For students in cognitive science, an international experience can be an integral component to the discipline and their studies at U.Va. Education abroad can further provide students with the skills and intercultural competence that is becoming invaluable in our increasingly multicultural and interconnected world. Upon return from studying abroad, many students report that they are equipped with greater language proficiency, deeper knowledge and understanding of various cultures, as well as a broader, more global perspective that is often valued by employers.

There is a wide range of opportunities available for coursework abroad in cognitive science. Students can integrate a semester, year, summer, or January-term program into their academic plan, earning both major credit and general elective credit toward their U.Va. degree.

**Benefits of International Experience**

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**Student Testimonial**

"During my time at Korea University and the University of Oxford, I was not only able to learn in novel academic environments, but I was also able to experience new cultures and people. Through [two economics classes I took], I recognized how Economics could connect to Cognitive Science as I learned about the decision-making processes and philosophies pertaining to various international economies. This newfound idea has allowed me to expand and change my academic options and future trajectory as a student. Cognitive Science is a field that studies people, decision-making, and mental organizations; studying abroad has allowed to me acquire a better understanding of those qualities thanks to my global education, interactions with foreigners, and immersion into the Korean and English cultures."

- Jae Jun, Cognitive Science major, Korea University and UVA in Oxford

**Academic and Timing Considerations**

The Department of Cognitive Science encourages students to take advantage of coursework offered abroad. Depending on the program you enroll in, you may receive either direct or transfer credit for the courses you complete abroad. Please note that some of the programs on this list have a language requirement. All students wishing to study abroad must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher, depending on the program you choose.

A maximum of 2 courses may be transferred towards the Cognitive Science major. These courses must be pre-approved by the Program Director and may only count towards elective area requirements (students may complete elective courses in any of the following areas: cognitive psychology, computer science, linguistics, philosophy, and neuroscience). Students may not use study abroad credit for required courses (1 course in each of 5 core areas and the two 3000 or 4000+ level courses in a specific area of concentration).

To ensure a well-integrated study abroad experience, the Cognitive Science Program Director and the International Studies Office recommend planning early in your academic career. Speaking with an education abroad advisor and your Cognitive Science academic advisor will help you find the best program with the best coursework to meet your personal and academic goals.
International Opportunities in Cognitive Science
This list is a starting point; you are not limited to these options.

**Asia**
- **Hong Kong**, UVA Exchange: University of Hong Kong
- **South Korea**, UVA Exchange: Korea University

**Europe**
- **Denmark**, DIS
- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Humboldt University
- **Ireland**, UVA Exchange: University College Dublin
- **Scotland**, UVA Exchange: University of St. Andrews
- **United Kingdom**, University College London

**Latin America**
- **Chile**, IFSA-Butler: Santiago: Chilean Universities Program
- **Chile**, IFSA-Butler: Valparaíso: Chilean Universities Program
- **Peru**, IFSA-Butler: Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

**Oceania**
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Melbourne
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Queensland

**North America**
- **Canada**, UVA Exchange: McGill University
- **Canada**, UVA Exchange: University of British Columbia