STUDYING ABROAD

Every Columbia student should give serious consideration to studying overseas. The experience gained through a term or year abroad will provide an invaluable opportunity to develop cultural literacy in another country. Below, you will find information on the study abroad resources available to undergraduates at Columbia University. Students interested in studying abroad should contact the Office of Global Programs (http://www.ogp.columbia.edu/) for advice on specific programs and then reach out to their study abroad advisers at Columbia College (http://www.college.columbia.edu/students/studyabroad/) or the School of General Studies (http://www.gs.columbia.edu/study-abroad).

Office of Global Programs

The Office of Global Programs (OGP) supports the University’s overall goal of internationalizing our campus and engaging scholars, students and institutions in creating a deeper understanding of our globally interdependent and culturally diverse world. OGP helps students identify appropriate programs and navigate the research, planning and application steps needed to study abroad.

Office of Global Programs
606 Kent Hall
Mail Code 3948
Columbia University
1140 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-854-2559
Fax: 212-854-5164
studyabroad@columbia.edu

For more information pertaining to study abroad program options, students should visit the Office of Global Programs Web site at http://www.ogp.columbia.edu and plan to meet with an OGP adviser in 606 Kent.
Columbia College Eligibility Requirements for Study Abroad

To ensure they are prepared to study in their future host country, Columbia College students must be cleared to study abroad prior to leaving. The clearance process entails gaining permission from Columbia College to represent Columbia overseas. The College maintains the authority over students’ participation in study abroad programs and upholds standards for all potential candidates.

A review of each student’s academic and disciplinary records is conducted as part of this process. Students on academic or disciplinary probation are not permitted to study abroad during the term of their probation.

Eligibility

In order to be cleared for study abroad, Columbia College students must:

- Have at least a 3.0 GPA overall and in the language of their future host country.
- Make significant progress in the Core Curriculum. It is required to have completed both semesters of Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, as well as University Writing and Frontiers of Science. Students must also complete the language requirement before studying abroad (even if planning to study in an English-language setting). Beyond these courses, it is highly recommended that students complete at least one Global Core course and one additional science course. Ideally, only one or two Core courses should remain for the senior year.
- Possess at least intermediate language proficiency for programs where the language of instruction is not English. Typically, four semesters of language is the minimum requirement, though some programs require more. If students plan to attend a program where the language of instruction is English, but the national language of the country is not, one semester of language may be required. To ensure continuing progress in the language, it is required that students take at least one course taught in the language of their future host country during the semester immediately before the study abroad period.
- Prior to studying abroad, students must take at least one course pertaining to the country or region where they intend to study. The regional course provides background knowledge of the country or region where they intend to study—its historical, cultural and social foundations—and an understanding of its contemporary issues. Developing a focused course of study related to the host country will help students establish a path of academic inquiry that they will build upon while abroad.

For More Information

You can read more about the eligibility requirements on the Columbia College Web site: http://www.college.columbia.edu/students/studyabroad/. Students are encouraged to meet with Scott Carpenter, assistant dean of academic affairs and study abroad, as early in their academic careers as possible. His office hours in 105 Carman are Monday through Thursday 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. and his e-mail address is sc2764@columbia.edu.
School of General Studies Eligibility Requirements for Study Abroad

All study abroad programs, including Columbia-sponsored study abroad programs, must be approved by the GS study abroad adviser. Students may be approved for a total of two semesters plus one summer session of study abroad; however, students will need to have good academic reasons for studying abroad for multiple or extended programs. A study abroad information session is held for GS students each semester.

Eligibility

In order to be cleared for study abroad, General Studies students must:

- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be in good standing to be eligible for study abroad.
- Prior to going abroad on an approved program, students are expected to have begun language study and taken at least one course, other than a language, related to the region of the world in which they plan to study.
- Before departing on an approved study abroad program, GS students should have completed at least two semesters and 18 credits at GS, have a minimum of 56 credits earned toward the degree, and have declared a major.
- Exceptions to some of these requirements are granted for students applying to Columbia-sponsored programs.

Application Process

Students applying to one of Columbia's study abroad programs must complete the application forms and meet the deadlines specified by those individual programs as well as complete the GS study abroad clearance and registration forms for each program for which they are applying (including Columbia-sponsored programs). Students who wish to study abroad in programs other than those run by Columbia University may petition to do so only if the program is one approved by the Columbia Undergraduate Study Abroad Committee (see Columbia-Approved Study Abroad Programs at http://www.gs.columbia.edu/study-abroad-columbia-approved-programs).

Study abroad approval may be rescinded if a student’s grade point average falls below 3.0. To obtain official clearance to study abroad, students must meet with the GS study abroad adviser and bring their completed GS study abroad clearance form to this meeting. The deadlines for these meetings are November 15 for spring-term study and March 15 for summer or fall-term study.

For More Information

You can read more about the eligibility requirements on the School of General Studies Web site at http://www.gs.columbia.edu/study-abroad and can contact an adviser by email at gsstudyabroad@columbia.edu.
semester programs for sustainable development

school for field studies, comparative community wildlife management in kenya and tanzania
school for field studies, tropical rainforest studies, australia
school for field studies, sustainable development studies, costa rica
school for field studies, conserving marine resources and costal ecosystems, mexico
school for field studies, marine resource management studies, turks & caicos
school for international training, botswana: community-based natural resource management
school for international training, ecuador: comparative ecology and conservation
school for international training, madagascar: national identity and social change
school for international training, mexico: sustainable development and social change
school for international training, uganda: development studies
organization for tropical studies (duke): tropical biology in costa rica
organization for tropical studies (duke): african ecology and conservation in south africa
cornell nepal study program: course on nepali conservation and individualized research

summer and other programs

summer ecosystem experience for undergraduates
georgetown summer program in dar-es-salaam, tanzania
school for international training, iceland: renewable energy, technology, and resource economics
harvard summer school in borneo: tropical diversity in the malay archipelago
school for field studies in australia, costa rica, kenya, and turks & caicos
cornell: tropical field ecology and behavior in kenya (january term)