With the growth of international trade and multinational companies, it is critical for engineering students to gain international experience and develop intercultural skills, such as cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, empathy, and tolerance for ambiguity. Students who go abroad are also able to develop professional skills in a multicultural setting, as well as deepen your knowledge of other countries and cultures. These experiences can better prepare you to interact with people from backgrounds different from your own. Education abroad may be in the form of a study abroad program, research experience, internship abroad, or an engineering service project in another country. Education abroad is among the most significant and transformative educational experiences available.

**Benefits of International Experience for Engineers**

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**Funding Education Abroad**

- There is a program for every budget! Speak with an education abroad advisor to learn about your options.
- Financial aid is portable. If you receive any kind of financial aid or use a program such as VPEP, make sure to inform your advisor early on in your planning.
- Scholarship deadlines are often earlier than program application deadlines—research options and apply early!
- Use the cost comparison worksheet on the Education Abroad website to compare programs. Consider what is included in each program and your budget.

**Academic and Timing Considerations**

Engineering students should begin planning their education abroad experience early on in their undergraduate careers, particularly if you want to go abroad for a semester or a year. There are a wide variety of exchange partners and outside program providers that facilitate direct enrollment to local institutions, making the options for engineering coursework abroad for a semester or year plentiful. There are also a number of summer and January term study programs, research opportunities and internships available. You can use study abroad credit for major, technical, unrestricted and humanities and social science electives, but all approvals are given on a case-by-case basis through your department.

As early as your first year, you should meet with an ISO Education Abroad Advisor, as well as your engineering department’s designated study abroad advisor to identify which semester or year will work best (http://www.seas.virginia.edu/acad/studyabroad/advisors.php). You can also meet with Professor Dana Elzey, the director of International Programs in School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (dme2j@virginia.edu).

Consider what requirements you can take abroad. What courses could you potentially move around, or if could you fulfill the same requirements abroad that you would be taking here on-Grounds in a given semester? There may be a particular semester that is more flexible for going abroad, or you may need to map out exactly the same courses you would be taking here on-Grounds. It depends on your major and where you are with your requirements.
International Opportunities in Engineering

The programs on this list offer engineering courses. Participation on a UVA Exchange or Outside Program requires transfer credit approval through your department and the SEAS Dean’s Office.

Asia

- China, UVA Exchange: Tsinghua University
- Hong Kong, UVA Exchange: Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
- Hong Kong, UVA Exchange: University of Hong Kong
- Korea, UVA Exchange: Korea University
- Korea, UVA Exchange: Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science & Technology (DGIST)
- Singapore, UVA Exchange: National University of Singapore

Europe

- Denmark, UVA Exchange: University of Southern Denmark
- France, UVA Exchange: Hautes études d’ingénieur (HEI) in Lille
- France, CIEE: Summer Engineering, Technology, & Society in Toulouse
- Germany, UVA Exchange: Technical University Dortmund
- Germany, UVA Exchange: Technical University Berlin
- Germany, UVA Exchange: Technical University of Munich
- Germany, UVA in Germany: Global Technology Practice (summer) (ENGR 4595 and GETR 3559)
- Ireland, University College Dublin
- Ireland, CIEE: Engineering, Technology & Society in Dublin
- Ireland, IES Abroad: Dublin City University
- Ireland, IFS-A-Butler: National University of Ireland, Galway
- Ireland, IFS-A-Butler: National University of Ireland, Maynooth
- Ireland, IES Abroad: Trinity College Dublin Honors Program
- Ireland, IFS-A-Butler: University College Cork
- Ireland, IFS-A-Butler: University of Limerick
- Italy, Arcadia University: Study in Rome
- Spain, UVA in Valencia: Systems, Electrical, Computer and Computer Science
- Spain, IES Abroad: Study in Madrid
- Sweden, UVA Exchange: Lund University
- Sweden, UVA in Sweden: Systems Practicum (summer) (SYS 2054/3054)
- United Kingdom, IFS-A-Butler: Cambridge University
- United Kingdom, IES Abroad: City University, London
- United Kingdom, IFS-A-Butler: Queen’s University Belfast
- United Kingdom, University College London
- United Kingdom, IFS-A-Butler: University of Sussex
- United Kingdom, IFS-A-Butler: University of Ulster in Belfast
- United Kingdom, IFS-A-Butler: University of Westminster
- United Kingdom, Wales, Acadia University: Swansea University
- United Kingdom, Lancaster University

- United Kingdom, UVA Exchange: University of Bath
- United Kingdom, UVA Exchange: University of Birmingham
- United Kingdom, University of Edinburgh
- United Kingdom, University of Glasgow
- United Kingdom, University of Nottingham

Latin America

- Argentina: UVA in Argentina: Systems Practicum (SYS 2054/3054)
- Brazil, UVA Exchange: Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
- Chile, IFS-A-Butler: Chilean Universities Program in Santiago
- Chile, IFS-A-Butler: Chilean Universities Program in Valparaiso
- Chile, IES Abroad: Study in Santiago
- Ecuador, IES Abroad: Universidad San Francisco de Quito
- Guatemala, UVA in Guatemala: Engineering Public Health (summer) (STS 3500)
- Peru, IFS-A-Butler: Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú in Lima

Oceania

- Australia, IFS-A-Butler: Griffith University in Brisbane
- Australia, TEAN: James Cook University in Cairns
- Australia, TEAN: Monash University in Melbourne
- Australia, TEAN: Queensland University of Technology
- Australia, IFS-A-Butler: University of Adelaide
- Australia, IES Abroad: University of Sydney
- Australia, TEAN: University of Technology Sydney
- Australia, TEAN: University of Western Australia in Perth
- Australia, TEAN: University of Wollongong
- Australia, UVA Exchange: University of Melbourne
- Australia, UVA Exchange: University of New South Wales
- Australia, UVA Exchange: University of Queensland
- Australia, UVA Exchange: University of Tasmania
- Australia, Arcadia University: Semester Internships
- Australia, Arcadia University: Summer Internships
- New Zealand, IFS-A-Butler: Massey University in Wellington
- New Zealand, IFS-A-Butler: University of Canterbury in Christchurch
- New Zealand, IFS-A-Butler: Victoria University of Wellington
- New Zealand, UVA Exchange: University of Auckland
- New Zealand, UVA Exchange: University of Otago

North America

- Canada, UVA Exchange: McGill University
- Canada, University of British Columbia