

Study Abroad in Visual Arts

Department of Visual Arts,
UC San Diego
216 Mandeville Center
<http://visarts.ucsd.edu/>



Regardless of which major track you are in, you will find courses to complement your studies at UC San Diego through UC's Education Abroad Program, UC San Diego's Global Seminars (GS), or UC San Diego's Opportunities Abroad Program.

"I don't think that any student studying art should assume that art is taught or thought about in any universal way. In fact this is the beauty of the art discipline area; it is the area of research in higher academics with the most liberty to define itself and its activity. Thus, every art program in the world is a snowflake with diverse national and cultural influences as well as interesting local peculiarities. Study abroad is a great opportunity to experience this first hand, to reflect on the differences in what constitutes "Art" globally, and for students to bring this experience back home to their UCSD art community through their own work as artists." --Brett Staulbaum, Faculty, Visual Arts Department

Why study abroad?

Regardless of your future career choice, study abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education. Studying abroad will allow you the opportunity to train your critical eye, so necessary in the field of Visual Arts, in a way that would not be possible by studying at a single institution.

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 the advisor in Visual Arts ([vis-ug@ucsd](mailto:vis-ug@ucsd.edu)) or call 534-2860
7. Visit your college advising office

When should I study abroad?

While it is possible for Visual Arts 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. If you plan to study abroad on a year-long program, there may be some recommendations specific to your major that you should consider before going. See the Requirements section for more detailed information.



Indian dancers at the Cathedral at el Zócalo, Mexico City

What classes should I take?

Visual Art's undergraduate advisor will help students select courses that can meet major and minor requirements.

EAP 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/CourseCatalogCourseCatalog.aspx) (<https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalogCourseCatalog.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.

In addition to EAP and OAP, UC San Diego has [Global Seminars](http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/GSHome.html) (GS) (<http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/GSHome.html>) in various countries throughout the world each summer. Each Global Seminar consists of two 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

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. GS students pay UC fees too! Tuition is the same as studying at UC San Diego over the summer.

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?

If you are interested in pursuing credit for upper division courses, please follow this procedure: 1) Before you leave, examine the course offerings at the abroad institution and make a good guess about which UCSD courses you might receive credit for as a substitution. 2) Collect course descriptions and syllabi for the abroad classes. This may require asking the abroad institution to provide additional information. 3) Bring these materials to the ICAM faculty advisor (Brett Stalbaum) for review. This way, you can have more confidence that the abroad courses will be able to be petitioned to meet major requirements upon your return. Remember, when you arrive at your study center, you should always remain in touch with the Visual Arts advisor by email to ensure the courses you will take will be accepted for credit upon your return.

Where should I study abroad?

You will find coursework relevant to your major in Visual Arts 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. Global Seminars are summer programs led by UCSD faculty-see course listings relevant to Vis Arts below. If you can't find a program, university or country that suits your needs through EAP or GS, try OAP! Two sites that will help you in your search are <http://www.goabroad.com/> and <http://www.studyabroad.com/>.

Requirements

1. The Department of Visual Arts allows a maximum of five courses taken outside of UCSD to count towards major requirements.
2. Media majors: Due to the highly specialized nature of UCSD's Visual Arts major programs, Media majors are encouraged to complete their lower-division major or GE requirements while studying abroad and return to UCSD to complete their upper-division production courses in their major. Some advanced students may choose to pursue credit for upper-division courses at the prestigious art institutions mentioned in the "Where should I study abroad?" section. Media majors may take courses to fulfill the "History, Criticism and Theory" requirement while abroad.

Here are just a few of the universities where Visual Arts majors may study:

Media majors:

- Le Fresnoy- France
- Academy of Media Arts in Koln- Germany
- University of the Arts, Berlin- Germany
- Art School Karlsruhe

Art History/ Criticism majors:

- Bologna University- Italy
- UC Center, Rome
- University College, Dublin- Ireland
- Victoria University of Wellington- New Zealand
- Yonsei University, Seoul- Korea
- Delhi University- India
- University of Ghana, Legon
- American University of Paris

Studio majors:

- University of KwaZulu- Natal, Pietermaritzburg- South Africa

ICAM majors:

- La Salle- SIA College of the Arts, Singapore
- Bezalel Academy, Jerusalem
- PUC-SP, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia
- Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane- Australia
- Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing
- Nanyang University, School of Art, Design and Media- Singapore

Upcoming summer Global Seminars for Visual Arts majors:

Revelle in Rome

1. Hum 3
2. HIEU 124/VIS 122

Art History/Criticism majors: Up to five electives from Group III may be taken while abroad.

Studio majors: Visual Arts/Studio majors are encouraged to complete their lower-division major or GE requirements while studying abroad and return to UCSD to complete their upper-division production courses in their major. Some advanced students may choose to pursue credit for upper-division courses at the prestigious art institutions mentioned in the "Where should I study abroad?" section. Studio majors may take courses while abroad to fulfill the "Group V: Non-Studio" requirement. ICAM majors: Due to the specialized nature of the computing in the arts area, ICAM students are encouraged to complete lower division and GE requirements while studying abroad. With this taken into consideration, study abroad should be very easy for ICAM majors. The equivalent of CSE 11 is taught at almost every university in the world, as are the equivalents of Math 20A and Math 20B. Some universities may also have acceptable equivalents of VIS 22 and MUS 4. (Follow the procedure in "What Happens When I Return?"). All majors may consider doing a 199 equivalent abroad under close supervision of a permanent faculty member.



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