

Study Abroad in Sociology

Department of Sociology,
UC San Diego
Social Sciences Building, Room #401
<http://sociology.ucsd.edu/>



The Department of Sociology strongly encourages you to study abroad. You will find programs worldwide in which to take classes that will complement your study of sociology at UCSD. Through the University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP) or UCSD's Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP), or Global Seminars (GS), students will find hundreds of programs of varying lengths and levels of cultural and language immersion, one of which is sure to suit your individual needs.

"One of the most valuable opportunities for undergraduates is to look into the many Education Abroad Programs. I received an ecstatic e-mail from a sociology major who studied in Italy. She writes that she cannot believe that the most educational thing she has ever done at UCSD (study abroad) is also the most exhilarating and meaningful. Nobody has ever said that about my classes!" --Ivan Evans, Associate Professor, UCSD Sociology Department

"If you are looking for the most profound way to expand your academic horizons and to get more exposure to different cultures and societies, come to the Programs Abroad Office to research the many great sociology programs in foreign countries all over the world." --Simona Stolpner, UCSD Sociology 2004 Graduate

Why study abroad?

"Today's workplace requires you to be quick on your feet and highly adaptable. You will work for, and with, professionals from diverse backgrounds whose personal styles may be quite different from your own. Study abroad is an outstanding way to build your skills, to see the world through another's eyes, and to demonstrate to employers that you are tested and ready to pursue the global workplace"--Andrew T. Ceperley, Director, Career Services Center, UCSD

Regardless of your future career choice, study abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education. Sociology is a valuable major for students who want to enter law, medicine, architecture, business, or politics. It also provides a solid liberal arts education for students who plan careers in education, criminal justice, public health, urban planning, social welfare, counseling, public administration, international relations, or market research, all of which will be greatly enhanced by experiences gained through immersion in a foreign culture.

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
- Enhanced résumés and/or applications for graduate school

What are my First Steps?

1. Attend a [First Steps](#) meeting at the International Center
2. Visit <http://programsabroad.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
6. Schedule a visit with Shannon Goodison, the advisor in Sociology (sgoodison@ucsd.edu) or at (858-534-4628).
7. Visit your college advising office



Crop-over, the biggest festival on the Bajan calendar, Barbados

Requirements

The Department of Sociology allows a maximum of 4 courses taken abroad to count towards major requirements. It is strongly recommended that all students going abroad complete SOCA 100 (Classical Sociological Theory) and an upper division "methods" course prior to departure. (Upper division methods courses are SOCA 103M through SOCA 110A.)

What classes should I take?

Sociology's undergraduate advisor will help you select courses that can meet major and minor requirements.

EAP and GS students automatically earn UC credit for the work they complete abroad. However, application of credit to major requirements is subject to the discretion of the department. The EAP [Course Catalog](https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx) (<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 earn transfer credit for the work they complete abroad, and application of credit to major requirements is also subject to the discretion of the department.

Classes continued

In addition to EAP and OAP, UC San Diego has [Global Seminars](#) (GS) in various countries throughout the world. Each Global Seminar consists of two four-unit courses taught by a UCSD professor. You are required to take both classes for a letter grade. These courses transfer automatically to your UCSD transcript as though you took these courses on campus over the summer.

When should I study abroad?

While it is possible for Sociology students to go abroad at almost any point in their academic careers, the particular quarter, semester, summer or year that you study abroad depends on your individual progress in your major and what courses you plan to take while abroad. Students are advised to take one to three upper division courses at UCSD before they leave. See Requirements section for more information.

What will it cost?

Study on EAP/OAP/GS can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. In some cases, it is 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, but 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>

What happens when I return?

Students must bring all coursework material from their abroad program to the Sociology advisor with a general petition for each course. The faculty advisor of the program will review the petitions and make final approval on coursework - if courses are approved the information will be transferred to the appropriate colleges.

Where should I study abroad?

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

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 Sociology majors and minors have studied:

- Beijing Normal University, China
- University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Utrecht University, Netherlands
- University of Grenoble, France
- University of Concepción, Chile
- University of the West Indies, Barbados
- University of Ghana
- Yonsei University, Korea
- Lund University, Sweden
- University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
- National University of Ireland, Galway
- University of Melbourne, Australia
- University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

"My study abroad program was the most important decision I made in my life. Getting outside of the United States to see things actually how they are, rather than through the eyes of the U.S. media was an eye opening experience. Studying abroad should be something that everyone in this country especially a UCSD student should experience. Failing to do so would greatly undermine the UC's motto of "Let there be light."

