Choosing a Study Abroad Program

These FAQs will help you understand the range of options available to you and point out some of the implications of choosing a UW–Madison sponsored program versus a study abroad (SA) program not sponsored by UW–Madison.

1. Where can I study abroad?
Your options are practically endless. UW–Madison sponsors more than 200 SA programs around the world, some providing instruction in English and others in the local language. In addition to UW–Madison programs, other universities and study abroad organizations offer programs which you may wish to consider.

2. How do I find out about program options?
The International Academic Programs Resource Center (106 Red Gym) has program information pertaining to UW-Madison SA programs. Peer advisors will help you review the specifics of UW-Madison SA programs. In addition, UW-Madison schools and colleges that offer SA programs can provide you with information on their programs. If you wish to explore SA programs sponsored by other universities or organizations, visit the International Academic Programs Resource Center for assistance.

3. How will my SA work be recorded on my UW–Madison transcript?
On UW–Madison sponsored programs, you will earn “residence” credit and can even graduate abroad. The courses, grades, and credits you earn abroad will be recorded on your transcript as UW–Madison study abroad work. Course work completed on a non UW–Madison SA program will show up as transfer credit as long as it is college-level, transferable work at an accredited, recognized university.

4. How will I fund my study abroad experience?
You may use UW–Madison financial aid and most campus scholarships for UW–Madison sponsored programs. International Academic Programs also provides merit-based travel awards for qualified students. For a non UW–Madison program, you will need to contact the host institution to see if they will fund you. If the host school is a Title IV school but will not fund you, you may apply for financial aid through UW–Madison. However, if you attend a foreign school directly or through a broker agency, UW–Madison will not process financial aid for you.

5. How will I prepare for my study abroad experience?
For a UW–Madison program, you will participate in on-campus orientation meetings and activities designed to prepare you for the program. SA advisors will be available to help you through the process. For a non UW–Madison program, plan to be more independent and proactive. You should begin your preparation at least two semesters prior to departure. Visit www.admissions.wisc.edu/studyabroad for more information.

6. How will I enroll in UW–Madison classes for the term after my study abroad program?
If you study in a UW–Madison program, you will maintain your status as an enrolled student and retain an early enrollment appointment time. If you study in a non UW–Madison program, you will need to apply as a reentry student and be readmitted in order to receive an enrollment appointment time. If you apply on time, you will retain an early enrollment appointment time.

The following offices sponsor UW–Madison undergraduate study abroad programs:

**International Academic Programs**
106 Red Gym  
www.studyabroad.wisc.edu  
265–6329

**School of Education – International Student Teaching**
109 Education Building 
262–1651

**College of Agricultural & Life Sciences**
240 Agriculture Hall  
www.cals.wisc.edu  
262–5545

**College of Engineering**
2640 Engineering Hall  
studentservices. engr.wisc.edu/ international  
263–2191

**School of Business**
2266 Grainger Hall  
www.bus.wisc.edu/international  
262–9037

For information on non UW–Madison study abroad programs, visit:

**International Academic Programs Resource Center**
106 Red Gym  
peeradvisor@studyabroad.wisc.edu  
265-6329

If you have decided to study in a non UW–Madison program, visit the Office of Admissions Study Abroad Readmission Web site at www.admissions.wisc.edu/studyabroad at least two semesters prior to your departure. (Exception: engineering, clinical lab science, physician assistant, and pharmacy students need to work with their school/college admitting office.)