



The College of Education
& Human Development

“Career and technical education is a major vehicle for countries to prepare youth and adults to enter and evolve personally satisfying careers. Career and technical education varies between countries. Studying these variations abroad can provide meaningful insights to more fully understand the complex and diverse roles of career and technical education.”

**David Pucel, Professor,
Career & Technical Education**

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Study Abroad in Career & Technical Education

Imagine studying the latest techniques and theories on vocational and adult education in Australia or the United Kingdom, where innovation is occurring in the discipline. Or consider researching the latest emerging trends in vocational studies in British Columbia, Canada, or exploring your teaching skills through a volunteer program abroad.

Study abroad can help you...

- Understand the discipline of education from an international perspective
- Expand your cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Prepare you to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Broaden your academic horizons
- Globalize your world view
- Improve your language skills

By its nature, education takes place in a cultural context. There is much to be gained from understanding the history and traditions of cultures outside your own. Study abroad is one very exciting way to begin to discover new approaches and build your professional skills.

Set goals and plan for results

Career and Technical Education undergraduates may study abroad with adviser consultation. The process of selecting a study abroad program is similar to selecting your undergraduate major or minor.

- Begin at least six months in advance of your study abroad. It is never too early to start planning.
- Set some goals. There is not one program best suited for Career and Technical Education students. There are many good study abroad programs, and the best one for you depends on what you want.
- Prioritize your goals. Consider your long-term academic and professional goals, as well as your on-campus degree requirements.
- Consider short-term and long-term programs.
- 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.

With proper planning study abroad can help you prepare for your professional life in today's global context.

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 \$500,000 in scholarships for study abroad, and the Learning Abroad Center provides resources on these and a variety of other scholarships available to CEHD undergraduate students. Stop by the Learning Abroad Center to research all your options.

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

Use the Learning Abroad Center catalog, resource center, website, and advisers to find a program that fits your goals.

Talk to your adviser

Use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad form to get approval from your academic adviser for major-specific courses. Contact the College of Education and Human Development's Student and Professional Services (SPS) in 250 Wulling Hall to schedule an appointment. Call 612.625.6501.

Academic Considerations for Career & Technical Education Undergraduates

The College of Education and Human Development would like you to consider studying abroad. In order to take courses in your Career and Technical Education program, you will need to plan ahead with your advisers. Here are some guidelines and suggestions that will be helpful as you sort through the offerings and find the best choice possible.

How will study abroad programs fulfill my Career & Technical Education degree requirements?

Liberal Education

- Plan early to apply study abroad credits to the University's Liberal Education requirements.
- Consult the Learning Abroad Center's database of study abroad courses that have been approved for Liberal Education at www.UMabroad.umn.edu/academic.

Career & Technical Education major courses

- Some of your major courses may be fulfilled abroad. Consult with your major advisers.

When Should I Study Abroad?

It is recommended that you study abroad during your sophomore or junior year or any summer.

If you choose to study abroad during other semesters, you will need to meet with your advisers to ensure that study abroad fits with your major requirements.

What Are Some Desired Learning Outcomes of Study Abroad?

As you consider your academic and career plans, think about ways in which study abroad can add to your teaching skills and portfolio.

- Obtain a different perspective on Career and Technical Education. Different nations and cultures have various practical experiences for their secondary and post-secondary students. A study abroad experience can broaden your repertoire of skills and understanding.
- Work on a second language. Although a proficiency in a second language is not required for this degree program, it is rapidly becoming an expected profile of an effective classroom teacher in the United States. Intensive language study in an immersion environment can provide you with language skills, and first-hand experience in language acquisition can help your work with students at various stages of language development.
- Gain classroom and/or technical experience. Many study abroad programs include opportunities for practical and applied learning experiences. Look for ways to develop reflective practices, enhancing professional growth in a different cultural context.

Your technical or occupational experience may be applied to the program requirements, if approved. You must consult with your advisers and obtain their approval prior to leaving.

These are just a few of your options. Come into the Learning Abroad Center to learn about even more opportunities.

Map your academic plan with your departmental and Student and Professional Service (SPS) advisers

As soon as you have chosen a study abroad program, use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form to facilitate a discussion with your advisers.

- The APSA form is handed out at First Step Meetings.
- Look for courses abroad that will fulfill your major and/or UMTC Liberal Education Requirements.
- Be sure to meet with your advisers at least three months prior to departing for your program.

Once you have chosen the courses that you want to take abroad (always choose more courses than you intend to take), have descriptions for those courses, and have begun filling out the APSA, you will meet with your advisers.

To complete the APSA process, you will also need a signature from a college adviser. A particular course or schedule may not be available on your study abroad site, thus it will be useful to have received prior feedback on additional courses from your advisers. If your courses do change, inform the advisers.

Study Abroad Options

Australia

Griffith University

Griffith's School of Vocation, Technical and Arts Education was developed with input from the teaching profession and industry to meet the needs of current and future educators. Griffith is an innovative and creative university, and you may take courses in Adult and Vocational Teaching in addition to liberal education coursework toward your University of Minnesota degree.

Coursework includes: Values and Ethics in Adult and Vocational Education, Instructional Design Strategies, and Workplace Learning.

Griffith University is located in Queensland, Australia, one of the most livable climates in the world. Three hundred days of sunshine per year enable residents to enjoy outdoor activities year round. The Adult and Vocational Teaching education program is located at the Mt. Gravatt campus in Brisbane, a cosmopolitan city with excellent shopping and transport facilities.

(Sponsors: Arcadia, Australearn, Butler)

Ireland

University of Limerick

The College of Education at Limerick is the only university college in Ireland entirely dedicated to the education of teachers. The college collaborates with other colleges within the university to draw the best in science, technology and engineering into their Bachelors of Technology programs. The Bachelors of Technology in Materials and Construction Technology focuses on several areas such as technical drawing, construction studies, and agricultural science, and produces graduates who satisfy the needs of the Irish secondary school system.

Courses available include: Wood Technology, Wood Processing Safety and Practice, the Teacher as a Professional, and Diversity in Education.

Urban renewal has transformed Limerick into a thriving, energetic and all-embracing modern city located on the lovely Shannon River. Limerick has a reputation as a major arts and cultural center, and is also known as the Rugby Capital of Ireland. The innate friendliness of the people will remain an abiding memory for those who come to study and live.

(Sponsors: Arcadia, Butler)

India and Kenya

Minnesota Studies in International Development

Vocational Education is an important strategy to development in countries such as India and Kenya. The Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID) program offers students the opportunity to study and intern by participating in mini Peace Corps style settings, working and living with people in rural areas of India and Kenya. Students in the Career and Technical Education major who already have workplace experience or who are already teachers would be warmly welcomed into internship settings where perhaps keyboarding or word processing are needed to be taught or adult education focusing on vocational training is needed.

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MSID offers opportunities to experience and reflect on the impact of global and national policies on the lives of real people and real communities. Past internships included opportunities to work in schools, on transportation projects, sustainable agricultural initiatives, and community development organizations. The programs in India and Kenya are both offered in English. (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Sweden

Växjö University

Växjö University, the second largest university in southern Sweden, two hours from Stockholm, is well known for its strong international profile and its dynamic and forward-thinking approach to higher education. Växjö has a full set of courses taught in English that study abroad students and Swedish students take together. The Teacher Education program in English has an innovative series of courses designed to stimulate future teachers about educational systems in a comparative sense. Global and Intercultural Perspective includes an introduction to the Swedish school system, which has historically been strong in vocational education and apprenticeships. Exchange students are also able to take an Internship course placing student teachers into the Swedish Upper Secondary Schools.

Special arrangements are being made by Växjö University to place Career and Technical and Technology Education majors from the University of Minnesota into appropriate internships in the Swedish schools.

The city of Växjö is located in the area of Sweden renowned for glass and crystal blowing and furniture making. Also in Växjö is the House of Emigrants library that allows Americans to search archives for family history.

(Sponsor: UM-Duluth)

United Kingdom

University of Glasgow

Study at the Robert Clark Centre for Technological Education, which holds international standing in both teaching and research. Take classes in Craft and Design, Advanced Craft Skills, Technology Studies and Graphic Communication.

The University of Glasgow was founded in 1451 and is the fourth oldest University in the UK after Oxford, Cambridge, and St. Andrews. Glasgow is a beautiful city, with a bustling and lively cultural scene. Study abroad students have studied at the University of Glasgow for more than twenty years and benefit from well-tailored international student services.

(Sponsors: Arcadia, Butler)

Work, Intern, and Volunteer Options

Your opportunities for significant overseas learning experiences are not limited to study abroad. Whether as an alternative to study abroad or a complement to it, you might want to consider an overseas work, internship, or volunteer experience. To explore your options, begin by attending a WIV (Work, Internship, Volunteer) First Step meeting (see www.UMabroad.umn.edu for meeting schedule), then stop by the Learning Abroad center for more information on specific opportunities. These sorts of learning abroad programs may be combined with directed study to generate academic credit.

Work abroad

Most countries prohibit foreigners from taking paid employment without a work permit. Several programs help students obtain work permits for limited periods abroad. Programs which the Learning Abroad Center has an affiliation are **BUNAC** (for Australia, Britain, Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand) and **CEI** in France. You are responsible for finding your own job and housing. Other programs such as **Alliance Abroad** (for Australia, France, England, Costa Rica, Brazil, and China), and **InterExchange** (for Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Britain, Netherlands, Norway, and Spain) arrange jobs before you arrive in-country

Internships abroad

Students sometimes arrange free-standing internships, either through established programs that connect them with a host organization, or through individual faculty or other connections. Internships are rarely paid. A number of credit-based internships are available via study abroad programs, such as those listed on the previous page. Two providers with which the Learning Abroad Center has an affiliation are **AustraLearn** (opportunities in a wide variety of Australian settings) and **International Cooperative Education (ICE)** which offers internships in a wide variety of settings in Europe, Asia, Australia, and South America. Students also sometimes seek credit through a directed study contract with a University of Minnesota faculty member.

Volunteer abroad

A host of organizations arrange opportunities for you to volunteer abroad. A few examples among many are **Earthwatch** which offers short term expeditions all over the world, **Cross-Cultural Solutions**, offering 1-12 week programs in Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Peru, Russia, Tanzania, and Thailand and **World Endeavors** in Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Philippines, and Thailand. The Learning Abroad Center's web site includes links to resources for finding volunteer opportunities.

May and Summer Options

Global Seminars

Global Seminars are short-term study abroad programs led by University of Minnesota faculty during May Session. The groups are small in order to give students the opportunity to work closely with a professor in specific area of interest and participate in an intense learning experience. Global Seminar topics are a great way to earn 3 credits in 3 weeks in another country. Previous topics have included:

- Made in China
- Music and Culture in Ghana
- Ethical Tolerance in the Netherlands

(Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Student Project for Amity Among Nations (SPAN)

Design and conduct an independent research project in one of four countries. Sites vary each year. Spend the year preparing your project at the University of Minnesota; collect information on your summer abroad, and then complete your thesis upon return. Projects vary and past titles include:

- Metal Arts and Crafts in Peru
- Adult Education: The Swedish Folk High Schand techool
- Italian Electronics

(Sponsor: SPAN)

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.

(Sponsor: Learning Abroad Center)

Program Sponsor Websites

To learn more about these programs, come to the Learning Abroad Center and use our resources and advisers, or visit the website that corresponds with the program sponsor listed in parentheses with each program description.

UMTC Learning Abroad Center, UMDuluth, SPAN

www.UMabroad.umn.edu

Alliance Abroad

www.allianceabroad.com

Arcadia University

www.arcadia.edu/cea

AustraLearn

www.australearn.org

ISEP

www.isep.org

BUNAC

www.bunac.org

CEI

www.cei4vents.com

Cross-Cultural Solutions

www.crossculturalsolutions.org

Earthwatch

www.earthwatch.org

IFSA-Butler University

www.ifsa-butler.org

InterExchange

www.interexchange.org

International Cooperative Education (ICE)

www.icemenlo.com

World Endeavors

www.worldendeavors.org

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