



First Year & Pre-Major



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 come to have a new appreciation and kindness to people. This month has brought me to a place that allows me to open up easier than I ever have before. Not only have I been able to identify the better ways in which I can interact with people more, but the way to better present yourself to the world."

-Kelsey Bolinger, 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 IE3, Omprakash, CIEE, IES, and more.



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.

Do I need to know a foreign language?

Not necessarily. While many exchanges and partner 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.



"...I am what I am because of who we all are". I find this aspect of South African culture very refreshing, and have immensely appreciated and enjoyed the selfless hospitality I have received since coming here. "

-Steven Kay, 2015

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?

First Year and Pre-Major Programs of Interest

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

Gender, Culture and Human Rights in India

[UWB Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Spring Break](#) | [India](#)

This 5-credit program explores the most current gender and human rights issues in various contexts in India. The experience begins with Winter Quarter classes at UWB, followed by 2 weeks of site visits in Delhi and Mumbai in India, and ends with some online assignments and a couple of meetings in Spring Quarter.

When in Rome: Interdisciplinary Art and Italian Culture

[UW Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Summer Term A](#) | [Italy](#)

This program gives students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the experience of Rome creatively and adventurously. Students do so through the lens of visual art and the culture of the city, as well as each student's own unique backgrounds, disciplines, research, and interests incorporated into interdisciplinary studio art projects. Open to all years, all majors and all levels of experience with art!

The Politics of Soccer in Spain, France, and Beyond

[UW Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Summer Term A](#) | [Spain, France](#)

Students approach soccer as a political and cultural phenomenon examining the ways in which the sport functions as a site for political contestation on regional, national, and international scales. This program also explores the politics of soccer elsewhere, including human rights violations, corruption surrounding recent and future world cups, and the exploitation of athletes from across the globe.

The Sankofa Experience in Ghana – Exploration of Race & Identity in a Cross Cultural Exchange

[UW Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Summer Term A](#) | [Ghana](#)

Students 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.

A Changing Public and Mental Health Care System

[UW Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Early Fall](#) | [Chile](#)

This seminar is aimed at students interested in health issues with potential global impact. Public health in Chile has undergone important changes reflecting both profound political changes as well as recent health reform initiatives, and students will study how services compare in urban and remote areas as well as in wealthy and poor communities.

CHID Prague: History, Memory, and Human Rights

[UW Faculty-Led Program](#) | [Fall/Spring Quarter](#) | [Czechia](#)

Immersing yourself in Prague and the other great Central European cities – Vienna, Krakow, Budapest, and Berlin – in order to develop a complex understanding of the dynamic historical, cultural and political life of Central Europe.

IE3 Trek to Teach

[IE3 Internship](#) | [Quarter](#) | [Nepal](#)

Trek to Teach is a nonprofit organization that aims to help improve the education system of Himalayan Nepal. Trek to one of three villages Himalayan mountains to teach in rural Nepal! The students will expect you to teach them English and about culture, sports, music, and art. They will look to you for direction with their studies and for inspiration in their lives.

SIT Jordan: Modernization and Social Change

[Partner Program](#) | [Semester](#) | [Jordan](#)

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.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program (CLS)

The CLS Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, offers fully-funded summer language institutes to study one of these foreign languages critical to U.S. national security interests: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu. Apply in November. More information at: www.clscholarship.org

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.

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Appointments:

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