



Education Abroad in AMERICAN STUDIES

Benefits of International Experience

A core facet of the American Studies major is to get students to challenge the definition of a unified and unique American culture through an interdisciplinary lens to examine the nuances that make up what is "America". Studying abroad allows American Studies students to further explore these nuances while gaining another perspective on the United States and in their academic discipline. Upon graduation, undergraduate students must be prepared to embrace both the challenges and the exciting opportunities of an interconnected world. Studying abroad is a great step towards being able to navigate such an environment in the workforce and in everyday life. Students can also develop skills in cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, empathy, and tolerance through an education abroad experience.

There are a wide variety of opportunities abroad offered through U.Va. for the semester, year and summer. It is also often possible to combine an education abroad program with an internship and/or research opportunity for an even more experiential learning experience.

Student Testimonial

"I am loving my study abroad experience in Aix-en-Provence, France! Being an American Studies major, one of the best things about being abroad is witnessing American culture from the other side. I am able to see both the perception of Americans and our culture (loud and friendly, if a bit unobservant of cultural norms), and the outposts of American culture that have crossed into France (froyo is becoming quite popular here, as is the concept of coffee "to go"). Additionally, I am able to experience other cultures, which adds a particular outside perspective to the culture of the United States. For example, I am in particular enjoying the "cafe culture" of France, and wish I could spend all my days in the unhurried French manner of sipping rosé, enjoying a good book, and people-watching to my heart's content."

-Emily Sakowitz, French and *American Studies* major: University of d'Aix-Marseille

Academic and Timing Considerations

With the exception of AMST 2001, AMST 3001, and AMST 4500 (4th year seminar), students may take classes abroad to fulfill 6 credits worth of Major electives within their chosen concentration. Courses students wish to count towards the American Studies Major must be pre-approved by the Director of Undergraduate Programs on a case-by-case basis. The Education Abroad Team and the American Studies Department recommend planning your education abroad experience early to ensure you will fulfill all necessary requirements of the major and any other College requirements. The programs below have been chosen because they either have a full American Studies department or a number of classes related to American Studies. This list is merely a starting point and is not comprehensive.

Steps to go abroad

- Get a passport
- Complete the online Education Abroad Workshop
- Talk with your department about timing and course requirements
- Meet with an ISO education abroad advisor to discuss options
- Learn about funding resources (financial aid, scholarships)
- Research programs and apply online
- Participate in cross-cultural seminars (CORE)

Contact for major course approvals:

Prof. Lisa Goff
lg6t@virginia.edu
102B Bryan Hall

For more information, make an appointment online with an Education Abroad Advisor according to the region of your interest:

International Studies Office
208 Minor Hall
studyabroad@virginia.edu
educationabroad.virginia.edu

Interested in other disciplines?
Explore additional major advising sheets online at
educationabroad.virginia.edu/your-major

International Opportunities in American Studies

This list is a starting point; you are *not* limited to these options.

Asia

- **China**, UVA Exchange: University of Hong Kong
- **Singapore**, UVA Exchange: National University of Singapore

Oceania

- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of New South Wales
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Queensland
- **New Zealand**, Arcadia: University of Canterbury
- **New Zealand**, UVA Exchange: University of Otago



University of Otago



National University of Singapore

Europe

- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Albert-Ludwig University of Freiburg
- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Friedrich-Schiller University Jena
- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Technical University Munich
- **Germany**, Wayne State University: Junior Year in Munich
- **Netherlands**, UVA Exchange: Radboud University Nijmegen
- **Netherlands**, UVA Exchange: University of Amsterdam
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of Birmingham
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of Nottingham
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of St. Andrews
- **United Kingdom**, IFSA-Butler: University of Sussex in Brighton

North America

- **Canada**, UVA Exchange: University of Montreal