



Biological and Physical Sciences 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.



Kendall Wiggins,
From Andes to Amazon:
Biodiversity, Conservation &
Sustainability 2015

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?

With over 200 programs offered by UW you are bound to find something that fits your needs. There are four types of programs offered:

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

Affiliated Programs: Semester long programs organized by other groups or companies

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

Internships Abroad: Quarter long professional placements through IE3

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



Helen Kapitonenko, CIEE Summer Moroccan Studies, 2016

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.



Spider monkey and baby, Photo by David Chang

"John Terborgh, world-reowned biologist and manager of the station since 1973, was there while we were...Cocha Cashu is nearly the only place to see such large primates (spider monkeys)...more striking and pertinent was his comment and strong urging that the only real way for conservationists to make a difference is to get into politics, like it or not...we can individually start making that difference now..."

- Kendall Wiggins, From Andes to Amazon, Early Fall 2015

How do I get started?

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?

Biological and Physical Science Programs of Interest

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

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

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

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

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 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

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)

Find out about fully funded research opportunities all over the world at: <http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/>

Contact us:



FB: UW Bothell

Global Initiatives—
Study Abroad



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Global Initiatives
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