



EDUCATION ABROAD

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Study around the world

Every student at Ohio State – no matter their major – can study abroad. An education abroad experience may be the single most important element of your academic career at Ohio State. It will help you gain critical thinking skills, technical expertise and global awareness, and will change your perspective about the world in which we live. In today's changing economic marketplace, it is essential to gain international experience and learn about other cultures in order to actively participate and make a difference in our increasingly global society.

At Ohio State, you have the opportunity to study abroad with other Ohio State students and your professors, take classes through a foreign university or an exchange program, complete an independent study or service learning project, conduct research or participate in an internship program. Of the more than 200 programs in 50 different countries, there's one especially designed with you in mind.

The Office of International Affairs administers Ohio State's study abroad programs, which allow you to engage in cross-cultural interactions and enjoy a rewarding educational experience in another country—all at the same time.

Why should I study abroad?

Whether you choose to study in Africa, Asia, Australia, Central America, Europe, the Middle East or South America, you will benefit both personally and professionally from this life changing experience.

Earn academic credit

- Fulfill major, minor or general education requirements
- Experience hands-on learning
- Gain intellectual and cultural insight

Develop global competencies

- Learn how to work effectively in international settings
- Develop an awareness of and adaptability to diverse cultures, perceptions and approaches
- Familiarize yourself with major currents of global change and the issues they raise
- Increase your ability to communicate effectively across cultural and linguistic boundaries
- Comprehend the international dimensions of your field of study

Prepare for your future

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



Isn't it expensive to study abroad?

Study abroad is an investment in yourself and your 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.

Can I graduate on time if I study abroad?

Ohio State grants graded academic credit for study abroad programs, so you can continue to make regular academic progress. In fact, the majority of students who study overseas complete their coursework by their intended graduation date. You can earn course credit for foreign language classes, general education classes or classes related to your major.

What subjects can I study abroad?

You don't need to be a foreign language or international studies major to study abroad—you can study almost any subject overseas. While some of our programs require a foreign language background, many feature classroom instruction in English, and others actually provide you with intensive foreign language study.

Who will help me prepare?

Education abroad is challenging, but the Office of International Affairs holds orientation sessions before your departure to introduce you to students who have studied abroad, provide health and safety information and help you get to know other students in your program.

When is the best time to study abroad?

Most study abroad programs can be arranged any time in your academic career, however, some programs require junior or senior standing.

You 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 and focus on the history, culture and major issues of one specific country or region. They also provide you the earliest opportunity to study abroad, allowing you to go abroad again later in your college career.

Get a passport

Even if you are not yet planning to study abroad, Ohio State recommends that you have a passport, so you will never miss an international opportunity. Visit oia.osu.edu/get-a-passport for a step-by-step application checklist, as well as information on passport renewal, and see how other Ohio State students have put their passports to use all around the world.



Choose the right program for you

Education abroad at Ohio State allows you to choose when, where and how long you study abroad. You can study abroad with students from Ohio State or with students from other universities, or you can participate in an exchange program, which allows you to travel independently.

Programs vary in length anywhere from 10 days to a full academic year. With some programs, classes are completed on campus before you depart, others will immerse you in a classroom setting in another country. Visit oia.osu.edu and use the study abroad search engine to find the program that's right for you.

Getting started

Your first step is to attend a Getting Started session to learn about selecting the program that is best for you, ways to finance your program, the application process and the other resources available to you. Given the variety of options from which you can choose, attending a Getting Started session is necessary to help you narrow your choices and allow you to talk to the experts. Session schedules are available online.

If you've attended a Getting Started session and have questions about a particular program, contact that program's education abroad coordinator. Coordinators are listed on the webpage for each program.

