



Study Abroad in Retail Merchandising

Hundreds of study abroad programs are open to you. Imagine yourself in Tokyo learning about Japanese culture, or studying international marketing in London. Learn how Italians run their design houses and market their clothing lines internationally. Programs are available in almost any language, and many programs are available in English.

Study abroad can help you...

- Find great retail merchandising coursework and curriculum
- Understand the retail merchandising field 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

Experiences like this will change your life and career options in many ways. And, in today's increasingly interdependent world, significant cross-cultural experience is exactly what employers and graduate schools are looking for. Don't miss the chance to be first on their list!

Set Goals and Plan for Results

Look in the catalog or on the website for features that fit best with your interests and goals:

What will I study abroad?

- Language
- Courses in your major/minor
- Region specific courses
- Interdisciplinary courses
- Liberal Education Requirements
- Electives
- Independent research and seminars
- Honors projects
- Internships

When can I study abroad?

Academic Year, Fall or Spring Semester, Winter Break, May Session, or Summer Session.

Where will I live?

- With a host family
- In a dorm or an apartment

What is the teaching format?

- Study Center—classes with other US students.
- Host-University—classes with host country students at an overseas university.
- Field Study—less classroom and more experiential learning.
- Combination—many programs offer more than one of these formats.

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.

Talk to the Study Abroad Coordinator

Call 612.624.1717 to schedule an appointment. Discuss time frame and coursework that will fit best with your academic program.

Attend a First Step Meeting

Learn about study abroad resources and advising by attending a First Step Meeting at the Learning Abroad Center.

Investigate programs

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

Talk to your adviser

Use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad form to get approval from the Study Abroad Coordinator for major-specific courses. More than 1,800 study abroad courses have been approved for Liberal Education Requirements.

“Studying outside of the United States makes students understand they are a part of an extremely competitive global economy. Not only do students return with a greater understanding of retailing, they are sensitized to the life issues that face culturally diverse peoples of the world.”

Kim Johnson
Retail Merchandising
Program Chair

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Academic Considerations for Retail Merchandising Students

You are encouraged to incorporate study abroad into your academic career while still graduating in four years. In order to take courses in your major you need to plan ahead.

There are many valuable courses and internships available while studying abroad in English or another language. If you are interested in an experience in a country where courses are offered in another language, consider doing an intensive language study abroad program or plan to take the appropriate language classes before you go. Language skills will open up more opportunities and make the experience richer.

Make an Academic Plan for Study Abroad

Be sure to complete the academic planning process before studying abroad. Use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form, and meet with your academic adviser. An initial meeting with the study abroad coordinator (612.624.1717) in 12 McNeal Hall will prepare you for your meeting with your faculty adviser or program chair and will discuss college scholarship opportunities with you.

Best Time To Go Abroad

- Sophomore year first semester. Please discuss DHA 2213 with your academic adviser.
- Sophomore year second semester.
- Junior year first semester.
- Junior year second semester.
- Senior year first semester.

May and Short Term Experiences

May and short-term programs are a great starting point for students who want to try a study abroad experience. These are popular with students whose academic plans and personal schedules don't allow for a more extensive commitment.

Internships

All internships must be approved by the student's academic adviser in order to use them to fulfill requirements. This should be done during the academic planning process prior to experience.

Core major courses

The academic adviser will be able to approve the courses prior to departure. Please work with your academic adviser to fill out the Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form.

Liberal education courses

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

Are you pursuing the management minor?

Please note: only one management minor course can be done abroad. Questions may be directed to the Management Minor adviser at 612.624.3313.

Upon return from study abroad

Be sure to meet with your academic adviser to ensure that your courses have transferred into your major.

Integrated Programs

Australia

University of Melbourne

University of Melbourne is one of the world's top research and teaching institutions. Retail majors will find classes are available focusing on management, business in the global economy, the Asian economies, organizational behavior, operations management, human resource management, principles of marketing, market research, marketing communications, social and political context of work, managerial strategies, brand management, business in Southeast Asia. The University is also strong in science, business, social science, humanities, and engineering disciplines. Melbourne was recently named the "world's most livable city" because of its culture and arts, park lands, architecture, and climate. The surrounding state of Victoria offers students many class related and weekend opportunities. (Learning Abroad Center)

Griffith University, Brisbane

The Griffith University prides itself on teaching, research, and offering a high quality academic experience. The Faculty of Business offers a retail management degree. Classes include consumer behavior, retail buying and merchandising, sales management, strategic management, retail operations management, marketing, international marketing and many other business courses. Brisbane, Queensland's capital and Australia's third largest city, is a dynamic and fast growing city; it has grown to become a major financial, education, and tourist center. (Arcadia)

Finland

Turku School of Economics & Business Administration

Students register at one of the three universities in the Åbo/Turku Consortium but can take classes at any of the institutions. Business courses taught in English include culture and management, international business, marketing and communications, East-West trade, information systems and economics, and trade law. Eastern European studies, Finnish/Nordic studies, international trade law, natural sciences, and engineering are also taught in English. Turku, the oldest town in Finland, is located about 125 miles west of Helsinki. A major port and a center for culture and education, Turku offers a wide range of activities in sports, culture and travel, with a lively student scene. (ISEP)

United Kingdom

University of Westminster, London

Located just minutes from the vibrant and fashionable West End of London, the University of Westminster is a varied and international university with connections to large nearby retail companies. Students can take classes within the university's fashion merchandise management major which focus on business communication, fashion marketing, brand management, fashion in society, and the future of merchandising. London has some of the world's largest retail companies, and students can also benefit from the great diversity of culture, arts, and entertainment in the city. (Arcadia/Butler)

Queen Mary, University of London

This institution has an excellent reputation for high standards in teaching and research and is one of the largest universities in the United Kingdom. The university campus is located in the diverse and economical East End of London. Queen Mary offers many courses in commerce from marketing to business management. Students can also choose from the wide range of courses offered at the university. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

University of Huddersfield

The University of Huddersfield is a newer university in the north of England known for its close ties with the surrounding business community and exceptional student support. Retail majors can take courses in a wide range of subjects, including creativity and enterprise in marketing, global influences on retailing, design and styling trends, and retail e-commerce. The city of Huddersfield is very much a college city, with a lively student nightlife. It's also within easy reach of large cities like Manchester and Leeds. (ISEP)

University of Central Lancashire, Preston

The University of Central Lancashire is a young but large school, with an enrollment of about 30,000 students. The campus provides extensive access to technology, and attention within each major is very individualized. Students can choose courses from the fashion and brand and marketing major, which include e-marketing, brand management, and retailing and logistics. Preston is a growing city in the north of England with a sizable student population and is surrounded by beautiful countryside. The Harris Museum in Preston even has a Gallery of Clothes and Fashion. Nearby Manchester and Blackpool provide yet more entertainment options. (ISEP)

Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne

Distinctive for the variety of its courses and the quality of its teaching, Northumbria University is a medium-sized university specializing in technology, design, commerce, and education classes. Students can take classes from the fashion marketing programme, some of which are consumer behavior, merchandising management, and information technology for fashion marketing. Newcastle is a large city close to the Scottish border and near some of northern England's most beautiful national parks. The city is the largest in the region, and as such has an active social and cultural scene. (U-IL)

University of Leeds

A major research university known for its unique and expansive choice of degrees, the University of Leeds offers retail courses in fashion management and fashion communication and marketing. Some courses include retail management, integrated marketing communication, and the professional practice of design. Leeds is a large, cosmopolitan city in northern England, offering various activities year round. Leeds is also close to the famous Yorkshire Dales and its green, flowing countryside. (Butler)

University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland

The University of Ulster in Coleraine offers majors in retail studies, business management, and marketing. Retail majors will find major courses in accounting management and marketing, as well as principles of retailing, human resource management, the practice of retailing, management accounting, commercial law for retailing, marketing, business policy and retailing, retailing and society, financial management, distribution management, and international retailing. Coleraine, a busy, medium-sized market town a few miles from the magnificent north coast, is an easy commute to Belfast or Londonberry. (ISEP, Butler, Arcadia)

Departmental Programs

DHA Short-Term Programs

Sites & Topics Vary

These DHA faculty led programs focus on a different area of design during Spring Break and May Session on alternating years.

Recent programs include:

Design in Europe

Graphic Design in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands

Retail Fashion in London & Paris

Design in Buenos Aires

Field Study Programs

Country Varies

Student Project for Amity Among Nations (SPAN)

Design and conduct an independent research project in one of four countries. Sites and faculty leaders vary each year. Prepare for your summer abroad throughout the year, spend six to twelve weeks abroad collecting information, then complete the project upon return with the help of a faculty adviser. (SPAN)

Directed Study Abroad

Study abroad opportunities are not limited to formal instruction. Directed Study allows students to create a contract between themselves and a faculty member that outlines a project and credits to be earned. This provides students the opportunity to work independently on a project of their own design while abroad, under the direction of a University of Minnesota faculty member.

Paid Internships Abroad

There are many programs that help US students find paid internships around the world. Depending on the program, varying levels of assistance will be provided in finding work and housing. In general, these programs often require more independence and student initiative.

Italy

Area Studies in Milan

Semester or Academic Year language and area studies program includes the possibility of taking classes in English at the Università Bocconi, such as international business administration, marketing, arts and culture, management, and strategic management in fashion companies. Includes opportunities for business related internships. (IES)

Japan

Japanese Studies in Tokyo

Study Japanese culture and business and beginning or intermediate language, and complete a field placement in a retail business or other organization on this Academic Year, Fall Semester, or Spring Semester program. Instruction in English. Includes opportunities for business related internships. (IES)

United Kingdom

Study Abroad & Internships in London

This program offers 6 credit internships during Summer Session, or Fall or Spring Semester. Past design placements include AdVision, British Tourist Authority, Cartoon Art Trust, Global Healthcare Communications, London Property Brochures, Simply Games, Wine & Spirit Association, and Tugboat Graphics. Semester students may also take 6–9 credits in a variety of areas, such as art history, international business, or other social science and humanities topics. (Learning Abroad Center)

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

Programs with Business Coursework

Austria

European Studies in Vienna (IES)

Brazil

Brazil's Economy & Business Environment (U-IL)

Denmark

Denmark's International Study (DIS)

France

Area Studies in Nantes (IES)

Germany

Area Studies in Berlin (IES)

European Union in Freiburg (IES)

German Studies in Freiburg (IES)

Ireland

Area Studies in Dublin (IES)

Japan

Japanese Studies in Nagoya (IES)

Program Websites

Arcadia

www.arcadia.edu/cea

Butler

www.ifsa-butler.org

CIEE

www.ciee.org/study/index.html

DIS

www.disp.dk

IES

www.iesabroad.org

ISEP

www.isep.org/nus

Learning Abroad Center, U-IL, & SPAN

www.UMabroad.umn.edu