Education Abroad in Art History

Benefits of International Experience

Art History requires a deep appreciation of global cultures. We study the crafted statements of belief and beauty that record the values, lives, politics, religions, and customs of ancient through contemporary peoples. There is no better way to engage and understand the art of another culture than to study abroad. Embark on a life changing journey, connecting with students like yourself worldwide, building contacts, and becoming for a season a part of another culture, as it becomes a part of you. The programs recommended by ISO all offer courses for our majors that can count toward major or minor requirements. In addition to the many UVA study abroad centers, we encourage students to consider UVA exchange programs, summer excavations, J-term travel, and other study abroad opportunities. All travel is encouraged and vital to art historical study. Prolonged immersion in any cultural center from India to Italy, however, permits a deeper appreciation of the rhythm, language, and traditions of a place. Such familiarity and lifelong relationships are permanent benefits of study abroad.

Sarah’s Study Abroad Story

“When I decided to spend spring semester of my second year studying abroad in Valencia, Spain, I couldn't have imagined what a wonderful experience I would have. As a double major in Art History and Spanish, Spain is paradise. I was able to immerse myself completely in a culture I had only learned about in the classroom, which gave me an entirely new depth of understanding and appreciation. It isn't easy, but there is no better way to learn Spanish than to live with a host family who doesn't speak English. Communicating in a new language, navigating a new culture, and traveling around Spain and Europe gave me a sense of independence and awareness of the world around me that has made me a better student and a better person.”
Sarah Russell, Art History and Spanish Double Major at UVA Valencia

Academic and Timing Considerations

Art History faculty and advisors encourage all majors to consider one or more semesters of study abroad on an ISO approved program. There is no limit to the number of Art History courses that a student may take while abroad and apply to either a major or minor. All pre-approved courses, considered in consultation with the current Director of the Undergraduate Program, will apply toward the completion of pre-arranged distribution requirements. In order to ensure that all major and minor requirements are fulfilled, however, it is imperative that the student contact the DUP for advising purposes, even while abroad, should course offerings or preferences change. This can be accomplished via email. Those pursuing an Art History minor must remember to limit themselves to one Architectural History course.

Seminar requirements must be fulfilled in Charlottesville. This requires careful planning for those students who will either study abroad in year four, or those who wish to travel in semester two of year three, but would nonetheless like to draft a Distinguished Majors Program thesis upon their return. Such students are required to take the Art History historiography and methodology seminar (ARTH 4051), and therefore are encouraged to enroll in the course during the spring of year two or four.

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 and explore opportunities
- Learn about funding resources (financial aid, scholarships)
- Research programs and apply online
- Participate in cross-cultural seminars (CORE)

For Art History major or minor course approvals, contact:
Eric Ramirez-Weaver
emr6m@virginia.edu
(434) 227-2910
Fayerweather Hall, 303

For more information on program options, make an appointment online with an education abroad advisor according to your country or region of 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
Art History Study Abroad Programs

Please consider these programs alongside ALL others listed on the ISO website.

Africa

Ghana, CIEE Ghana (Legon) Arts and Sciences
Senegal, SIT Senegal (Dakar) National Identity and the Arts

Middle East and North Africa

Egypt, UVA Exchange: American University in Cairo*
Jordan, CIEE Jordan (Amman) Language and Culture
Morocco, UVA in Morocco (semester and summer)
Turkey, UVA Exchange program: Bogazici University

Asia

Hong Kong, UVA Exchange Program: Chinese University of Hong Kong
India, UVA Architecture in India
Indonesia, SIT Indonesia: Arts, Religion, and Social Change*
Japan, UVA Exchange Program: Waseda University

Oceania

Australia, J-term: UVA in Australia
Australia, UVA Exchange Program: University of Melbourne
Australia, UVA Exchange Program: University of New South Wales
New Zealand, UVA Exchange Program: University of Auckland

Mediterranean Art and Archaeology

Greece, College Year in Athens (or a summer)
Italy, Duke (Rome) Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies

Europe

Austria, IES Austria (Vienna) Culture and Society
Czech Republic, SIT Czech Republic (Prague) Arts and Social Change
Denmark, DIS: Denmark: Art and Visual Culture
France, J-term, UVA in Paris
France, Middlebury College (Paris)
France, UVA in Lyon
Hungary, CIEE Hungary (Budapest) Central European Studies
Ireland, J-term: UVA in Ireland
Ireland, UVA Exchange Program: University College Dublin
Italy, J-term: Love Affair with Tuscany
Italy, J-term: Renaissance and Baroque Rome
Italy, UVA Architecture in Italy: Venice
Italy, UVA Architecture in Italy: Vicenza
Italy, UVA in Italy: Florence at the Palazzo Rucellai
Italy, UVA in Italy: Photography and Contemporary Art History
Netherlands, UVA Exchange Program: University of Amsterdam
United Kingdom, IES United Kingdom (London) Courtauld Institute of Art
United Kingdom, UVA Architecture: Courtauld Institute of Art
United Kingdom, UVA Exchange Program: University of St. Andrews
United Kingdom, UVA in Oxford
Spain, CIEE Spain (Barcelona) Architecture and Design
Spain, UVA Architecture in Barcelona
Spain, UVA in Valencia

*Internship or fieldwork experience possible.