

EDUCATION ABROAD AT UVA

Education Abroad is part of the International Studies Office (ISO), a division of UVA Global. Our team of advisors works with students interested in pursuing education abroad opportunities, as well as faculty leading UVA programs and colleagues in units and schools across the University. Visit our website at educationabroad.virginia.edu for more information.

Why you should participate in Education Abroad

- **90%** of those who go abroad believe that the experience was the **most meaningful semester** of their college experience.
- Going abroad is a great way to **enhance your degree** by incorporating an international perspective in your discipline. Students can stay on-track by completing requirements for their major, minor, and foreign language requirement (when applicable), in addition to electives. **Education abroad is available for all majors!**
- It's also a great opportunity to **develop the qualities that employers are looking for**: adaptability, strong communication skills, cultural sensitivity, and an understanding of different cultural contexts and viewpoints.

Types of Programs

- **UVA programs** are designed, developed and directed by UVA faculty members from across Schools and Departments. UVA programs are available during the semester and academic year, as well as January and Summer terms. There are currently **over 60 UVA programs** for undergraduate students.
- UVA currently has **Exchange** agreements for undergraduates with **over 50 universities** around the world, in which students enroll for a semester or year alongside local students and experience a high level of immersion.
- Programs sponsored by other universities or by private companies specializing in education abroad are referred to as **Outside Programs**. There are **over 300 outside programs** on UVA's approved list.
- Both UVA and Outside programs can include enrollment at a local university, classes exclusively offered for study abroad students, and/or experiential opportunities such as internships, field study or research. Non-credit-bearing internship and research opportunities are also available.
- **Global First** is a special semester opportunity for incoming first years. Students spend their first semester in London or Valencia (with a special orientation abroad), and the support of upper-class students and UVA faculty on-site with them, then arrive on Grounds for Spring semester.

Eligibility: Requirements include: full-time enrollment, minimum GPA of 2.50, and good academic and disciplinary standing. Some programs or your School may have additional eligibility requirements. Foreign language proficiency is *not* always required, even when going to a country that speaks another language!

Finances: There is a program for every budget; what and how students pay depends on the type of program. Financial aid is often portable and additional funding is available through scholarships administered by the ISO, other UVA departments and schools, program providers, and national and international-level awards.

Student Safety: Student safety is our first priority. UVA and the ISO carefully consider health and safety as a condition of program planning and administration and as an integral part of student preparation. The University monitors health, safety, and security conditions where our students travel. If risks are identified, students are advised on how to respond and directed to support services. The ISO maintains a Crisis Management Plan for Education Abroad, which is followed in the event of a crisis outside the U.S. involving our students who are abroad for university related purposes. All UVA students traveling outside of the national borders of the United States for University-related purposes are subject to the University Policy on Student International Travel.