



“According to a survey given to 142 U.S. medical school deans, 65.3% responded that an international study program was beneficial to the chances of being accepted into the school.”

– Medical School Admissions Survey, University of Notre Dame, 2001

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Study Abroad in Health and Pre-Health Sciences

A World of Programs

There is no such thing as a “local” problem or issue anymore. An international experience will provide the skills necessary to work efficiently in health, industry, academia, and the public sector. Every student should consider gaining an international experience through study abroad.

Hundreds of study abroad programs are available to you. You can study in your major, pick up a second language, study the history and culture of a region, complete research on a special topic of your choice, do an internship while overseas, or find one program with a combination of these components. Spend May Session, the summer, a semester or an academic year abroad to enhance your cross-cultural skills, language ability, or professional experience. Programs are available in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe.

Look for a Global Seminar - a 3-week, 3 credit program during May session (sites and topics vary each year).

Health and Pre-Health science students may want public health experience in the form of an internship or to research medicine and healing practices of other cultures. Or perhaps students would like to take program prerequisites like biology or chemistry in another country. Or you might find complimentary classes to take along with the usual prerequisites, such as

- Intro to Herbal Medicine (Middlesex U, London, England)
- Intro to Acupuncture (U Technology, Sydney, Australia)
- Music Therapy (U del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- Chinese Medicine (Middlesex U, London, England & U Techm Sydney, Australia)

A number of excellent programs are available that will help prepare you for work in our multicultural world.

Can I afford to study abroad?

Some study abroad opportunities are very affordable. Program fees often cover full-time tuition, housing, and most meals. Financial aid applies to study abroad, and in some cases, you will receive an increased award to cover additional expenses. The Learning Abroad Center offers many scholarships for study abroad and you should check with your college and department for other scholarship opportunities. Many programs offer special discounts for U of M students or scholarship support.

How do I start?

Come in to the Learning Abroad Center to attend a First Step Meeting, talk with a Learning Abroad Center adviser, and take a look at the U of M study abroad catalogue. After some program research and advising, you should be able to identify a program or two that will meet your needs.

How do I get credits to go towards my requirements?

You will meet with your major or pre-major adviser to determine how the program will fit with your major or pre-major program requirements. The Learning Abroad Center will have your study abroad courses approved for Liberal Education credits. More than 1,800 study abroad classes have already been evaluated. Many programs offer U of M resident credit.

All of the programs listed in this brochure and the U of M study abroad catalogue are sponsored or co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota, which means the U of M is confident about academic quality, safety, and student support services. Each program will provide pre-departure and on-site orientation, housing, academic support, international health insurance, and on-site logistical assistance.

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

Gain valuable field experience

Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID) in Ecuador, India, Kenya, Ghana, and Senegal

Participants complete coursework on international development issues and area studies, and work along side host nationals on development projects and with agencies in their chosen area of interest. Past examples include:

- assisting with an AIDS awareness program in India
- working with a rural doctor in Ecuador
- completing an internship in a Kenyan hospital
- studying traditional vs. modern medicine as it's practiced in Senegal, and
- many other possibilities in health and health-related projects

Students also complete an independent research project. MSID offers five sites, including India, Kenya, and Ghana (no prior language study required), Ecuador (2 years prior Spanish language study required), and Senegal (2 years prior French language study required). Offered fall semester, academic year, or spring semester. Scholarships are available. (Sponsor: LAC)

Study Abroad and Internships in London

This semester or summer program offers a six credit professional internship along with course work in the humanities, social sciences, and business. A wide variety of placement in hospitals, social services, education, business, and the public sector are available. Summer, fall, or spring semester. (Sponsor: LAC)

Internships in Australia

Conduct internships in the Australian national and state parliaments, as well as a wide range of government and non-profit agencies in Canberra or Sydney. Internship content depends on your qualifications and interests. The semester option combines a part-time internship with coursework at an Australian university; summer full-time internships for 8-12 weeks. (Sponsor: MSU)

Student Project for Amity among Nations (SPAN)

Design and conduct an independent project of your choice in one of four countries through SPAN. You'll spend the year preparing your project at the U of M, collecting information during your summer abroad, and completing your thesis upon return. Countries vary each year. (Sponsor: SPAN)

Many other area studies programs offer internship placements.

Locations include: Berlin, Paris, Milan, Toledo, Spain, Buenos Aires, Tokyo, and others.

Programs with Health or Pre-Health Emphasis

Latin American Health, Nutrition & Environment in the Dominican Republic

Study Latin American health and nutrition on this summer or fall semester option. During the summer, Spanish and a seminar on health and nutrition are offered, both taught in English. The fall semester offers Spanish and university courses in health sciences and other disciplines, taught in Spanish. One year of Spanish is required for summer, three years of Spanish (or two years and completion of the summer program) are required for fall. (Sponsor: U-Iowa)

Denmark's International Study (DIS) Program: Medical Practice and Policy

Combine medically-related studies with coursework in the humanities and social sciences on this semester program. Theory is brought into practice by interaction with Danish doctors and patients in the hospitals. Danish resources in medical science are open to U.S. students and the courses are taught in English. This fall or spring semester program will add a unique academic asset to your record. (Sponsor: DIS)

South American Urban Semester

Examine relationships between Third World development issues and the consequences of urbanization and city growth on this fall semester option, based in Guatemala. Coursework is complemented by extensive field study in Guatemala and a two week visit to Ecuador. Two years of Spanish is required. (Sponsor: HECUA)

Study at a Host University in English

The U of M offers programs at more than 200 universities worldwide. The Learning Abroad Center has identified several universities that may work well if you plan to take courses in your major during study abroad. These sites offer many courses in health and pre-health sciences, and some include fields not available at the U of M. All of the universities offer other fields such as a wide array of courses in the arts, humanities, business, and social science. Many programs offer a flexible curriculum. Advanced planning with the Learning Abroad Center and your college or major adviser will ensure that courses taken during study abroad will fit smoothly into your degree program.

Lancaster University, Lancaster, England

The historic city of Lancaster is surrounded by the Forest of Bowland, the Lune Valley, and the Lake District. The city hosts countless concerts, festivals, plays, and exhibitions. Lancaster University is situated on a ridge overlooking the sea, and is a highly ranked teaching and research institution known for its innovative curricula. Lancaster is very experienced with MCAT requirements and has established themselves as a center for science and pre-medical studies in the UK. Pre-veterinary and dental students will also find a wide range of course options at Lancaster. Academic year or semester enrollment is offered to sophomores and above.

Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: biological sciences, biochemistry, chemistry (organic and physical), nursing studies, cell biology, ecology, physics, psychology, and mathematics, as well as others. Website: www.lancs.ac.uk (Sponsor: LAC)

Middlesex University, London, England

Middlesex is located on the north side of London and is spread across six campuses, including the Trent Park campus. All campuses are within commuting distance of the centre of London. The tube connects the campuses, and travel time between them is thirty to forty-five minutes. On campus, you'll find a vast number of competitive sports teams, clubs, and societies. The student union is also a source of great entertainment with parties, balls, and concerts. You can check out the cafés and bars on each campus too. In addition to liberal arts and science courses, you'll find offerings like herbal medicine, Chinese medicine, and midwifery. Middlesex also offers internship and service learning opportunities.

Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses may include: molecular and cell biology (including structure and function), genetics, pharmacology, public health, health studies, herbal medicine, chinese medicine, midwifery, physiology, anatomy, and more. Website: www.mdx.ac.uk (Sponsors: Arcadia, Butler)

University of Technology Sydney, Australia

Known as the “world’s friendliest city,” Sydney is set on a spectacular harbour. With warm and sunny weather, Sydney is a great place for enjoying the beach. UTS is situated in this bustling city environment. Just a short walk or bus ride from campus you'll find pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, cultural activities, and water sports. UTS offers a huge range of courses across many fields, with special emphasis on pre-professional programs and practical experience. UTS is one of the few universities in Australia that allows study abroad students to enroll in nursing and midwifery.

Health and Pre-Health Science courses include: chemistry, physics, nursing, midwifery, health studies, biomedical science, mathematics, physiology, anatomy, and more. Website: www.uts.edu.au (Sponsor: Butler)

University of Melbourne, Australia

Melbourne was recently named the “world’s most livable city” because of its culture and arts, parklands, architecture, and climate. The state of Victoria’s 32 national parks include beaches, mountains, deserts, and rainforests, offering students many class-related and weekend opportunities. Uni Melbourne’s commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service has been officially recognized by the Australian government. Uni Melbourne offers specialized support for science students.

Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: chemistry (physical, organic, environmental, inorganic), microbiology, physics, mathematics, physiology, anatomy, psychology, and more. Website: www.unimelb.edu.au/HB (Sponsor: UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

University of Capetown, South Africa

Capetown is a vibrant, multicultural city with many activities. Mountaineering and water sports are easily accessible and the waterfront holds many attractions, such as shopping, boating, yacht cruises, sea planes, and museums. The city and UCT are a microcosm of the challenges facing many African countries in transition and is grappling with the socio-economic inequities that are the legacy of colonialism and apartheid. The campus is nestled on the slopes of Table Mountain and has forests, waterfalls, and beautiful grounds, just 15 minutes from the city center. The university is recognized as Africa’s leading research institution.

Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: biological sciences, chemistry (organic and physical), physics, zoology, nutrition, and more. Website: www.uct.ac.za (Sponsor: InterStudy South Africa)

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

Study at a Host University in Another Language

If you are interested in attending a non-English speaking site, the Learning Abroad Center and your major advisers will work with you to find a school and develop the academic program. There are many excellent choices in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, and we strongly encourage you to pursue study in another language if you have the necessary skills. Generally students need to have completed the equivalent of two or three years of college level language study to be successful with integrated study in a foreign language. Provided is a list of universities that require prior language study and would offer courses in your major or minor or pre-major requirements for one semester or a full academic year.

Université Paul Valéry- Montpellier III, Montpellier, France

Montpellier captures the essence of picturesque southern France. Nestled among rolling hills leading down to the sea and scattered medieval towns, it is a popular cultural and intellectual haven for French and international visitors alike. Located just 10 miles from the Mediterranean coast, Montpellier boasts a myriad of cultural activities, manicured parks, and quaint narrow streets. Its intellectual life center at the prestigious Université de Montpellier, one of the oldest universities in France. This program is open to sophomores and above for academic year or semester options. Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: biology, chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacy, psychology, and more. Website: www.UMabroad.umn.edu (Sponsor: LAC)

Justus-Liebig Universität Gießen, Gießen, Germany

The university town of Gießen is located 60km north of Frankfurt, in the midst of pleasant countryside, surrounded by hills and forests. The university, which dates back to 1607, is one of the traditional universities of the German speaking countries. Today it offers a combination of theoretical and applied learning and in natural, social, and philological sciences. Facilities are on mini-campuses throughout town. Strong programs in biological and ecological sciences are featured by the university. Also, the physics, chemistry, and math departments have outstanding study and research facilities. A pre-exchange intensive German language course is offered in September. Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: nutrition, veterinary medicine, physics, biology, genetics, zoology, chemistry (physical and organic), psychology, and more. Website: www.isep.org/nus/germany/index.html or www.uni-giessen.de (Sponsor: ISEP)

Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, is a sophisticated metropolis. Situated on the Rio de la Plata, 100 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, it is a major port and center of all activity in Argentina. USAL is one of Argentina's most highly regarded institutions. At the university you'll get personalized attention and great academics. USAL had a small student body and a commitment to personalized education. USAL is a true urban university with its faculties located in the heart of the city's cultural and business centers instead of concentrated on campus. Health and Pre-Health Sciences courses include: nutrition, psychology, music therapy, veterinary medicine (graduate level only), physics, chemistry, and more. Website: www.isa-butler.org or www.isep.org/nus/argentina (Sponsors: Butler, ISEP)

Accelerate Your Language Learning

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

China

IES Beijing

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: LAC)

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: LAC)

Try a Short-Term Introduction

Some students who have had no prior international experience feel the need for a short initial experience before they are ready for a full semester or year of study abroad. Many options are available to meet the needs of such students.

Countries Vary

Global Seminars

Every year the University of Minnesota offers more than a dozen of these programs. Led by University faculty, they are usually scheduled for May session. None have prerequisites, and they are open to all students. For students who would like to get their feet wet before plunging into a longer international study, Global Seminars make ideal stepping-stone experiences. If you wish to participate in a Global Seminar, try to do so as early as possible in your undergraduate experience. This will give you plenty of time to explore options for a longer study abroad experience later in your college career. (Sponsor: LAC)

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

Program Sponsor Websites

To learn more about these programs, visit the website that corresponds with the program sponsor in parentheses. And, as always, see a Learning Abroad Center adviser.

**UMTC Learning Abroad Center,
SPAN, HECUA**
www.UMabroad.umn.edu

DIS
www.disp.dk

Arcadia University
www.arcadia.edu/cea

Butler University
www.ifsa-butler.org

IES
www.iesabroad.org

InterStudy South Africa
www.interstudy.org

ISEP
www.isep.org