



Education Abroad in Religious Studies

Steps to go abroad

- Get a passport
- Complete the online 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 Religious Studies major or minor course approvals, contact:

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 (434) 924-6712
 Gibson Hall, S-238

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

Benefits of International Experience

As a Religious Studies major, you will study traditions, communities, and thinkers from across the globe. This is an interdisciplinary major with a truly international focus. Studying abroad gives you the vital opportunity to engage with topics and questions in Religious Studies in an entirely different cultural context, leading to new discoveries and insights. Given the distinct place of religion in American life, studying abroad will help you to appreciate and to understand different ways of conceptualizing and practicing religion. Moreover, living and studying in a different country develops skills in cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, empathy, and tolerance.

Student Testimonial

For me, Religious Studies is about trying to understand people... and politics and economics and conflict just through the specific lens of faith or lack thereof. What better place to study something so versatile and global than in a totally new environment than what you are used to? While Argentina is 92% Catholic and apparently very tolerant towards Jewish populations, that is only part of the story. Traditional religion is losing popularity among younger populations and yet my hosts still went to church every Sunday and made pilgrimages to visit their respective Saints. Religion in Argentina intersects with the country's history, its laws, its contemporary practices, and its values. Religious Studies is everywhere if you think about it... why not try to find it somewhere you've never been?" - *Jessica Duska, Religious Studies, IES Abroad Buenos Aires: Latin American Societies and Cultures*



Academic and Timing Considerations

The Department of Religious Studies allows a maximum of twelve credit hours to be taken outside of the department for completion of the major. Courses students wish to count towards the Religious Studies Major must be pre-approved by the Director of Undergraduate Programs on a case-by-case basis. The Education Abroad Team and the Religious Studies Department recommend planning your education abroad experience early to ensure you will fulfill all necessary requirements of the major and any other College requirements. The following programs below have been chosen because they either have a full Religious Studies department or a number of classes related to Religious Studies. This list is merely a starting point and is not comprehensive.

International Opportunities in Religious Studies

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



Africa

- **Ghana**, CIEE in Legon: Arts and Sciences
- **South Africa**, CIEE in Cape Town: Arts and Sciences*

Asia

- **Hong Kong**, UVA Exchange: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology: School of Humanities and Social Science
- **Hong Kong**, UVA Exchange: The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- **Singapore**, UVA Exchange: National University of Singapore

Europe

- **France**, UVA in Lyon
- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Albert-Ludwig University of Freiburg
- **Germany**, UVA Exchange: Friedrich Schiller University of Jena
- **Italy**, IES: Rome*
- **Ireland**, IES: Trinity College of Dublin
- **Netherlands**, UVA Exchange: University of Amsterdam
- **United Kingdom**, School of Oriental and African Studies
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of Birmingham
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of Edinburgh

*Internship available

§Fieldwork/field study available

- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of Glasgow
- **United Kingdom**, UVA Exchange: University of St. Andrews

Canada

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

Oceania

- **Australia**, IES: University of Sydney*
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Melbourne
- **Australia**, UVA Exchange: University of Queensland
- **New Zealand**, Arcadia: Victoria University of Wellington
- **New Zealand**, UVA Exchange: University of Auckland
- **New Zealand**, UVA Exchange: University of Otago

Multiple

- **Semester at Sea**§
- **J-term**: UVA in Vienna and Budapest

