Why should students study abroad?
No matter in what part of the world they choose to study, students will benefit both personally and professionally from this once in a lifetime experience.

**Earn academic credit**
- Fulfill major, minor or general education requirements
- Experience hands-on learning
- Gain intellectual insight

**Prepare for the future**
- Gain problem solving skills, a sense of direction and valuable international experience for a future career
- Learn how to work both independently and as part of a team
- Demonstrate self reliance and an adventurous spirit

**Develop global competencies**
- Learn how to work effectively in international settings
- Develop an awareness of and adaptability to diverse cultures, perceptions and approaches
- Become familiar with major currents of global change and the issues they raise
- Communicate more effectively across cultural and linguistic boundaries
- Comprehend the international dimensions of different fields of study
Are students safe and informed?

The health, safety and security of students are of utmost importance. Education abroad can be challenging, but the Office of International Affairs provides pre-departure orientation, and introduces students to others in their program as well as those who have studied abroad before. Students are encouraged to act responsibly in their daily choices and behaviors in order to minimize risks while abroad. In many cases, a staff or faculty member from Ohio State will go along on programs as a liaison to enhance academic aspects, assist students and respond to unexpected emergency situations. Information is also provided about international travel conditions and how to register with a U.S. embassy abroad.

Isn’t it expensive to study abroad?

Education abroad is an investment in students and their future. The Office of International Affairs strives to develop programs that are as affordable as possible. All Ohio State students may apply for grants and scholarships and can apply most of their financial aid to the program costs.

What subjects can students study?

Students don’t need to be majoring in a foreign language or international studies to study abroad. Students can study a wide variety of subjects to satisfy major, minor or general education requirements. While some programs require a foreign language background, many allow students to study in English, and others actually provide intensive foreign language study. Experiences and skills learned while abroad can apply to almost any area.

Choosing the right program

There are a variety of program types that give students options of choosing when, where and how long to study abroad. They can study with students from Ohio State or with students from other universities, or participate in an exchange program, independent study, service learning, research or internship program.

Programs vary in length anywhere from 10 days to a full academic year. Some study abroad program classes are completed on campus before departing overseas; others immerse students in a classroom setting in another country. Most study abroad programs can be arranged anytime in a student’s academic career, beginning freshman year.

Students can also take advantage of Global May programs — study abroad opportunities specifically designed for first and second year students of any major. These programs take place during May, feature instruction in English, focus on the history, culture and major issues of one specific country or region and provide the earliest opportunity to study abroad, allowing students to go abroad again later in their college careers.

Can students still graduate on time?

Ohio State grants graded academic credit for study abroad programs, so students can continue to make regular academic progress. The majority of students who study overseas complete their coursework by their intended graduation date.

“As a parent visiting universities and helping my children make decisions about colleges, what stood out for me at Ohio State was the push to study abroad and the Todd Anthony Bell National Resource Center on the African American Male. I felt confident that The Ohio State University would provide my son an important wholistic experience as he grows into manhood over the next four years.”

- Deb Maynard, Dublin, Ohio

“Studying abroad played a key role for my daughter’s college experience, but more importantly her role as a global citizen. It was necessary for Amanda to go abroad so she could grasp a better understanding of people with different backgrounds, as well as give her a stronger appreciation of who she is and where she comes from.”

- Carol Stefanik, Louisville, Ohio