Study Abroad for STEM Majors

Why study languages & culture abroad?
Benefits

Why should STEM majors study abroad?

1. Gain real-world experience tied to your career path

2. Easily fulfill degree requirements for your language major or minor

3. Build new skills and traits that employers seek such as curiosity, flexibility, increased confidence, independence, initiative, and problem-solving

4. Get ideas for a senior research project, an international internship or work and travel opportunities after graduation
Benefits

Why should you study a language or culture abroad?

1. Gain proficiency and fluency in your foreign language

2. Easily fulfill degree requirements for your language major or minor

3. Get to know more intimately the history, society and cultural practices and products of the country whose language you are studying

4. Develop cross-cultural competence that opens up a wealth of immediate personal and long-term professional opportunities
"I chose to study abroad because I wanted to expand my comfort zone. I think it’s easy to become complacent in any aspect of life, and education is no different. We learn best when we place ourselves in unfamiliar environments and force our brains to find a way back to comfort. Studying abroad was a way to follow that most literally, all the while being fortunate enough to experience new people and cultures. I can honestly say my time in Sevilla shaped the course of my educational career. I learned how to adapt quickly to unfamiliar scenarios, challenge my learning and problem-solving skills, and most importantly connect with new people even with few shared experiences. As I am preparing to finish medical school, I can safely say my experience with study abroad has served me incredibly well, not only in managing the “firehose” of information thrown our way but in connecting with new patients as well. It was an invaluable time that I only wish I could have more of. Regardless of whatever you wish to pursue in life, I can promise study abroad will be something to hold onto closely forever."

- Tyler Beauchamp, Class of 2019
Science in Sevilla participant, Summer 2019
Recommended Programs
UNC BIOLOGY IN GRENOBLE

BIO 449
Intro to Immunology
French Language Course
Transfer Credit

May 30 - July 8, 2022

Lorraine Cramer

More Info & Apply
go.unc.edu/Bio449inGrenoble
UNC SPANISH MINOR FOR THE PROFESSIONS: MEDICAL TRACK IN COSTA RICA

SPAN 321
Spanish for the Medical Professions (first semester)

June 12 - July 9, 2022

Heather Knorr

More Info & Apply
go.unc.edu/MedicalSpanishinCostaRica
SCIENCE IN SEVILLA
RETURNING 2023

- Rotating CHEM/BIO Course
- Spanish Course
- Summer 2023
- Liz Bruno

More Info & Apply
Check back in Fall 2022!
FREN 379
Environment, Society, and Public Policy in Southern France
Taught in English
Explore how public policy and grassroots initiatives shape the cultural, economic & environmental identity of the 7th largest city in France.

French Language Course
Beginning or Intermediate Track

mid-May to mid-June

More Info & Apply
go.unc.edu/SummerinMontpellier

- Immerse yourself in French culture down south in Montpellier - 6 miles from the Mediterranean!
- Interact with locals and practice French communication skills.
- Live with a host family & spend mealtime together.
- Travel by train or bus to other French cities.
Featured semester programs

French
Universite Grenoble Alpes

German
University of Freiburg

Spanish
Universidad San Francisco de Quito (Galapagos)
While abroad, you can earn...

- Elective credit
- General Education credit
- Experiential Education (EE) for all programs
- Major/minor/language requirements*
  *(requires departmental approval)

Meet with your Academic Advisor before applying to discuss academic planning and degree requirements, especially if you have a high number of transfer credit hours.
Review the list of pre-approved courses to check for courses that may already have credit decisions.

Be sure to research course and credit information for your program to ensure the courses offered seem appropriate for your needs.

- Look at...
  - course catalogues for the program you're interested in
  - course prerequisites
  - syllabi/course descriptions for courses you'd like to take abroad

Visit "Academics Abroad" on our website for information and tools to research courses and credits.
Program Costs

Czech Koruna
Czech Republic
Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Your regular financial aid (scholarships, grants, loans) can usually be applied to your study abroad expenses.
- The Office of Scholarships and Student Aid (OSSA) can provide an estimated financial aid package to help you prepare financially. To do so...
  - Email fa_studyabroad@unc.edu
  - Include your name, PID, study abroad term, and a link to your program's budget sheet.

Sharon Beers
Assistant Director for Financial Aid for Study Abroad

Make an appointment here!
How to Apply

Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore
Firenze, Italy
Steps to Apply

1. Attend a Study Abroad 101
2. Research Programs & Credit
3. Meet with a Study Abroad Advisor
4. Complete HeelsAbroad application
5. Complete Host Institution application*
6. Sign Study Abroad Contract after acceptance
7. Attend Pre-Departure Orientation

*Some programs do not require a host institution application
What's on an application?

Programs led by UNC:
- Apply entirely in HeelsAbroad

Partner Programs:
- Two sides to the application:
  - HeelsAbroad application
  - Host Institution application
- Apply in HeelsAbroad first, then apply to the host institution

Applications usually require:
- Transcript (unofficial or official)
- Short Answer Questions
- $50 Application Fee
- Disclaimers / Waivers
Application Cycles

- Application open date & deadline are the same, regardless of year
- **Summer, Fall, Academic Year Cycle**
  - Opens November 15
  - Closes February 10
- **Spring & Calendar Year Cycle**
  - Opens over the summer
  - Most programs close September 10
  - *These dates may vary by region

Other considerations...

- You can only apply to one program at a time.
- **Applying** to a program is not the same as **committing** to a program.
Our Website
http://studyabroad.unc.edu

- Main site for all things study abroad
- Find resources on academics abroad, study abroad advising, scholarships & financial aid, parents & family resources, and more.
HeelsAbroad Portal
http://heelsabroad.unc.edu

- Our program database & application system
- Play around with the "Program Search" tool to explore programs
- Apply in our system by visiting a brochure and clicking "Apply Now"
All travel involves at least some level of risk, but there are certainly unique considerations to take into account while traveling during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Recent changes to study abroad include:

- Implementation of online study programs with institutions abroad
- Additional risk assessment procedures while determining program viability
- Thorough briefing with students during pre-departure
- Program itinerary changes
Stay in touch!

- Sign up to receive our monthly newsletter from the bottom of our website homepage
- Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to see upcoming info sessions and students spotlights
- Check out our website for FAQs and other updates
The Student Experience

- Introductions - name, major/concentration, year, program
- How were your classes abroad different than your classes at UNC?
- What is one of your favorite memories from your program?
- What advice do you have for students who are considering a study abroad program?
Questions?