



Education Abroad in **POLITICS**

Benefits of International Experience

International education can be an integral component of your education since it prepares you to embrace the exciting opportunities and the challenges of our global community. Even when courses abroad cover issues similar to courses at U.Va., they provide a distinctive cultural perspective. Study abroad also provides the opportunity to take courses that may be unavailable at U.Va.

In addition to the academic benefits of studying abroad, living in a foreign society provides an immensely valuable learning opportunity outside of the classroom. You are likely to develop a variety of intercultural skills, as well as further your independence and personal growth. It is easy to integrate a semester, year, or short-term program into your academic plan while still earning major credit and general elective credit towards your U.Va. degree.

Student Testimonial

"My choice to study abroad has been one of my best experiences since coming to the University of Virginia. While in Costa Rica, I was able to directly enroll in courses taught in Spanish about Costa Rican politics. I studied the government directly and interacted weekly with foreign officials. My program secured an internship for me in the Ministry of Foreign Commerce that granted me further insight into the politics of the country. My Semester at Sea experience afforded me the opportunity to interact with members of the US State Department at various ports of call as well as local government officials. This exposure allowed me to better understand the work of US diplomats abroad as well as to compare and contrast political institutions from around the world through direct observation." - *Abe Wapner, Semester at Sea and IFSA-Butler in Costa Rica*



Academic and Timing Considerations

You should use study abroad as a time to take courses that will complement and enhance your classes at U.Va. Some courses, like those on Semester at Sea, receive direct U.Va. credit. If courses are approved by your major advisor, you may use as many direct credit courses as you wish toward the 30 hours of Politics classes required for the major and the 12 hours of related classes. Most study abroad courses during the academic year are for transfer credit. You can count up to six hours of Politics transfer credit toward major electives with approval from the director of undergraduate programs. In addition, you can use six hours of transfer credit towards the related course requirement. If you spend a full year abroad, you can count up to nine hours of Politics transfer credit toward the 30 hour major requirement.

The Politics minor requires 15 credits taken in-residence at U.Va. However, direct credit programs, such as Semester at Sea, are considered in-residence and can be counted toward the minor when a grade of a C or higher is earned. Transfer credits earned from study abroad courses will not count toward the minor.

The Politics Department and the International Studies Office recommend planning early in your academic career to maximize the benefits that you can receive from your study abroad experience. Speaking with an education abroad advisor and your Politics academic advisor as early as your first year will help you find the best program with the best coursework suited for your goals while still allowing you to graduate on time.

Steps to go abroad

- Get a passport
- Complete the 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 Politics major and minor approvals, contact:
John Echeverri-Gent
johneg@virginia.edu
(434) 924-3968
Gibson Hall S462

For more information on program options, make an appointment online with an education abroad advisor according to your country or region of interest.

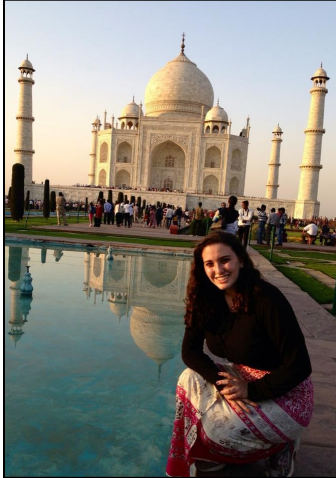
International Studies Office
208 Minor Hall
studyabroad@virginia.edu
educationabroad.virginia.edu

Interested in other disciplines?
Explore additional major advising sheets online at
educationabroad.virginia.edu/your-major

International Opportunities in Politics

Africa

- **Ghana**, CIEE: Legon: Arts and Sciences*§
- **South Africa**, SIT: Durban: Social and Political Transformation§



U.Va. student, Taj Mahal, India

Asia

- **China**, CET: Shanghai: Chinese Studies and Internship*
- **Hong Kong**, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology—School of Humanities and Social Science
- **India**, The Alliance: Pune: Contemporary India - Development, Economy, Society
- **Mongolia**, SIT: Ulaanbaatar: Geopolitics and the Environment§
- **Singapore**, UVA Exchange: National University of Singapore



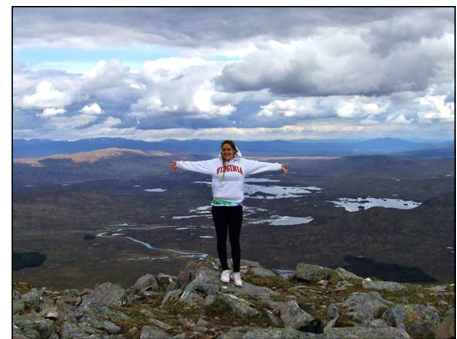
Meaghan Patrick, Foreign Affairs

*Internship available

§Fieldwork/field study available

Europe

- **Denmark**, European Politics or Justice & Human Rights with DIS§
- **France**, UVA Exchange: University of Lyon
- **Germany**, IES Abroad: European Union§
- **Russia**, CIEE: Russian Area Studies
- **Scotland**, UVA Exchange: University of St Andrews
- **Spain**, UVA in Valencia
- **Sweden**, UVA Exchange: University of Lund
- **UK and Jordan**, FIE: Peace & Conflict Resolution in the Middle East and Beyond§
- **United Kingdom**, UVA in Oxford



Erin Haas, Foreign Affairs, UVA Exchange in Edinburgh

Latin America

- **Argentina**, SIT: Social Movements and Human Rights
- **Costa Rica**, IFSA-Butler: Universidad Nacional
- **Cuba**, Arcadia: University of Havana

Oceania

- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of New South Wales
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Melbourne