



First Steps in Choosing a Study Abroad Program



THINKING ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD?

Answering these questions will make it easier to focus your search for the right program for you.

How long do you want to go (academic year, semester, summer)? _____

Would you like to study in English, another language, or both? _____

Do you want to meet major or minor requirements while abroad? _____

Do you have particular General Education requirements to fulfill? _____

Do you prefer a certain type of living arrangement?

Is cost a major factor? _____

Where do you want to study (a particular region or country)? _____

WHERE DO I START & WHAT RESOURCES CAN I USE?

Brochures

In the Center for International Education (CIE), you'll find general and program-specific brochures for each program. Each brochure highlights important information about the site, such as courses, housing, meals, excursions, and costs.

Program Binders

We also have program binders with more in-depth information, such as interviews with past participants, for each program we offer.

World Wide Web

Information on all of our programs is available on the CIE's homepage at <http://www.uwec.edu/cie>. You'll also find links to information on scholarships, financial aid, and much more.

Study Abroad Information Meetings

During fall semester we have a series of Study Abroad Information Meetings. These meetings are designed for students who are interested in studying abroad but are not sure how to begin. The sessions provide an overview on how to apply, programs available, funding, and more. The meetings are a great way to ask some introductory questions and hear other students' questions. Check our Web site or stop by the CIE to find this fall's schedule.

Study Abroad Fair

Each fall the CIE hosts the Study Abroad Fair. Tables for each program site are staffed by past participants just waiting to talk with you about their experiences. It's a wonderful time to ask returned students questions. You can also get general information on study abroad. For 2008 the Fair will be October 8 from 3-5:30pm in the Council Fire Room, Davies Center.

Study Abroad Spotlights

Panel discussions with past participants are held fall semester. These panel discussions give students more in-depth information on specific program sites/regions. Check our Web site or stop by the CIE to find this fall's schedule.

Advisers

Advisers are available on an appointment basis. Advisers can help you identify your options and those programs that meet your needs. You can meet with a Peer Adviser (a past participant from the program you are interested in), or a member of the Study Abroad professional staff. We'd be happy to meet with you!

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROGRAMS I CAN CHOOSE FROM?

There are many different types of study abroad programs. Understanding the differences may aid you in making the best choice for you. (There is a chart on the inside of this booklet that lists each UW-Eau Claire program by type, housing options, and language of instruction.)

Language: You can meet some or all of your language requirements while abroad. Language programs offer the chance to improve your proficiency by immersing yourself in the language.

Area Studies: Area studies programs allow students to explore a region or country in more depth. Common courses offered are social sciences, language of the host country, and humanities.

Island: On island programs, you take classes and live with other U.S. students. These types of programs are also typically taught by U.S. professors.

Integrated: Integrated programs give you the chance to enroll directly in universities abroad and study with students from the host country. These programs typically offer the most choices of courses and allow for a more complete immersion in the host country.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I THINK ABOUT?

Eligibility

The requirements for each program vary. Common selection criteria/prerequisites include GPA, language, class standing, and good academic standing. See the brochures or our Web site for specific requirements.

Housing

All of UW-Eau Claire's programs provide housing for you or help you find housing. The three most common types of housing are homestays, dormitories, and apartments. Some programs have set housing arrangements, while others offer options. Refer to the brochures or our Web site for individual program options.

On-Site Staff

All of our programs have an on-site contact you can go to with questions and concerns. These people may also provide an on-site orientation, lead excursions, coordinate housing, and offer some academic advising. However, be aware that each program does vary in the level of independence required of participants. Please feel free to discuss the different levels of on-site support offered at specific sites with the CIE staff.

Credit

All of our programs offer UW-Eau Claire resident credit. You will have a temporary registration during your time abroad. Upon return, your classes and grades will be posted to your UW-Eau Claire transcript and will be included in your cumulative GPA. Please note that getting transcripts from abroad can take time, and your grades will be posted as soon as they are received.

Service-Learning

You can fulfill your service-learning requirement on some study abroad programs.

Cost

There is a wide range of program costs. Basic costs of student life on some programs—tuition, fees, room and board—are similar to costs on campus, plus international airfare. The costs of living in other countries can be higher than in the U.S., and some programs require non-resident tuition. Finally, the exchange rate will affect the program costs. Estimates for each program are available online or in the brochures at the CIE.

Language Options

Forty-four of our current programs have no language requirement. This does not mean you can only study in an English-speaking country. You can also take courses in English in Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Ghana, Greece, India, Japan, Latvia, Malta, ITESM/Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, and Thailand.

CAN I AFFORD IT?

YES! Now is the most cost-effective time in your life to spend an extended period of time abroad, and there is a **wide range of program costs** to accommodate a wide range of student budgets.

- **Financial aid applies** toward program costs, and your aid package will be based on actual costs in your host country, including round-trip airfare.
- UW-Eau Claire offers some **scholarships** for study abroad, and you can also apply for state and federal scholarships. For information, visit <http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/sac/finaid.htm>.
- **Start saving now!** Budget for your time abroad when setting your spending priorities.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

You will apply nearly a year before departure! This allows time for you to do the academic & financial planning to make the most of your time abroad. Application deadlines for summer/fall/year programs are November 3 or November 17 depending on the program. Spring program deadlines are March 2 or April 1 depending on the program. See our applications, brochures, and Web page for each program's specific deadline.

All applications are reviewed after the deadline. You will be notified of your status about three weeks after the deadline.

WHEN SHOULD I STUDY ABROAD?

Study abroad is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Most students study abroad during their sophomore or junior year, though many seniors go as well. The best time for you may depend on your academic major. Talk with your faculty adviser or a study abroad staff member if you need guidance.

WILL IT DELAY MY GRADUATION?

Not with advanced planning! Anyone can fulfill GE requirements, and most students are able to fulfill requirements for their major and/or minor. In addition, a semester of study abroad fulfills the UW-Eau Claire foreign language/foreign culture requirement, except for those students doing a B.A. or a B.M. in the College of Arts & Sciences

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Center for International Education
Schofield Hall 111
Eau Claire WI 54702
715-836-4411
studyabroad@uwec.edu
<http://www.uwec.edu/cie>

Program	Program Types				Housing			Requirements	
	Area Studies	Integrated	Island	Language	Apt	Dorm	Family	Language of instruction	Pre-requisites
F=Fall, SP=Spring, SS=Summer Session, AY= Academic Year, CY=Calendar Year									
Lismore/Australia (F, SP, CY)		x			x	x		English	NA
Perth/Australia (F, SP, CY)		x			x	x	x	English	NA
Graz/Austria (AY, F, SP)	x	x		x	x	x		German	Germ 202
ISEP/Brazil* (AY, F, SP)		x		x			x	Portuguese	Interm Port/Adv Span
ISEP/Bulgaria* (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
ISEP/Canada* (AY, F, SP)		x		x		x		Fren/Eng	Fren 202
ISEP/Chile* (F, SP, CY)	x	x		x			x	Spanish	Span 301 & 60 credits
Guangzhou/China (AY, F, SP)	x			x		x		Chin/Eng	NA
Costa Rica Nursing & Health Care Professions (SS)	x		x	x			x	Span/Eng	FMHN 212
Costa Rica (SP)	x		x	x			x	Span/Eng	NA
ISEP/Czech Republic* (AY,F,SP)	x		x			x		English	60 credits
Harlaxton/England (F, SP)			x			x		English	NA
Lancaster/England (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Winchester/England (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Pau, France (AY, SP)	x			x		x	x	French	Fren 201
Hessen/Germany (AY, SP)		x				x		German	Germ 202
Leipzig/Germany (SP)	x		x	x		x		German	Germ 201
ISEP/Ghana* (AY, F, SP)	x	x				x		English	NA
Thessaloniki/Greece (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
ISEP/India* (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	60 credits
Limerick/Ireland (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Nagasaki, Japan (AY, F, SP)	x			x			x	Jap/Eng	NA
Kansai Gaidai/Japan (AY, F, SP)	x			x		x	x	Jap/Eng	NA
Riga/Latvia (F)	x	x				x		English	NA
ISEP/Malta* (AY, SP)	x	x				x		English	60 credits
Cuernavaca/Mexico (SS)	x			x			x	Spanish	NA or Span 301 for Track 2
ITESM/Mexico (AY, F, SP)	x	x		x	x	x	x	Span/Eng	Span 301
ISEP/Netherlands* (AY, F, SP)	x	x			x			English	60 credits
ISEP/New Zealand* (F, SP, CY)		x				x		English	NA
Nicaragua/Costa Rica (F)	x		x	x			x	Span/Eng	NA
Aberdeen/Scotland (AY, F, SP, SS)	x (ss)	x				x		English	NA
Glasgow/Scotland (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Stirling/Scotland (AY, F, SP, SS)	x (ss)	x				x		English	NA
Durban/South Africa (SS)	x					x		English	60 credits
ISEP/South Africa* (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Suwon City/South Korea (SS)	x					x		Kor/Eng	NA
ISEP/Spain* (AY, F, SP)		x		x	x			Spanish	Span 301
Valladolid/Spain (F, SP)	x			x			x	Spanish	Span 301
Växjö/Sweden (AY, F, SP)		x				x		English	NA
Chiang Mai/Thailand (AY, F, SP, SS)	x		x (ss)			x		English	NA
ISEP/Thailand* (AY, F, SP)	x	x				x		English	NA
ISEP/Uruguay* (AY, F, SP)	x	x		x			x	Spanish	Span 301

*ISEP offers a number of programs in different countries. Some countries listed may have more than one university available.



Frequently Asked Questions



-WHY STUDY ABROAD?

Studying abroad will set you apart—only 10% of U.S. undergraduates can claim an experience abroad as part of their university education. By studying abroad, you will gain new perspectives on yourself, your academic discipline, the United States and other cultures. Whether you plan to work in business, education or social services, such international insights are increasingly sought after by employers in our global society.

-HOW DO I APPLY?

- ❖ Come to the CIE and pick up an application or download one from our Web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/sac/onlineapp.htm>. Detailed instructions are on the application form.
- ❖ Fill out the application form neatly and completely. Write your essay about why you want to study abroad.
- ❖ For Lancaster, Lismore, Limerick, Perth and Study in Scotland get a reference from a UW-Eau Claire faculty/staff member (see application for detailed instructions and form). For ISEP-Direct, follow instructions from ISEP. For all other programs, schedule a faculty interview (see application for instructions and form).
- ❖ Request an official transcript from the Registrar's Office, 128 Schofield. (If you are a 1st semester freshman, you must include a high school transcript. If you are a transfer student, you must include an official transcript from your previous institution.)
- ❖ Take the application form to the Cashier's Window, 108 Schofield and pay the \$30 application fee. Your application will be stamped with a "fee received" stamp.
- ❖ Turn in the completed application to the CIE before 4:30 pm by the deadline date.

-WHAT ARE THE APPLICATION DEADLINES?

We begin accepting applications for 2009-2010 **fall/summer/year programs** on **September 2, 2008**.

The last day we accept applications for Winchester/England and Kansai Gaidai/Japan is **November 3, 2008**.

The last day we accept applications for all other fall/year/summer programs is **November 17, 2008**.

We begin accepting applications for 2010 **spring programs** on **January 15, 2009**.

The last day we accept applications for spring in Kansai Gaidai/Japan is **March 2, 2009**.

The last day we accept applications for all other spring programs is **April 1, 2009**.

Applications will be reviewed after the deadline; late applications will be accepted if space is available. Check with the CIE for details.

-WHY ARE THE DEADLINES SO EARLY?

UW-Eau Claire has students apply about a year in advance of their program start date. This is for a number of reasons, including:

- ❖ **Academic planning:** You know what to register for on campus & what to "save" for your term abroad.
- ❖ **Financial planning:** You will have plenty of time to work on how you will pay for your term abroad and have ample time to apply for both local and national scholarships.
- ❖ **Logistical planning:** Most of our partners abroad want your information early so they can guarantee your housing, and you can get better course selection. You'll also have a semester's worth of orientation prior to going to help you fully prepare for your time abroad.

-HOW DO I PREPARE FOR A STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE?

The CIE holds a required day-long orientation the semester prior to your participation. You will meet your Peer Adviser(s) and the study abroad staff, receive written materials, and talk with returned students and faculty members from your program. After orientation, you will receive weekly e-mails from your Peer Adviser(s) and can contact the office with questions at any time.

-WILL I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL?

Many programs offer class-related and/or optional excursions. Most have one or two week breaks during the semester. Many students often choose to add some travel time before or after their program. Remember: study abroad is an academic experience. Personal travel should be pursued secondary to your academic program.