Go Abroad in Liberal Studies

The Liberal Studies degree is ideally suited for students who wish to study abroad!

The Liberal Studies major allows students to design their own interdisciplinary plan of study. Students work with advisors to create a thematic course of study using combinations from the classes offered by the College of Liberal Arts. Liberal Studies students draw from coursework in anthropology, art, economics, English (including writing), ethnic studies, foreign languages & literatures, history, music, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, speech communication, theatre arts, women studies and study abroad. In some cases, a pre-structured programs such as Asian Studies, Chinese Studies, European Studies, Japanese Studies, and New Media Communications, may best meet student learning goals. Coursework from education abroad can be easily incorporated into any plan of study. Education abroad can provide you with an opportunity to directly experience other cultures and communities different from those here in Oregon. It can also help you acquire necessary skills to work effectively within an increasingly diverse U.S. population and a global marketplace. Employers in academia, non-profits, industry, and federal agencies value the skills and experiences gained by students who go abroad. There is an international experience that will work for every Liberal Studies student.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES CAN EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS...
and increase your understanding of the history, traditions, and culture of people in another geographic region. Education abroad may enhance your ability to:

• Consider your own Liberal Studies theme from a broader perspective
• Investigate and experience different cultural, social, and economic groups
• Learn approaches and processes that may differ from your own

"Studying abroad opened a whole new world to me; one full of different experiences like traveling, being immersed in a different culture, and learning a new language - all things I never would have experienced without my time abroad. I learned so much about myself and grew as a person and can now say that I am prepared to be a part of the global community."

– Katrina Machorro, Spain
Go Abroad in Liberal Studies

What types of international experiences are available?

IE3 Global Internships:
IE3 Global Internships provide Liberal Studies students with opportunities to gain credit and professional experience in areas such as Anthropology, Arts and Culture, Business and Trade, Environment, Government, Health and Social Services, International Studies and Political Science, Life Sciences, Management, Medicine, NGOs and Development, Tourism and Hospitality, and many others. English-language internships are currently available in twenty countries, including non-English speaking countries such as Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Ireland, Kenya, South Africa, Taiwan and Thailand.

International Degree:
Students planning to study a foreign language while in Liberal Studies 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 Liberal Studies 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 Liberal Studies major by completing a research project, and International Degree students are eligible for special 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 Liberal Studies degree. Over a dozen countries offer courses appropriate for the Liberal Studies 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.

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 oregonstate.edu/admin/finaid/COA.html. The cost of going abroad can be comparable in many cases, 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 International Degree and Education Abroad Office ($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 oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/students/finances/scholarships.
• All OSU Liberal Studies 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 http://oregonstate.edu/research/incentive/urisc.htm for details.
• International Degree students in Liberal Studies can seek additional funding through the International Degree and Education Abroad Office ($1,000-$2,000) for their experience abroad. More information about these scholarships can be found at oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/students/finances/scholarships.
• All OSU Liberal Studies students can apply for numerous national awards that offer bigger scholarships ($3,000-$20,000). These scholarships are competitive and often have early deadlines so planning ahead is essential. Contact the International Degree and Education Abroad Office in International Programs for more information.

How will going abroad coursework count toward a major? Do students take longer to graduate if they go abroad?

With advance planning and prior approval from their advisor, students in Liberal Studies 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 Liberal Studies program.

Students must complete 180 credits and all of their degree requirements to graduate from OSU. The Liberal Studies program consists of 45-60 credits organized around a theme. The degree includes at least 27 upper-division credits

Go Abroad in Liberal Studies

- Gain new professional skills
- Improve your language skills
- Expand cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Globalize your worldview and prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace.
and is developed from the course offerings of at least two departments within the College of Liberal Arts. The program of study must be approved in advance by the Liberal Studies Director. Students must satisfy the University Baccalaureate Core and the College of Liberal Arts Core Requirements as well. At least one Writing Intensive Course (WIC) must be completed with a grade of C or better.

- Students who do an IE3 Global Internship can use the internship credits to count as part of the electives to meet the 180 credits for graduation.
- Students who study abroad can take courses that fit their Specialty Option, 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 the 180 credits needed for graduation.

**How do I select an international program?**

Consider your academic interests and goals. You will need to work with your Liberal Studies academic advisor and the staff in the International Degree and Education Abroad office to help you identify the program that is right for you. The following steps should help:

- Start planning and research now. Begin to plan at least six to nine months in advance of going abroad. Give yourself time to research programs and talk to advisers and students who have gone abroad to the site(s) you are interested in.
- Set and prioritize goals. There is not one program best suited for Liberal Studies students -- there are many good study abroad programs and international internships -- 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 International Degree and Education Abroad Office.
  - If you are looking for Liberal Studies appropriate coursework 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. To see what internships are currently available, see http://ie3global.ous.edu.
  - Study abroad courses may count toward courses in your major, while internships or field based programs can also 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. IE3 Global Internships are open to juniors and seniors, while students can study abroad as sophomores, juniors, or seniors.

**Study abroad First Steps**

1. Research programs
   - Check the list of study abroad options in this document.
   - Research programs you are interested in at the International Education Website: http://oregonstate.edu

**When should I do an international experience?**

**YEAR OR TERM CONSIDERATIONS**

- **Freshman Year:** Students should be planning for a future study abroad or IE3 Global Internship while taking Baccalaureate Core courses.
- **Sophomore Year:** Students can continue planning for a summer internship or junior year study abroad while completing Core requirements and taking lower division courses in their Liberal Studies Plan. Students usually take a few upper division courses this year. 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 Liberal Studies major requirements or for elective credits.
- **Junior Year:** Students could do an international experience for single term or a year. If students plan to go abroad during the coming summer or senior year, they should 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 the year, 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. In particular, students have done an IE3 Global Internship to cap off their undergraduate career. Students can still walk in the Spring as long as they complete their coursework for graduation over the summer.
international/ and/or the Study Abroad Resource Center – 4th Floor Snell Hall. Attend a First Steps meeting on the 4th floor of Snell hall offered M-F at noon and 4pm. Use these resources to find out when the program is offered (summer only, every term and semester), the program setting (size of city, size of university, surrounding area and travel opportunities) and what courses are offered.

2. After you’ve attended a First Steps meeting schedule an appointment with an advisor in the International Degree and Education Abroad Office.
   • Schedule an appointment by calling 737-3006
   • The advisor can answer your questions regarding further site specific information, financial aid and scholarships, and the application process.

3. Talk to your academic advisor about course options while studying abroad.
   • Use your Liberal Studies plan of study to identify the courses you have left in your degree and what you should take next. Look over the courses at the school you plan to attend for ideas of what you could take that would compliment your plan.
   • Think about coursework that will work if you go abroad for a year versus a term.
   • Make an appointment with your advisor or add time to an existing advisor appointment by emailing Student Services at: Liberalarts@oregonstate.edu

4. Application
   • Take note of application deadlines. Each program has a specific application deadline. Deadlines are typically six months before the start of the program. Application checklists can be found at oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/apply
   • Applications typically include recommendation forms, essays, college transcripts, and resume for IE3 internships. Plan to start your application one month before it is due.
   • IDEA online application can be completed at: studyabroad.oregonstate.edu/apply/

5. 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.
   • Make a proposal to your academic advisor of what courses you would like to take and how you believe they should count toward your degree by filling out the IDEA Academic Planning Form.

To do this, you will need to:
   • Provide your advisor with the course description for each course. For courses that are listed online, you should email your advisor the website for each description.
   • Some courses may not fit into your schedule or may not be available so it is good to discuss a few back up courses as well.

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

IE3 Global Internship first Steps

1. Research internships
   • Check the list of IE3 Global Internship positions at the back of this brochure.
   • Research the IE3 Global Internships website ie3global.ous.edu. All current position descriptions can be found on the website. Use the descriptions to find out more about the internship site – type and size of organization, position requirements, length and timing of internships, etc.
   • Select a list of several internship options that look good to you.

2. Meet with the IE3 Global Internship Advisor in the International Degree and Education Abroad Office
   • 4th Floor Snell Hall, 737-3006 to discuss questions, applications and other information about each program.

3. Talk to an academic advisor
   • Make a plan for the timing of your internship, based on your program requirements and availability of NES courses. Talk your plan over with your advisor.

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

“By spending time abroad and studying an international topic in-depth, you will show yourself and the world that you have what it takes to not only survive, but thrive in a variety of locations. It’s an experience that cannot simply be taught in a classroom, and that dedication to bettering yourself will show through in your future endeavors.”

—Dylan Long, Tunisia
International Opportunities for Liberal Studies Majors

TYPES OF OPPORTUNITIES

IE3 Global Internships:
IE3 Global Internships facilitates international internships around the world, in fields such as ecological restoration, environmental education, biological conservation monitoring, and sustainable development. Many of these internships are available during the summer. During IE3 Internships, students earn 12 internship credits per term which typically may be counted as elective credits in a Liberal Studies degree program. Students can generally do an IE3 Internship starting in their junior year, and most financial aid and scholarships can be used.

Study abroad:
Students can choose a study abroad program that is focused on their requirements and interests:
• Explore the historic, political, environmental or social elements of your Liberal Studies theme.
• Study art, literature, music, and other cultural elements through coursework at an overseas university. Students can take liberal arts courses in English at universities around the world. Students who achieve a high enough proficiency in another language can toward their Liberal Studies degree in several other countries.
• Study a language abroad. Students can elect to take intensive programs, which cover a year or more of a foreign language a term. Contact the Office of International Degree and Education Abroad for more information. This is an effective way to meet foreign language requirements.

SAMPLE STUDY ABROAD AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS:
It is impossible to recommend particular programs for Liberal Studies students as a group, given how varied are their combinations of programs of study. The following, therefore, are not recommendations but simply illustrations of the sorts of things you can do depending on your interests and learning goals. Also, consult other Curriculum Integration of Education Abroad major advising sheets that may exist for any of your individual programs of study.

Want to work on your language study?
The following programs allow you to begin language study abroad:
• French: Grenoble
• Spanish: Salamanca
• Spanish: Buenos Aires
• Italian: Siena
• Italian: Macerata
• Arabic: Morocco (summer only)
• Arabic: Jordan (summer only)
• French: Angers
• Russian: Moscow
• Spanish: Argentina, Rosario
• Japanese: Japan, Akita

• Chinese: Beijing
• Korean: S. Korea
• Spanish: Costa Rica
• German: Berlin (summer only)

Programs that require two terms or one year of language study:
• German: Tuebingen, spring intensive program (2 terms)
• Spanish: Spain, Santander
• Arabic: Tunisia
• Spanish: Chile
• Spanish: Ecuador

SEEKING IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE ABOUT A PARTICULAR PLACE?
Area studies programs permit you to study the host country from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. You may be interested, for example, in the country’s history, politics, economy, art, and literature. If the language of the country is not English, area studies programs always include language instruction as well, usually required.

Programs taught in English
Area studies programs are available in the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Cambodia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Netherlands, Poland, Senegal, United Kingdom, Vietnam.

Programs taught in another language
Area studies programs are available in Arabic (Tunisia), French (France, Tunisia), German (Austria, Germany), Italian (Italy), Portuguese (Portugal, Brazil), and Spanish (Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Spain).

SEEKING TO STUDY AT A UNIVERSITY ABROAD?
Universities requiring strong language skills
If you are advanced in another language, you can practice and improve your skills while studying alongside host-country students in regular courses at a university. Be aware that such study abroad requires stronger proficiency than center-based programs taught in the host language; instructors in the latter usually adjust their speed and vocabulary to fit the non-native audience. Oregon State University’s education abroad partnerships permit opportunities in many different languages, including Chinese, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Swedish, and Thai. The following are the countries where integrated university study opportunities are available in the languages most commonly studied at Oregon State University to a sufficient proficiency level:
• French: Belgium, France, Senegal
• German: Germany
• Italian: Italy
• Portuguese: Brazil, Portugal
• Spanish: Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Spain
English-speaking universities
Oregon State University has arrangements with English-speaking universities in many countries, including some where the national language is not English: Australia, Canada, China (Hong Kong), Ghana, India, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, South Korea, Tanzania, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

Non-English-speaking universities offering courses in English
Many universities where the predominant language of instruction is not English offer significant numbers of courses in English. This is becoming especially common in Europe because of the European Union’s commitment to increasing intra-EU exchange. A substantial curriculum in English is available at one or more universities in the following countries: Belgium, Brazil, Finland, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand.

WANT TO STUDY BUSINESS?
Many Liberal Studies students include a business component in their degree programs. A large number of programs permit business study abroad. In addition to many integrated study options at host universities, the following programs have a specific business focus:

Center-based programs
All of the following special programs in business and/or economics are taught in English:
• Brazil: Business and Society program
• Bulgaria: American University of Bulgaria
• Denmark: Copenhagen Business School
• Italy: Lorenzo d’ Medici
• Japan: Akita University
• Japan: Sophia University
• South Korea: Yonsei University
• Spain: Barcelona (Business & Culture)
• Turkey: Koç University

Business exchanges
OSU’s College of Business offers exchanges that permit you to study business in English alongside host-country students in the following countries: Austria, Norway, Australia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand.

WANT TO TURN YOUR WORLDWIDE UPSIDE DOWN?
School for International Training (SIT)
Each SIT program focuses on a particular theme. Each combines classroom study, field study, and independent research. The following are samples:
• SIT Mongolia- Nomadic Culture & Globalization
• SIT India- Sustainable Development and Social Change
• SIT India- National Identity and the Arts
• SIT Madagascar- Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management
• SIT Nicaragua- Revolution, Transformation, and Civil Society
• SIT Oman- Political Culture and Development
• SIT Netherlands- International Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender
• SIT Nepal- Tibetan and Himalayas Peoples

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)
Although CIEE offers mostly classroom-based options, two programs are field-based and focused on social issues:
• Thailand: Development & Globalization
• Thailand: Community Public Health

Programs offering service-learning
• CIEE Ghana- Accra
• CIEE South Africa Service- Learning
• CIEE Dominican Republic- Santiago

INTERESTED IN AN INTERNSHIP?
IE3 Global Internships offers internships including: Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Chile, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Norway, Senegal, Spain, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. In addition, students sometimes negotiate directed study with an Oregon State faculty member for academic work integrated with an individually arranged internship outside the auspices of an established program.

DON’T HAVE MUCH TIME?
Short-term programs (6 weeks or less)
Every year the Oregon State University offers a number of short-term programs. Led by University faculty, most are scheduled for summer session but an occasional one may also be offered for winter break or spring break. Topics and locations include Sustainability and Civilization in Iceland, Design in Europe, Forestry in Scandinavia, Spanish language study in Costa Rica, The Fragile Continent in Antarctica and in Fiji: Humans and the Environment – and much more.

To explore these and other programs please visit the International Programs website at: oregonstate.edu/international