Education Abroad in DRAMA

Benefits of International Experience

Human and cultural interaction reside at the very center of theatrical expression, so there is no better way to experience the stories and dramatic practices of many cultures than by interacting with other students and artists of the theatre from across the globe.

The programs recommended by ISO all offer courses for our students that can count toward major or minor requirements.

Student Testimonial

“What I love so much about theatre is that it requires us engage with things that are foreign to us; to explore how humans interact, both with each other and with their environments. This, too, is a central mission for study abroad. As a Drama and Foreign Affairs double major, I had no idea the extent to which my two interests could overlap. Ireland is culturally and politically rich and proudly embraces its traditional image alongside its vast and recent modernization. I found meaningful history and sociopolitical sentiment in their folklore, theatre, pantomime, stand-up, and pub culture, each working to facilitate the promotion and maintenance of Irish tradition while looking towards a modern and globalized future. Even more, I found myself inspired by new relationships and experiences - there wasn’t a single moment that I wasn’t learning, observing, and absorbing. Studying abroad is an exciting, challenging, revealing, and unique experience that provides an abundance of learning opportunities both in and outside of the classroom. For me, study abroad has fostered an open mind, a broadened perspective, a global network, and a new sense of creativity. I truly feel inspired and better prepared than ever for a future in the performing arts and beyond.

-Natalie Pernick, Drama and Foreign Affairs: UVA Exchange University College Dublin

Academic and Timing Considerations

Some courses taken abroad may satisfy Drama Major or Minor requirements, but must be approved in advance of the student’s departure by the Director of Undergraduate Programs in Drama. Students should consult with the department’s DUP no later than one full term in advance of departure in order to determine the courses that may satisfy Drama major or minor requirements.
International Opportunities in Drama

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

Africa
- Ghana, CIEE: Arts and Sciences* §
- South Africa, CIEE: Arts & Sciences §

Asia
- India, CIEE: Arts and Sciences §

Europe
- Czech Republic, SIT: Arts and Social Change §
- France, UVA Exchange: University of Lyon 2
- France, Middlebury in Bordeaux* §
- France, Sweet Briar College in Paris
- Ireland, IES: Gaiety School of Acting
- Ireland, IES: Theater (summer)
- Spain, IES: Language & Area Studies Madrid
- Spain, St. Louis University in Madrid
- United Kingdom, UVA in London: The Theatrical City (J-term)
- United Kingdom, Arcadia: Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- United Kingdom, IES Theater Studies in London*

Latin America
- Argentina, Spanish Studies Abroad* §
- Argentina, IFSA-Butler: Universidad Nacional de Cuyo §

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

Oceania
- Australia, UVA Exchange: University of Tasmania
- New Zealand, Arcadia: Victoria University of Wellington

Student Testimonial

I studied abroad in Lyon, France during Fall semester of my third year. When I was abroad, I had the opportunity to focus on the French language and improve my speaking and writing skills for four months. Anybody who returns from a foreign language exchange program will tell you the same thing: immersion is the only way to learn a language. You can always travel to a country after college, but study abroad programs allow you to live with a host family and experience another culture more fully. That is why I am grateful that both of my majors, Drama and Foreign Affairs, allowed me the time and flexibility to study abroad. I missed one semester of UVa Drama, but I still had the ability to act in mainstage productions, direct scenes, stage-manage shows, serve technical roles, and write plays within the Drama Department. I would recommend studying abroad to any UVa Drama major. - Nancy Wren Bradshaw, Drama and Foreign Affairs: UVA in Lyon.

*Internship available
§Fieldwork/field study available