

**PROPOSAL FOR NEW STUDY ABROAD or EXCHANGE PROGRAM**  
*USAC Lisbon, Portugal*

**RATIONALE:**

Our partners at the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) will begin offering this program at the Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (UCP), Lisbon, in Fall 2021. We currently use USAC for programs in 16 countries and have confidence in the support and structure they provide, as well as their continued commitment to offering opportunities for deep cultural immersion at an affordable price.

From an academic perspective, this is a USAC Partnership Program, meaning that students direct enroll in courses at the Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (UCP). UCP offers undergraduate courses in business and economics, taught in English. UCP is in the 1% of universities worldwide that have “Triple Crown” business accreditation (accredited by AACSB, the European Foundation for Management Development and the Association for MBAs). Limited courses in social sciences and humanities are offered in English, also.

A breakdown of the program is below:

Host University	Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (UCP)
On-Site Staff	Program is housed in the UCP Global Education Office
Academics	<b>Semester students</b> take 4-5 classes/semester, choosing from courses available to exchange/study abroad students taught in English. Accounting, finance, management, marketing, economics, and Portuguese are the main academic areas. No previous Portuguese is required. <b>Summer students:</b> Two four-week summer sessions will be offered. Courses will be 6 ECTS/3 UWEC credits; students can take up to 12 ECTS/6 UWEC credits per session.
Housing	Student housing with private bedrooms and shared kitchen, bath and living facilities.
Involvement	Student organizations, sports and other university activities. Volunteer/service-learning opportunities are available.
Internship Opportunities	Yes
Field Trips Included in Fees	Yes. 2 field trips, including one overnight trip outside of Lisbon

**ENROLLMENT LIMITS:**

USAC’s stated maximum enrollment is 30 students per term. While UWEC’s expected application rate is unknown, due to our earlier application deadlines we have not had issues with any of the other USAC programs.

**ACADEMIC LOGISTICS:**

- **Can UW-Eau Claire accept credit from this program? What other UW System colleges/universities or U.S. universities are accepting credit from the host institution?** In the US, UCP is currently partnered with Kent State, Western Michigan University and the University of Maryland-Baltimore. A full list of UCP international partners is here: <https://www.ucp.pt/pt-pt/internacionalcooperacao-internacional/acordos-de-cooperacao>
- **How are grades reported?** Grades are reported on an official UCP transcript
- **What language is used on the above document? If not English, what resources are required for an English translation?** Transcripts will be in English
- **What credit system is used and how does it translate into U.S. credits?** UCP uses ECTS credits. 2 ECTS credits = 1 UWEC credit. Faculty of Human Sciences courses are 6 ECTS/3 US credits; Business courses are 7.5 ECTS/3.75 US credits.
- **How is course level determined?** Course levels are the same as UW-Eau Claire: 100, 200, 300, and 400.
- **What grade scale is used and what is the conversion to UWEC grades?** UCP uses a 20 point grading system. The basic conversion is as follows:

PT Grade	US Grade	Local Context
20, 19	A+	Exceptional and rare
18-16	A level work	Excellent, typically in top 10% of cohort
15-13	B level work	Good
12, 11	C level work	Satisfactory
10	D level work	Minimally satisfactory
9.4 or less	Failing	Failing

*USAC is still assessing the +/- threshold and the break between C & D.*

**CURRICULUM:**

Students can choose from courses taught in English in:

- 1) Business and Economics: <https://www.clsbe.lisboa.ucp.pt/current-students/undergraduate-students/student-tools/course-catalogue/1st-semester/exchange-students>

- 2) Communication, Cultural Studies:  
Fall 2020: <https://fch.lisboa.ucp.pt/asset/3826/file>  
Spring 2021: <https://fch.lisboa.ucp.pt/asset/3831/file>
- 3) In addition, students can study Portuguese, French, German and Spanish at beginning to advanced levels.

Internships and service-learning opportunities are available. UCP has many links with media organizations, arts organizations, and non-profits.

### **HOUSING:**

USAC students are housed in shared apartments located in downtown Lisbon. Students will have a private bedroom and bathroom with a shared kitchen and living space. The apartments are shared between 5-8 USAC students. There is a pay-to-use laundry facility on-site. The building has Wi-Fi, an on-site gym, 24/7 reception desk and a secure two-step keycard entry.

### **CALENDAR:**

- Summer (2 four-week sessions, dates not yet available)
- Fall Semester (early Sept to mid-Dec)
- Spring Semester (early Feb to end of May)

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- GPA of 2.5 or above.
- Good academic, conduct and financial standing
- May apply as first year student, but must have sophomore standing by program start
- No language requirements

### **FOREIGN CULTURE REQUIREMENT:**

**For students in catalog years through 2015-2016**, under the current guidelines for foreign culture for short-term programs, eligible students could fulfill 1/3 of the requirement for participating in the program and taking courses taught by Polish faculty.

**For semester students in catalog years through 2015-16**, Foreign Culture can be waived upon successful program completion. (Students earning a B.A., B.F.A., or B.M. degree in the College of Arts and Sciences cannot use study abroad to fulfill their foreign language/foreign culture requirements. See the university catalog for details.).

### **LIBERAL EDUCATION CORE:**

For students in catalog year 2016 and later, this program can fulfill an integrated learning (I1) requirement upon completion of the integrated learning assignments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The first opportunity that UWEC student would have to participate in the program would be summer 2022.