Go Abroad in Political Science

Political Science Department

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Corvallis, OR 97333-4188
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Ambassador Hours:
international.oregonstate.edu/osugo/students

Political Science majors are encouraged to take full advantage of the breadth of options that exist in OSU's office of international programs. Today's graduates will live and work in a world that is more culturally and globally challenging than ever before, and study abroad provides an opportunity to complement the political science courses you take at OSU.

International Experiences Can Expand Your Horizons…

and increase your understanding of the history, traditions, and culture of people in another geographic region. Study abroad may enhance your ability to:

"hjksahdjksahd"

-John Smith, Country, Program major

- Understand the field of political science from an international perspective
- Investigate and experience different cultural, social, and economic groups
- Learn approaches and processes that may differ from your own
- Gain new professional skills
- Improve your language skills
- Expand cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Globalize your world view, and prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace

What types of international experiences can I participate in?

- **Study Abroad:**

Political Science majors can study abroad in a variety of institutional, cultural and environmental settings. Many quarters, semester, or year-long study abroad experiences offer courses that will enrich your educational experience and may count toward your Political Science degree. Over a dozen countries offer courses appropriate for the Political Science degree in English, as well as other languages. Students can also choose to focus on a foreign language or do an intensive, field-based program.

- **IE3 Global Internships:**

IE3 Global Internships provide Political Science majors with opportunities to gain credit and professional experience in areas such as comparative politics, international relations, public policy, and many others. English-language internships are currently available **in** twenty countries, including non-English speaking countries such as Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Japan, Mexico, and South Korea.

- **International Degree:**

Students planning to study a foreign language while in Political Science may want to consider the prestigious OSU International Degree (ID). The ID is a unique undergraduate major obtainable only as a second degree. In addition to the Political Science major requirements, the ID candidate must: (1) take an additional 32 credits; (2) demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language equal to the completion of the fourth year; (3) spend a minimum of one ten-week term abroad on an approved program (IE3 Global Internships, study abroad, or independent research can count for this), and (4) complete a senior thesis. The ID affords a student the opportunity to develop a global perspective within the context of their Political Science major by completing a research project, and International Degree students are eligible for special funding for research. For International Degree information, contact the International Degree Head Advisor at International.Degree@oregonstate.edu

Can I afford an international experience?

Yes! If going abroad is a priority, there is generally a way to make it affordable. Early planning for international experiences helps students make cost-effective program decisions, and it also helps them prepare their finances through savings, scholarships, and financial aid. There is a great deal of variation in costs between programs, and students should carefully consider all of their options before making a decision. Students can apply financial aid and scholarships to approved international programs and, in some cases, financial aid eligibility will increase to cover additional expenses. When comparing the cost of programs abroad, be sure to look at the estimated costs of attending OSU for living and tuition. In many cases the cost of an international opportunity can be comparable or not much more than attending OSU, and the difference can be made up with scholarships or financial aid. The latest estimates for attending OSU can be found at: financialaid.oregonstate.edu/reviewcostofattendance

Will it take me longer to graduate if I go abroad?

With advance planning and prior approval from their advisor, students in Political Science can finish an undergraduate degree in four years including up to a year or more abroad. Review potential opportunities for an international experience from the list in this guide, and consult with your advisor as soon as possible to clarify which opportunities and timing will best fit your Political Science program.

STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO GO ABROAD MAY ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

• Students can apply for scholarships through the International Programs Office.
• Students who meet certain criteria such as studying specific languages or being from a small town in Oregon can apply for additional scholarships.
• All OSU students can apply to the OSU Research Office for URISC (Undergraduate

When should I go abroad?

- **Freshman Year**: Students should begin planning for a future study abroad or IE3 Internship. Summer after freshman year is the earliest time.
- **Sophomore Year:** Students can continue planning for a summer internship or junior year study abroad while completing Core requirements and taking courses in Political Science. Consult with your advisor to fine-tune your course schedule for junior and senior years to accommodate your international experience.
- **Sophomore/Junior Summer:** Students can study abroad or do an IE3 Global Internship by taking courses/internship that will satisfy Political Science major requirements or for elective credits.
- **Junior Year:** Students could do an international experience for a single term or a year. Complete as much of their major requirements as possible as a foundation for study abroad.
- **Junior/Senior Summer:** Students can study abroad or do an IE3 Global Internship.
- **Senior Year:** Students can study abroad or do an IE3 Global Internship and can easily go abroad for a single term or theyear, but it is important to confirm with your advisor. It is generally not a good idea to go abroad the last term of senior year
- **Senior Summer:** Some students choose to go abroad during their senior summer.

How do I select an international program?

• **Start planning now.** Begin to plan at least six months in advance of going abroad. Give yourself time to research programs and talk to advisors and students who have gone abroad to the site (s) you are interested in. It is never too early to start planning.

• **Set goals.** There is not one program best suited for all students. The best one for you depends on your specific needs and wants. If you plan to study abroad, one important consideration is whether you want to study a language, focus on your major, minor, electives, or Baccalaureate Core courses.

• **Prioritize your goals.** Consider your long-term academic and professional goals, as well as your on-campus degree requirements. Study abroad courses may count toward courses in your major, while internships give you upper-division credits and a valuable professional experience.

• **Prepare academically.** You may need to take language or other prerequisite courses for your chosen program. You should also talk to your academic advisor about the timing of when you take sequences or single-term courses related to progress in your major. IE3 Internships are open to juniors and seniors. Students can study abroad as sophomores.

What are my first and next steps?

IE3 GLOBAL INTERNSHIPS STEPS

1. View the online First Steps presentation: oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/

2. Research internships

• Check the list of IE3 Global Internship positions at the back of this brochure.

• Research IE3 Global Internships: international.oregonstate.edu/ea/students/international-internships/ie3-global-internships Use the descriptions to find out more about the internship site – type and size of organization, position requirements, length and timing, etc.

• Come up with a list of several internship options that look good to you.

3. Talk to an academic advisor in your department

• Make a plan for the timing of your internship, based on your program requirements and availability of your major courses.

4. Complete the pre-advising form by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and email with your availability or bring to your Peer Advising(peer-advising appointment) with an International Ambassador.

5. Meet with an education abroad advisor (to be scheduled following your Peer Advisingmeeting) at OSU GO to discuss questions, applications and other information about each program.

6. Application

• Fill out the OSU GO application by clicking the 'apply now' button on the OSU GO internship page.

• There is a second application found on IE3 Global's website specific to your internship

• Take note of application deadlines. (Deadlines for IE3 Global Internships are generally two terms prior to departure.

• Application deadlines can be found at website referred to in step two.

• Applications typically include recommendation forms, essays, a current resume and college transcripts.

• Plan to start your application one

"My time in Geneva allowed me to become confident that I was studying to work in a field I am passionate about. Spending four months surrounded by colleagues and professionals in International Relations sparked brand new inspiration for my research projects and my major as a whole. It showed me that there was a whole world of opportunity open to me if I looked for it. "

-Sydnie Teague (Second Row, First on the Right)
Geneva, Switzerland
SIT International Relations and Multilateral Diplomacy
Political Science

STUDY ABROAD STEPS

1. View the online First Steps presentation to learn the basics of education abroad: types of programs, credits, scholarships and financial aid. oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/

2. Check the list of study abroad options in this document, research programs you are interested in at the International Programs website: international.oregonstate.edu/osugo/programs/search and/or come to University Plaza for any questions to be answered by ambassadors.

3. Talk to an academic advisor in your department

• Make a plan for the timing of your study abroad, based on your program requirements and availability of your major courses.

4. Complete the pre-advising form by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and email with your availability or bring to your Peer Advising.

5. After you've attended a Peer Advising meeting, schedule an appointment with a study abroad advisor by calling 541-737-3006 or following your Peer Advising meeting with the help of an ambassador. The advisor can answer your questions regarding further site specific information and the application process.

6. Application

• Fill out the OSU GO application by clicking the 'apply now' button on the specific OSU GO program page.

• Complete all items on your dashboard

• Take note of application deadlines. Each program has a specific application deadline. Deadlines are typically six months before the start of the program. Application deadlines can be found on each program webpage.

• Plan to start your application one month before it is due.

• There is a second application required. This will be found on the program provider's website. Follow the link listed on the OSU GO program page.

7. Final Course Selection

• Research specific courses that would be offered at the foreign university during your time abroad. Find out what an average course load is for students at the foreign university.

• Fill out an Academic Planning form found at: international.oregonstate.edu/osugo/academic-resources/academic-planning-form and make an appointment with your Academic Advisor to discuss what you have come up with.

Finalize your course plan before you leave and keep in contact with your Academic Advisor if you have any questions while abroad.

DEFINITIONS: Program provider: Company providing international experiences to US college students [CIEE, IFSA-Butler, AHA, API, SIT, SFS, IE3-Global, SAS, SEA Semester]

OSU Exchange: OSU students take classes with host-country students; these can be more competitive, but allow Oregon-residents to pay in-state tuition while studying abroad

Direct Enrollment: OSU students enroll in university courses with host country students and pay host university tuition or program provider rates [OSU, IE3 Global, IFSA-Butler]

Departmental/Faculty-led: Program led or sponsored by OSU department

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES
Contact International Programs
541-737-3006 or study.abroad@oregonstate.edu

AUSTRALIA

University of Sydney

Renowned for its multicultural flavor, Sydney is without a doubt one of the most amazing cities in the world. The possibilities for education, culture, entertainment, and sports are nearly endless in this thriving metropolis. At its heart is a spectacular harbor, home to the famous sails of the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. When you're looking to unwind from the fast pace of Sydney, visit the Blue Mountains in the west or sample wines in the Hunter Valley to the north of Sydney, where some of Australia's best wines are made.
Available: Winter/Spring, Summer Fall, year-long

BRAZIL

Salvador da Bahia

Salvador da Bahia, located on the Atlantic coast in northeastern Brazil, has 2.1 million inhabitants. Due to the strong slave presence during the Colonial period, Salvador has a strong African influence, including religious and spiritual practices, cuisine, and ethnic dynamics. Today Salvador is a booming city and its historic and ethnic diversity can be noted in the city's architecture and layout: old parts of the city are next to modern complexes. The CIEE Study Center is located on a bustling square, 2 de Julho, located near Pelourinho, the historic center of the city.
Language: Portugese
Available: Fall, Winter/Spring, year-long

FRANCE

France, Lyon

For over twenty years, Oregon students have studied on this exchange program in the cosmopolitan city of Lyon. Nestled in the Rhône-Alps region of southeastern France, Lyon is the nation's third largest city. With a population exceeding one million and in close proximity to Switzerland and Italy, Lyon holds the status of a major European cultural, research, and trade center. Founded by the Romans over 2,000 years ago, Lyon is also known for being the center of the silk industry during the Renaissance and of the French Resistance in World War II. Experience the historic and contemporary vibrancy of a city filled with museums, theaters, monuments, and restaurants. Students enjoy the support of an experienced full-time Resident Director in the Centre Oregon in Lyon. Program options include French language study, Business program, Certification of French and European Studies, and Direct Enrollment in regular university classes with many options offering classes in English.
Language: English and French
Available: Winter/Spring, Summer/Fall, and year-long

MEXICO

Mexico, Querétaro

Querétaro, founded in 1531, is a vibrant and welcoming city with an extensive mixture of colonial and modern architecture. Located three hours NW of Mexico City, Querétaro is a UNESCO World Heritage site whose historic downtown (or centro) is notable for its colorful landscaped plazas, pedestrian walkways and beautifully restored colonial buildings. Close to the Centro is Mexico's tallest and longest aqueduct built in the early 1700s to bring drinking water into the city. Six major universities, modern international manufacturing plants, numerous museums and art galleries and many shopping centers also add to the special feel of life in Querétaro. Mexicans and foreigners alike often call the city of just over one million inhabitants "muy mexicana"

"I realized that each country has to take it's own unique steps towards development and, by working with the indigenous political party, I learned that cultural considerations are by far the most important."
Elijah Umek
Quito, Ecuador
SIT: Development, politics, and Language
Political Science

– and students quickly come to appreciate this cultural authenticity as they explore the city and the countryside beyond.
Language: Spanish
Available: Fall, Spring, Summer

NETHERLANDS

Netherland, Amsterdam

Amsterdam is full of life, day and night, with world-renowned museums, art galleries, music, opera, theater, and dance. It is truly international and multicultural city. Amsterdammers are easy-going and welcoming to foreigners, and English is the unofficial second language. With 750,000 inhabitants, Amsterdam offers the advantages of a cosmopolitan center with the most convenient means of transportation: in fact, bicycles outnumber the people in Amsterdam!
Available: Winter/Spring, Summer/Fall, and year-long

SPAIN

University of Salamanca

API students in Salamanca will study at the University of Salamanca. Founded in 1218, it is the oldest university in Spain. Acknowledged by Pope Alexander IV to be one of the four great universities in the world, it stands in the company of the universities of Bolgna, Oxford, and Paris. King Ferdinand consulted with leaders of the university for advice on supporting the exploration venture of Christopher Columbus. Students can choose from undergraduate programs in Spanish language and culture, Hispanic studies, or a Special Integrated Program that allows advanced level students to enroll directly in regular university classes with native Spanish students. Students can also pursue graduate programs in Spanish teaching. Semester, summer, year, and intensive two-week, three-week, and month-long terms are available for most programs.
Language: English and Spanish
Available: Fall, Winter/Spring, Winter, Spring, Summer/Fall, and year-long

UNITED KINGDOM

University of Lancaster-Exchange

The spectacular mountains of the Lake District form a beautiful backdrop for the University of Lancaster. The main location of the University is just on the southern outskirts of the city of Lancaster, and about three miles from the city center. A short walk eastward from the campus leads to open countryside and the rolling greens of England's backyard. The campus is set on 250 acres of landscaped area and on a clear day the outlook extends north to the Lakeland fells and west across Morecambe Bay. The historic city of Lancaster is just ten minutes by bus from the university. It is a friendly, bustling city which has all the amenities of a large city without having lost its charm and character. Lancaster is a modern city of about 50,000 people with a theatre, concerts, literary festivals, international restaurants, 54 pubs, and a warm, friendly atmosphere. The university is very much a part of the city of Lancaster.
Available: Fall, Winter/Spring, and year-long

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-John Smith, Country, Program major