

# Study Abroad in International Studies

International Studies Program  
UC San Diego  
ERC Administration Building, Suite 100  
<http://isp.ucsd.edu/>



International Studies strongly encourages its majors and minors to study abroad. Students will find programs in which to improve their language skills or integrate themselves into one of many different cultures and countries through the University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP), UC San Diego's Global Seminars (GS), or UC San Diego's Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP).

*"Nothing matches the education of going abroad. Every single student should go, and go now."*

-- Clark Gibson, International Studies Program Director

*"Last weekend, I got to observe three facets of Ghanaian society: a dance club, the Miss Ghana 2004 pageant, and a family's celebration after a baby-naming ceremony. The dance club was interesting for the perspective it offered on the various comings and goings of Ghanaian social life."*

-- International Studies Major, '03.

*"No one has ever come back from studying abroad saying, 'I wish I had stayed at UCSD instead.'"*

--Gary Jacobson, UCSD Professor of Political Science

## Why study abroad?

International Studies students are encouraged to take full advantage of the breadth of study abroad options and opportunities that can complement International Studies courses offered at UCSD (by taking courses abroad which are not offered at UCSD). Regardless of your future career choice, study abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education.

Consider your value to an employer or a graduate program if you've:

- Participated in a different educational system and gained a new cultural perspective
- Increased your proficiency in another language
- Improved your critical thinking skills
- Expanded your worldview by experiencing another culture firsthand
- Developed self-confidence and independence
- Prepared for a career in an internationally competitive world

## What are my First Steps?

1. Attend a **First Steps** session. Sign up at: <http://pao.ucsd.edu>
2. Visit <http://pao.ucsd.edu> to find out more!
3. Start your research in the Programs Abroad Library.
4. Meet with a Programs Abroad advisor.
5. Complete your Academic Planning Form, attach course descriptions, and indicate which track you want to apply each course to (i.e. Sociology, Economics, African Studies). Course descriptions should be taken from the EAP Course catalog website.
6. Drop off your academic planning form at the ISP office. No appointment is necessary. Allow two business days for review.
7. Continue the approval of your academic planning form by getting signatures from your second major or minor department (if applicable).
8. Submit your planning form to your college advising office.
9. Submit the completed and signed form to the Programs Abroad Office.



Isere River, Grenoble, France

## What classes should I take?

The key to success is planning and pre-approval! The International Studies Program's undergraduate advisor will help students select courses that can meet major and minor requirements.

The EAP **Course Catalog** (<https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx>) lets you search courses taken by UC students over the last 5 years. OAP students should contact the Programs Abroad Office for course descriptions: <http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/OAPoverview.htm>.

Credit for classes taken abroad is not guaranteed. Application of credit to ISP requirements is subject to the discretion of the department.

## When should I study abroad?

While it is possible for International Studies majors to go abroad at almost any point in their academic careers, ISP recommends that students study abroad during their junior year. If a student decides to study abroad their senior year the student must understand that this means their diploma will be delayed.

## Requirements

The International Studies Program allows a maximum of six petitions for majors and three for minors. A petitionable course is anything taken outside UCSD or not listed on the approved comprehensive course list (please note INTL 101, 102, and 190 cannot be petitioned). Courses must be pre-approved by the academic advisor prior to departure and petitioned upon return. Be aware that ISP approves petitions on a course-to-course ratio and not a unit-to-unit ratio.

It is recommended that students take INTL 101 and 102 during their sophomore or early junior year prior to studying abroad. It is recommended that students study abroad during their junior year.

## What will it cost?

Study on EAP/OAP/GS can be comparable to the cost of study at a UC. In some cases, it can cost less. EAP participants pay UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, EAP students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources.

OAP students may retain all or some of their funding while abroad, including special study abroad scholarships. However, because of the variety of the programs found through OAP, costs for individual programs can vary greatly.

Check here for specific information about scholarships and financial aid: <http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/funding.htm>

## Where should I study abroad?

You will find coursework relevant to your major in International Studies at many EAP study centers. The Course Catalog (<https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx>) can help you find programs that meet your needs.

Global Seminars are summer programs led by UCSD faculty, see course listings relevant to IS in the next column.

If you can't find a program, university or country that suits your needs through EAP, try OAP. Two sites that will help you in your search are <http://www.goabroad.com/> and <http://www.studyabroad.com/>.

Here are just a few of the universities where International Studies majors and minors have studied:

- University of Queensland, Australia
- Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Peking University, Beijing
- University of London, Queen Mary, England
- University of Lyon, France
- Georg-August University, Göttingen, Germany
- University College Dublin, Ireland
- University of Bologna, Italy
- National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City
- University of Maastricht, the Netherlands
- University of Otago, New Zealand
- University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
- University of Granada, Spain
- Lund University, Sweden

## Upcoming Global Seminar (Summer 2010)

Madrid, Spain (Summer Session I):

Take two, 4 unit courses with Professor Mares:

1. International Politics and Drugs (POLI 100 GS)
2. Insurgency and Terrorism (POLI 101 GS)

Paris, France (Summer Session 1):

Take two, 4 unit courses with Professor Wesling

LTEN 158GS: Beyond the "Lost Generation": U.S. Literary Perspectives on Paris

LTEN 149GS: The Global City



## What happens when I return?

Upon return you will need to petition the courses you took abroad in order to receive academic credit toward major requirements.

\* Wait until your coursework posts to your Academic History on TritonLink before beginning the petition process (this will take an average of three months).

\* Once the courses post you will need to fill out an Undergraduate Student Petition for each course you want to apply toward the IS Program. On each petition write the course # (as it appears on TritonLink), course title, EAP or OAP, quarter/semester you took the course, and what IS requirement you want to apply the course toward. Sign and date the petition & attach all coursework i.e. syllabus, exams, & papers.

\* Submit all petitions to the ISP Advising Office.

\* We will contact you via your UCSD email account in one-two weeks to inform you of the final outcome.

\* Please pick-up all petitions and coursework from the Intake Advisor after you have been notified.

**Hint: If you took courses in another language while abroad, have your proficiency tested immediately upon return!**

*"My study abroad experience was the first time I left the U.S. I have now been living abroad for nearly 13 years, worked in 5 countries for extended periods of time, and am learning my fourth language. I am currently working for a large multi-national in a highly international career, and regularly conduct business in international environments and sometimes in foreign languages." - UC San Diego alum*



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