In this interconnected world, almost any business operates on a global scale in some way. For students wishing to pursue a future in business, gaining a global perspective is critical. There are challenges and exciting opportunities in being able to navigate cross-cultural environments. Studying abroad and immersing yourself in another culture can prepare you to excel in the global arena and develop skills in cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, empathy, and tolerance for ambiguity—all essential for today’s workforce and highly valued at UVA and the McIntire School of Commerce.

Benefits of International Experience

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Academics and Timing

Pre-Commerce (first and second year):
Prospective Commerce students are encouraged to pursue global opportunities and develop their interests in non-business related subjects. By studying abroad as a first or second year student, students gain a broader perspective and academic and cultural enrichment to help prepare for future business studies.

Students interested in business are encouraged to visit the McIntire Office of Undergraduate Admission for advising. For more information on prerequisites, visit the McIntire Admissions website. It is strongly recommended to complete Commerce prerequisites through UVA and important to consider the timing for study abroad and applying to McIntire.

McIntire offers short-term global courses in January, Embedded Spring Term, and May that are open to non-Commerce students and prospective students.

Business courses from non-UVA Commerce study abroad programs prior to matriculation at McIntire will not count towards McIntire requirements.

Commerce (third and fourth year):
Students interested in business often study abroad as an upper level student during their third or fourth year. McIntire offers approved semester abroad programs, which enable students to satisfy core curriculum (ICE) requirements abroad. Programs are offered in Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Oceania at prestigious business schools.

Commerce students are highly encouraged to incorporate a semester or short-term study abroad during their time at McIntire. By studying at a highly ranked partner university abroad or participating on a short-term program with a McIntire faculty member, you can pursue your interests, develop your network, and enhance your knowledge of global business.

Student Testimonial

“Commerce prerequisites give us a general foundation for the business world, but often times we are introduced to topics that seem abstract. By living abroad for a semester, I was able to understand these concepts practically. Additionally, throughout ICE, I was able to offer a different perspective, often drawing on my study abroad experience.

Today, I’m able to better engage with international students here at McIntire.”

-Victoria Nsiah, UVA in Valencia
International Opportunities for Students interested in Commerce

The programs below represent a starting point for a variety of options available for Pre-Commerce and Commerce students. This is not a comprehensive list of available programs. Visit http://educationabroad.virginia.edu/ to begin your research.

Short-Term (1-2 week McIntire faculty-led courses - Open to All Students)

McIntire Global Commerce Immersion (GCI)
Programs vary by year. Below are the 2018-2019 programs. For more details visit: www.comm.virginia.edu/global

January Term
COMM 4293 GCI: IT Project Practicum in Argentina
COMM 4589 GCI: Doing Business Down Under
COMM 4589 GCI: Innovation & Consumption in India & the UAE
COMM 4589 GCI: Asian Financial Capitals in Hong Kong & Singapore

Embedded Spring Programs*
COMM 4589 GCI: The Business of Saving Nature in Costa Rica
COMM 4539 GCI: Digital Marketing & Analytics in UK & Ireland
COMM 4529 GCI: Technology Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the Start-up Nation in Israel
*Note: Requires enrollment in an on-Grounds spring course including travel to the country during spring break.

May Term
COMM 4569 GCI: Sustainability in France and Denmark: Local Solutions to Global Challenges
COMM 4589 GCI: Investing in Europe: Challenges and Opportunities
COMM 4589 GCI: Social Entrepreneurship in Small Island Developing States

Commerce Semester Abroad
(Third and Fourth Year Commerce)
McIntire approved programs include top business schools in Europe, Asia, Oceania, and Latin America.
https://www.commerce.virginia.edu/undergrad/global/3rd-year

Semester and Summer Programs
First or Second Year Pre-Commerce or Students Interested in Business
Students may choose from a wide array of programs offered in different regions, including UVA programs, exchanges, and study abroad provider programs.

Canada, McGill University (semester, year)
China, UVA in Shanghai: Chinese Language (summer)
France, Sciences Po Paris (semester, year)
India, UVA in India (semester)
Ireland, UVA in Dublin Internship Placement Program (summer)
Spain, UVA in Valencia (semester, year and summer)
Singapore, Singapore Management University (summer)
United Kingdom, London School of Economics (semester, summer)