Go Abroad in Plant Sciences
(Horticulture, Botany, and Crop & Soil Science Majors)

Majors in Plant Sciences are ideally suited for students who wish to study abroad!

Plant Sciences degree programs in Horticulture (HORT), Botany (BOT), and Crop & Soil Science (CSS) serve students wishing to become agricultural and science practitioners as well as educators, policy makers, and entrepreneurs. Including an international experience provides an opportunity to see them applied in a plant science system of interest to you while directly experiencing other cultures. The latter will help you acquire a competitive edge by developing skills needed to work effectively with an increasingly diverse U.S. population and a global market. Employers in plant-based business, non-profits, teaching and research, local, state, federal, and international agencies value the skills and experiences gained by students who go abroad. There is an international experience that works for every Plant Science student.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES CAN EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS...
and expand your knowledge of advances in Plant Sciences. By living the history and cultural traditions of another geographic region and its people, you will become a better local and world citizen. Study abroad provides you with opportunities to:

- Use your science-based professional skills by mastering discipline-specific technologies not covered at OSU
- Study and apply international sustainability theories and practices to enhance plant and living systems
- Gain personal living experiences in different societies with different agronomic and horticultural demands
- Improve your language skills
- Expand cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Globalize your world view, and prepare you to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace.

Robyn Shepard, a Horticulture major, studied abroad in Ecuador.
What types of international experiences are available?

**IE3 Global Internships:**
IE3 Global Internships provide Plant Sciences students with opportunities to earn academic credits and gain professional experience. Students can intern in areas as diverse as viticulture, organic foods, turf management, and plant biology. English-language Plant Sciences internships are currently available in a number of countries. Check this packet or the website for further details. [ie3global.ous.edu](http://ie3global.ous.edu)

**Study abroad:**
Plant Sciences majors (HORT, BOT, CSS) can study abroad in a variety of institutional, cultural and environmental settings. Many quarter, semester, or year-long study abroad experiences offer courses that will enrich your educational experience and may count toward your Plant Sciences degree. Over a dozen countries offer Plant Sciences courses in English and many other locations are available if you are fluent in another language. Students can also choose to focus on improving a foreign language or do an intensive field-based program.

**International Degree:**
Plant Sciences majors (HORT, BOT, CSS) planning to study a foreign language 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 HORT, BOT, or CSS 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 Plant Sciences major by completing a research project. International Degree students can also get special funding for research. For International Degree information, contact the International Degree Head Advisor at [International.Degree@oregonstate.edu](mailto: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, 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.

When comparing the cost of programs abroad, be sure to look at the costs of attending OSU for living and tuition. The estimates for attending OSU can be found at [http://oregonstate.edu/financialaid/cost-attendance](http://oregonstate.edu/financialaid/cost-attendance). The cost of going abroad can be comparable, and the difference can be made up with scholarships or financial aid.

**Scholarships for going abroad**

- All students who participate in education abroad programs recognized by OSU can apply for scholarships through the Office of Global Opportunities ($500-$2,500). Students who meet certain criteria such as studying specific languages or being from a small town in Oregon can apply for additional scholarships. More information about these scholarships can be found at [http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/finances](http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/finances).

- All OSU Plant Sciences students can apply to the OSU Research Office for URISC (Undergraduate Research, Innovation, Scholarship, & Creativity) grants to support their undergraduate research abroad ($1,000 for 1 term; $1,800 for 2 terms; and $2,300 for the full academic year). See the URISC Website [oregonstate.edu/research/incentive/urisc.htm](http://oregonstate.edu/research/incentive/urisc.htm) for details.

- International Degree students in Plant Sciences can seek additional funding through the Office of International Education and Outreach ($1,000-$2,000) for their experience abroad. More information about these scholarships can be found at [http://international.oregonstate.edu/osugo/finances-scholarships](http://international.oregonstate.edu/osugo/finances-scholarships).

- All OSU Plant Sciences students can apply for numerous national awards that offer bigger scholarships typically $1,500 - $5,000. These scholarships are competitive and often have early deadlines so planning ahead is essential. Contact the Office of Global Opportunities in International Programs for more information.
When should I go abroad?

- **Freshman Year**: Students should begin planning for a future Study Abroad or IE3 Global Internship while taking foundational biology, chemistry, and plant sciences courses and Baccalaureate Core courses.

- **Sophomore Year**: Students continue planning for a summer IE3 Global Internship or junior year Study Abroad while completing major requirements and confirming their degree option. 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, taking courses that will satisfy Specialty Option course requirements or elective credits, or do an IE3 Global Internship for elective credits.

- **Junior Year**: Students can do an international experience for single term or a year. Students participating in a semester abroad should do so in the fall, so that they return to OSU in time for winter and spring terms. If students plan to go abroad during the coming summer or senior year, upper-division courses to fulfill the Breadth Requirement should be taken during junior year.

- **Junior/Senior Summer**: Students can participate in Study Abroad or do an IE3 Global Internship.

- **Senior Year**: Students can participate in Study Abroad or do an IE3 Global Internship. In general, it is 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. In particular, students have done an IE3 Global Internship to cap off their undergraduate career. Students can still walk in June as long as they plan to complete their coursework for graduation by the end of fall quarter.

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How will going abroad count toward my major? Will it take me longer to graduate if I go abroad?

With advance planning and prior approval from their advisor, students in Plant Sciences can finish an undergraduate degree in four years while including a Study Abroad experience. This is possible if you complete OSU required courses during your international experience. 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 Plant Sciences graduation plan.

Students graduating from OSU must complete 180 credits divided into the Baccalaureate Core curriculum, major degree requirements and course electives.

The BOT major includes approximately 130 credits, including foundational plant sciences courses taken by all BOT majors, plus specialization in one of three options: Ecology, Evolution and Conservation; Molecular, Cellular and Genomic; or Plant Pathology.

The HORT Major, with specialization, includes approximately 160-170 credits, with a core of Horticulture, Botany, Entomology and Soil courses taken by all students. The specializations within the Horticulture Major are Ecological & Sustainable Horticultural Production; Ecological Landscape and Urban Forestry; Horticultural Research; Plant Breeding & Genetics; Therapeutic Horticulture; Turf Management; and Viticulture/Enology.

The CSS Major, with specialization, includes approximately 150-160 credits, with a core of Crop, Botany, Entomology and Soil courses taken by all students. The specializations within the CSS Major are Agronomy; Soil Science; and Plant Breeding & Genetics.
International experiences may count toward your Plant Sciences degree in the following ways:

- Students who do an IE3 Global Internship can use the internship credits to count as part of the electives required to meet the 180 credits for graduation.
- Students who study abroad can take courses that fit their Plant Sciences major or option requirements, or they can take a foreign language or other elective credits to meet the 180 credits needed for graduation.
- International Degree requirements can be used to meet credit requirements needed for both degrees.

How do I select an international program?

Consider your academic interests and goals. You will need to work with your Plant Sciences academic advisor and the staff in the Office of Global Opportunities to help you identify the program that is right for you. The following steps should help:

- Start planning and research now. Begin to implement your plan at least six to nine 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) in which you are interested.
- Set and prioritize goals. There are many good study abroad programs and international internships for Plant Sciences students -- the best one for you depends on what you want. Consider your long-term academic and professional goals, as well as your degree requirements. Some important considerations in picking a program are:
  - If you want to focus on just a language, then you should talk to the Office of Global Opportunities.
  - If you are looking for a Plant Sciences experience in English or other languages, start with this brochure.
  - If you want a professional or hands on experience, then an IE3 Global Internship or field based programs may be better for you.

“I honestly had such a wonderful time, which is why I decided to stay the entire year. I felt so at home there, made life long connections and instantly fell in love with the country.”
- Emily Martin, New Zealand, Horticulture

To see what internships are currently available, see [http://ie3global.org/](http://ie3global.org/)

- Study abroad courses can count toward courses in your major, while internships or field based programs give you elective credits that count toward the 180 required for graduation, and provide a valuable professional experience.
- Prepare academically. You may need to take language or other prerequisite courses for your chosen program. Talk to your advisor about the timing of sequences or single-term courses related to your major. While IE3 Global Internships are open only to juniors and seniors, students can study abroad as sophomores, juniors, or seniors.
What are my first and next steps to go abroad?

IE3 GLOBAL INTERNSHIPS STEPS

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

2. Research internships
   • Check the list of IE3 Global Internship positions at the back of this brochure.
   • Research the IE3 Global Internships website: http://ie3global.org/ 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 sheet by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and bring to your Pre-advising meeting with an International Ambassador.

5. Meet with an education abroad advisor (to be scheduled following your Pre-advising meeting) in the OSU GO office located at University Plaza Suite 290, to discuss questions about each program.

6. Fill out the OSU GO application, found at: international.oregonstate.edu/ea/students/apply

7. Application
   • Take note of application deadlines. Deadlines for IE3 Global Internships are generally two terms prior to departure. Application deadlines can be found at: http://ie3global.org/ Applications typically include recommendation forms, essays, a current resume and college transcripts. Plan to start your application one month before it is due.

Mary Anne Morey, Horticulture major, studying abroad in Lyon, France.
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. https://courses.ecampus.oregonstate.edu/idea/fs/
2. Check the list of study abroad options in this document, research programs you are interested in at the International Programs website: oregonstate.edu/international/ 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 sheet by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and bring to your Pre-advising meeting in University Plaza (call for availability)
5. After you’ve attended a Pre-advising meeting, schedule an appointment with an advisor in the International Programs Office by calling 541-737-3006 or following your Pre-advising meeting with the help of an ambassador. The advisor can answer your questions regarding further site specific information, financial aid and scholarships, and the application process.
6. Application
   • Fill out the OSU GO application by clicking ‘apply now’ on your program’s OSU page.
   • 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.
   • To apply for your program, follow the application link listed on the program page on the OSU study abroad website. Follow the instructions outlined on the Mandatory Application Checklist for your chosen study abroad program in order to ensure that you complete all parts of the application.
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.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES
Contact International Programs
541-737-3006 or intl.ambassador@oregonstate.edu

HORTICULTURE

Australia
OSU: Australia, Charles Sturt University
Exchange Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Canada
OSU: Canada, Vancouver, University of British Columbia Available: summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Chile
OSU: Chile, Chillán (Agricultural and Natural Resources in Chile) Available: winter term
Language requirement: completion of SPAN 113 or equivalent

Ireland
IFSA-Butler: Ireland, University College Dublin Available: fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.
New Zealand
OSU: New Zealand, Lincoln University Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none. Contact: Paul.Dorres@oregonstate.edu

BOTANY
Australia
OUS: Australia, James Cook University Exchange Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.


Canada
OSU: Canada, Vancouver, University of British Columbia Available: summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Ireland
IFSA-Butler: Ireland, National University of Ireland, Galway Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, summer, or year-long. Language requirement: none.


IFSA-Butler: Ireland, University College Dublin Available: fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Madagascar
SIT: Madagascar (Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management) Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, Language requirement: Three recent semesters of college-level French or equivalent

New Zealand
IFSA-Butler: New Zealand, University of Otago Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Peru
SFS: Peru (Biodiversity and Development in the Amazon) Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, Language requirement: none.

South Africa
CIEE: South Africa, University of Cape Town Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, fall term, summer or year-long. Language requirement: none.

Sweden

CROP & SOIL SCIENCE
OSU: Canada, Vancouver, University of British Columbia Available: summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none.

OSU: New Zealand, Lincoln University Available: Summer-fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language requirement: none. Contact: Paul.Dorres@oregonstate.edu
CAMBODIA

The Trailblazer Foundation

CHILE

CODEFF - Comité Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora – Concepcion
Language Requirement: Beginning-intermediate Spanish skills. Available: Any term. Duration: 3-6 months

CHINA

Abroad China - Beijing, Shanghai
Language Requirement: One to two years of college level Mandarin Chinese coursework is recommended. Available: start of term Duration: 10-36 weeks.

The Schoolhouse at Mutianyu (Eco-lodge and Restaurant) - Mutianyu (near Beijing)
Language Requirement: Chinese language skill dependent on position. Available: Spring, Summer, Fall. Duration: 3-6 months

COSTA RICA

Organization for Tropical Studies: Las Cruces Biological Reserve and Wilson Botanical Garden - San Vito, Coto Brus

CZECH REPUBLIC

Molecular and Cellular Biology Research at Charles University – Prague
Language Requirement: English. Available: start of term Duration: 10 weeks minimum

ECUADOR

Fundacion Jatun Sacha
Language Requirement: Beginning-intermediate Spanish skills. Available: start of term Duration: 10-12 weeks minimum

Jatun Sacha - Galapagos
Language Requirement: Beginning-intermediate Spanish skills. Available: start of term Duration: 10-12 weeks minimum

Guatemala

Planet Drum - Bahía de Caráquez, Manabí
Language Requirement: Beginning-intermediate Spanish skills. Available: start of term Duration: 10 weeks minimum

GABON

Gabon Biodiversity Program, Smithsonian Institution – Gamba
Language Requirement: Second year of university-level French or equivalent. Available: start of term Duration: 3 months

GUATEMALA

Long Way Home (LWH) - Chimiyá, San Juan Comalapa
Language Requirement: Beginning-advanced Spanish skills. Available: start of term Duration: 10 weeks
INDIA

**VANASTREE - the Malnad Forest Garden and Seedkeepers' Collective** - Karkolli Village, near Sirsi
Language Requirement: none Available: Fall, Winter, and Spring terms Duration: 3-6 months

IRELAND

**Jampa Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre**
Language Requirement: English. Available: Gardening: April/June; Culinary: Any Term Duration: 3-4 months

MONGOLIA

**Asral NGO Mongolia** - Gachuurt, near Ulaanbatar
Language Requirement: none. Available: April to end of September Duration: 3-6 months

NEW ZEALAND

**The New Zealand Department of Conservation**
Language Requirement: none Available: October - March Duration: 10 weeks minimum

PANAMA

**Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute**
Language Requirement: some Spanish recommended. Available: start of term Duration: 10 weeks minimum

SOUTH AFRICA

**Cape Town Wineries**


SPAIN

**Neiker-Tecnalia - Basque Institute for Agricultural Research and Development** - Bizkaia, Bilbao area

TAIWAN

**Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (TFRI) – Taipei**
Language Requirement: Basic Chinese language recommended. Available: start Jan, Apr, or Sep. Duration: 3-6 months

UGANDA

**PROMETRA Uganda** – Kampala
Language Requirement: English. Available: start of term. Duration: 3-6 months