



College of
**Food, Agricultural
and Natural Resource
Sciences**

“Applied Plant Science students have unique and exciting opportunities for international study, travel, and learning experiences. These experiences are designed to broaden perspectives and come to grips with pressing 21st century scientific, technical, and social challenges facing global food systems and the environment.”

**Professor Kevin Smith,
Coordinator,
Applied Plant Science
Major**

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Study Abroad in Applied Plant Science

Study abroad programs specifically for Applied Plant Science are available in regions all over the world including Africa, Oceania, Europe, and the Americas. And, since your study abroad experience can be integrated into your degree, it won't delay your graduation. Plan your study abroad program today and see the world!

Study abroad can help you...

- Find unique and challenging coursework in many different fields of applied plant science around the world
- Understand applied plant science issues from an international perspective
- Expand your cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Broaden your academic horizons
- Globalize your world view
- Improve your language skills

The opportunity to experience another culture and gain an international perspective on your career is invaluable to your professional development. International experience will add to your career options and avenues for professional advancement.

Set goals and plan for results

The process of selecting a study abroad program is similar to selecting your major or minor.

- Begin planning as soon as possible. It is never too early to start.
- Set some goals. There are many good study abroad programs, and the best one for you depends on **what you want**.
- Prioritize your goals. Consider long-term academic and professional goals, as well as on-campus degree requirements.
- Prepare academically. You may need to take language or other prerequisite courses for your chosen program.
- Give yourself time to research and talk to advisers and students who have studied abroad.

We have screened hundreds of international programs and identified several with a proven track record for on-site service, academic excellence, and good fit with the needs of applied plant science students. Careful consideration of these program options will allow you to find a program that meets your individual needs.

Can I afford to study abroad?

YES! Early planning for study abroad helps you make cost-effective program decisions, and it also helps you prepare your finances through savings, scholarships, and financial aid. Financial aid applies to study abroad and, in some cases, your eligibility will increase to cover additional expenses.

The University of Minnesota offers more than \$300,000 in scholarships for study abroad. The Learning Abroad Center provides resources on these and a variety of other scholarships available to undergraduate students. Stop by the Learning Abroad Center to research all your options.

The College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences also offers significant scholarships, which support students incorporating an overseas experience as part of their education while at the University. Go to 190 Coffey Hall or call 612.625.9254 for more information. Check with your adviser for funds that may be available through the department.

What are my next steps?

Attend a First-Step Meeting

Learn about study abroad resources and advising by attending a First Step Meeting at the Learning Abroad Center. See www.UMabroad.umn.edu or call 612.626.9000 for the latest schedule.

Investigate Programs

You can find a program that fits your goals by visiting International Programs in Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences in 135 Skok Hall (contact John Vreyens at 612.624.3221) and using the Learning Abroad Center's catalog, website, advisers, and resource centers.

Talk to your CFANS adviser

Use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form to get approval from your academic adviser for major-specific courses. Your adviser in Applied Plant Science will work with the Undergraduate Studies Committee to pre-approve study abroad courses to meet your professional and area of emphasis requirements.

Academic Considerations for Applied Plant Science Students

How do I select a study abroad program?

Over 300 programs are available to University of Minnesota students. The Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics and CFANS has worked closely with the Learning Abroad Center to select some programs that fit particularly well for Applied Plant Science students. Consider your academic interests, your geographic interests, and your academic goals. Use this sheet; talk with your academic adviser; work with a Learning Abroad Center program selection adviser. You'll find a program that fits your goals.

How will the study abroad program fulfill my graduation requirements?

Liberal Education: You may take any liberal education requirements through study abroad. The Learning Abroad Center has worked with the Office of Admissions to pre-approve many courses. You can find the Study Abroad Liberal Education Database on-line by visiting www.UMabroad.umn.edu

Basic science courses: You may take any of your basic science courses abroad with the approval of your academic adviser.

Applied Plant Science major courses: You may take any of your major courses abroad with the approval of your academic adviser.

Area of Emphasis courses: You may take any of your Area of Emphasis courses abroad with the approval of your academic adviser.

When should I study abroad?

Freshman

- Start planning your study abroad during your first semester.
- May session or Summer sessions are great times to fulfill your liberal education requirements abroad as well as provide the opportunity to work on a second language.

Sophomore

- This year you can study abroad to fulfill liberal education requirements and basic science courses.

Junior

- Junior year is a great time to study abroad for a semester or year.
- You can take major courses abroad during this year along with any remaining liberal education requirements and basic science courses.
- Consider an independent research, senior thesis, an Honors project, or an internship abroad.

Senior year

- Careful planning is required if you want to study abroad during your senior year as you must complete your senior capstone project during the fall semester. Seniors should meet with their academic adviser immediately when considering study abroad.

Minor in International Agriculture

CFANS recognizes the international nature of global food and agricultural systems as well as the interdependence of environmental systems. The minor provides students an opportunity to integrate course work in agricultural sciences; area, cultural and language studies; plus an overseas experience. Students select course work independently or through package programs available through the Learning Abroad Center. For more information contact John Vreyens (vreyens@umn.edu).

What do I do after I have selected a program?

Talk with your academic adviser. Applied Plant Science students need to start working on the Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form as soon as they have chosen a program. You and your adviser should complete the APSA form together.

Visit the Learning Abroad Center for help with financial planning, travel planning, and program application.

Africa & Middle East

Ghana

CIEE Ghana - Legon

The University of Ghana, located on the outskirts of Ghana's capital city Accra, is a comprehensive university with extensive course offerings. The university has a Faculty of Agriculture with an active research program including three agricultural research stations with a station specializing in grain and soil management. Within the Faculty of Agriculture, there are opportunities to study plant science in the context of a developing country. Relevant coursework, particularly for the Agroecology emphasis, includes Tropical Crop Production, Plant Physiology, Soil Chemistry and Fertility and Weed Biology and Control. (Sponsor: CIEE)

South Africa

University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg

The University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg is one of South Africa's most respected institutions with an internationally recognized Faculty of Science and Agriculture committed to managing South Africa's resources and home to the African Centre for Crop Improvement. Students can study in areas such as crop science, plant breeding and plant pathology. (Sponsor: Interstudy)

Americas

Chile

CIEE & Butler Chile

For advanced students of Spanish, these two programs provide the opportunity to take courses in areas such as Spanish language, Chilean literature, and Chilean history and politics. In addition, students can take regular university classes at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile in Santiago or the Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso in basic sciences and agronomy. Instruction is in Spanish. ((Sponsors: Butler, CIEE)

Costa Rica

Universidad Nacional Autonoma, Heredia

The Universidad Nacional Autonoma is located in the beautiful city of Heredia outside of the capital city, San Jose. Participants on this program take an advanced Spanish course and additional regular university courses in crop and soil science such as Soil Fertility, Soil Management and Conservation and Plant Physiology. Instruction is in Spanish (Sponsor: Butler)

Asia & Oceania

Australia

University of Melbourne

The University of Melbourne is one of Australia's leading universities. Its commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service has been recognized by the Australian government. Through their Institute of Land and Food Resources, students have the opportunity to take a wide variety of relevant courses in crop and soil science such as Plant Function, Experimental Design and Statistical Methods and Principles of Microbiology. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

The University of Adelaide

The University of Adelaide, a center of academic excellence in South Australia, is surrounded by outback, the Flinders Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. The university has a very active research program in plant and pest sciences. Students can choose from extensive course offerings in areas such as soil science, sustainable agriculture, crop agronomy and pasture agronomy. (Sponsors: Butler, Australearn)

Asia and Oceania

Australia

The University of Queensland

The University of Queensland, located in the tropics, provides students with the opportunity to study agriculture in a very different climate from Minnesota. The highly regarded Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science offers a wide range of courses in plant and soil science. Possible courses of interest to Applied Plant Science students include Pasture Science, Plant Production Systems, Quantitative Plant Breeding and Applied Ecology and Ecosystem Processes. (Sponsors: Arcadia, Australearn, Butler)

Fiji

University of the South Pacific

The University of the South Pacific offers students an interesting opportunity to study agriculture in a developing region. Agriculture is the foundation of economic development in the Pacific with both traditional subsistence farming and expanding export markets. The School of Agriculture is located on the Alafua campus in Apia, Samoa. Possible courses include Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition, Crop Production, Pest and Disease Management and Crop Physiology and Breeding. (Sponsor: ISEP Direct)

New Zealand

Massey University, Palmerston North

Massey University is New Zealand's largest university and is located in New Zealand's second largest inland city. It has a long tradition of academic and research excellence across a wide variety of disciplines. Massey offers opportunities in plant biology and plant protection. Possible courses include Pasture and Crop Agronomy, Seed Science, Applied Plant Physiology, and Plant Pathology. (Sponsors: AustraLearn, Butler)

Europe

France

Study Abroad in Montpellier

This program provides students with advanced French the opportunity to take courses in areas such as French language and literature, French history, and French culture. In addition, students can take regular university courses including offerings in basic sciences, natural resources and agriculture. Instruction is in French. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Germany

IES Germany - Berlin

This program provides students with advanced German the opportunity to take courses in areas such as German language and literature, business and economics, and history. In addition, students can take regular university classes at Humboldt University in biology, chemistry, environmental science and agriculture. This program also offers an extensive range of internships in many fields. Instruction is in German. (Sponsor: IES)

Ireland

University College Dublin

Located in Ireland's lively capital city, the University College Dublin is Ireland's largest and most comprehensive university. Students can choose from courses throughout the university including a wide range of courses in plant science offered through the university's Department of Crop Science, Horticulture and Forestry. Relevant courses, of particular interest to Plant Breeding and Agro-ecology students, include Agricultural Microbiology, Crop Husbandry, Plant Genetics and Crop Protection. (Sponsors: Arcadia, Butler)

United Kingdom

Lancaster University, England

Known for its tradition of innovation, Lancaster University is one of the UK's most respected institutions. Lancaster is particularly strong in the sciences and has extensive course offerings in the basic sciences. The university also provides opportunities for students to meet their requirements in areas such as biology, physics and chemistry. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Europe

University of Wales, Bangor

The University of Wales, Bangor has an outstanding reputation in agriculture, having received the British government's top ranking for research in agriculture. Their School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences has a strong emphasis on sustainable agriculture, which may be of particular interest to students pursuing the minor in sustainable agriculture. Relevant coursework includes Global Environmental Issues, Biodiversity and Ecology, Plant Ecophysiology, Conservation and Ecology Practical, Soils/ Environmental Pollution, and Principles of Conservation. (Sponsor: Arcadia)

Ukraine

National Security Education Program

In partnership with the Penn State University, students study at Lviv State Agriculture University. This program includes an on-line culture course in May followed by a Ukrainian language course fall semester. During Spring semester, students continue Ukrainian language with five additional courses (in English) in residence at Lviv State Agriculture University. (Sponsor: CFANS)

Country Varies

Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID)

Kenya, Senegal, Ecuador and India

MSID offers credit through coursework, research, field placements and internships in this "mini-Peace Corps" program. Students work alongside host nationals on development projects or with agencies working in their area of interest. Enrollment options include both semester and academic year opportunities. MSID has four sites, including India and Kenya (no language requirement), Ecuador (two years of Spanish required) and Senegal (two years of French required). Internship placements are individualized. Past examples include:

- Assisting agronomists and rural community representatives in developing sustainable agricultural plans in Ecuador.
- Working with an NGO on soil conservation and rainwater percolation projects in India.
- Working with a farmers cooperative on income generating activities such as a community maize field in Kenya.
- Working with the privatization of rice production project in the Senegal River Valley.

(Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

International Field Study Seminars

Designed as introductory courses to explore agricultural production systems, food processing and market systems, these seminars provide intensive study in several countries. Students participate in pre-departure seminars on the country. The two-week country visit is organized by faculty at partner institutions in collaboration with University of Minnesota faculty. Past seminars visited Russia, Morocco, China, Germany and Costa Rica. (Sponsor: CFANS)

Global Seminars

Every year the Learning Abroad Center offers up to ten short seminars abroad led by UMTC faculty during May Session or over winter break. Global Seminars can help you get an international experience in a short period, earn credit and fulfill liberal education requirements. Topics and locations vary each year. Check the Learning Abroad Center website for a list of this year's Global Seminars.

(Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Student Project for Amity among Nations (SPAN)

Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe

This field study program offers a unique opportunity for students to create their own study abroad experience by conducting independent research under the guidance of qualified academic advisers during the summer. Sites vary each year.

(Sponsor: SPAN)

Country Varies

Internships or Research Abroad

CFANS has partnerships with companies, universities and research centers in every region of the world. Students can use these contacts to develop individualized internships or research programs. An adviser is required to define the research or ensure that the internship meets the college requirements. Through directed studies, academic credit is an option to get more value from the experience. Visit your academic adviser and then visit the advisers in the Office of International Programs in Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, 135 Skok Hall to explore in detail locations for internship and research experiences.

MAST International

The MAST International program provides qualified individuals a travel abroad opportunity to gain hands-on experience in agriculture, horticulture, agri-business, forestry or related areas. This cross-cultural experience living and working in another country helps you develop a global perspective and a broader understanding of the world. Contact: Susan VonBank (svonbank@umn.edu). (Sponsor: CFANS)

Language Study

Study abroad is a great way to acquire second language skills. Fluency in another language can be a real asset for students of applied plant science. The following are some examples of intensive language programs that can really speed up language learning. Many more language options are available; see the Learning Abroad Center for details.

China

IES China

This program offers intensive introductory, second, or third-year Chinese in a single semester. It also offers an intensive summer language option. Courses are also offered on Chinese culture and contemporary issues; some internships are available as well. (Sponsor: IES)

France

Study Abroad in Montpellier

Study in one of France's fastest-growing cities. Montpellier is an ideal place for an introduction to French language and culture. This UMTC program offers intensive French language study for students at beginning through advanced levels. Program length options include year-long, semester or four or eight week study terms. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Mexico

Language and Culture in Mexico, Cuernavaca

This UMTC sponsored Spanish-language program offers a variety of enrollment options: fall or spring semester and/or any of five three-week terms, one during the winter break and four in May and summer. You can take a full language course in a term or up to three in a semester; a semester plus an adjacent term, or the four back-to-back summer terms, can yield two full years of language credit. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)