.com/

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