

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Study Abroad Curriculum Integration

International Education for Undergraduates

Researching Matches

- I. **Become familiar with academic unit and curriculum.** Use assessing process to obtain a 4-year plan and identify optimum timing and learning outcome opportunities.

- II. **Baseline Research**
 - Liaison and research person meet to refine roles
 - In some cases, broad requests are made to program providers asking them to identify outstanding curricular matches, and their responses are used as baseline information.
 - In other cases, these broad requests are seen as an onerous burden to our partners, and we rely more on our own research skills.
 - Resources which must be used to collect additional information include:
 - Self
 - Advising/Project Staff
 - Co-sponsored materials
 - Programers
 - Ideas from the academic unit and faculty

Other resources:

- Web
- Google
- Country lists and ratings
- Thuy – searching by curriculum – did someone create a list?

What to look for:

- Keep in mind departmentally defined learning outcomes/goals
- Curricular matches
- Language
- Location
- Length
- Cost
- Internship/field studies/research
- Varied student developmental levels

Keep in mind opportunities and challenges related to study abroad in the academic unit:

- Enrollment issues
- Gaps in curriculum or over-enrollment in certain classes
- Faculty workload
- Short term program enrollment, faculty involvement
- 80% rule (80% of the curricular content should be the same for direct equivalency.)

- III. **What does the academic unit want to review from the research?**
- Institutional description or program description
 - Department description
 - List of courses
 - Syllabi
- IV. **After initial academic unit review:**
- Weed
 - Refine
 - Contact co-sponsors and programmers as needed to limit or enhance scope and to check access and quality.
- V. **Presentation of material**
- Index of all programs
 - Half-sheet form for each description (or some other mechanism to record course and program decision)
 - College or university or program description
 - Department or location (IES Berlin)
 - Curriculum/faculty (level of education)
 - Courses, internships, example syllabi or website for faculty to look up themselves