STUDY ABROAD

LEARNING ABROAD CENTER
University of Minnesota
**Top 5 Destinations 2023–2024**

1. Spain
2. United Kingdom
3. France
4. Italy
5. South Korea
Where Did Gophers Go 2023–2024?

- **5%** Africa & the Middle East
- **8%** Americas
- **17%** Asia & Oceania
- **70%** Europe
Scholarship Tips

Did you know that when you apply early for scholarships, invest time in your application essays, and apply to multiple scholarships, you increase your odds?

Hey, Sidney. Alex, we gotta talk about study abroad scholarships...

So when do I apply—after I'm accepted to a program?

Actually, it's way before that...

Scholarship deadlines often happen before program deadlines, so apply as soon as you pick a program.

You're saying I can apply for a scholarship before I apply to my program?

Absolutely, yeah—that's exactly it.

And is applying even worth it? I don't have high financial need and my GPA is just uh...meh. It's OK.

All scholarships are competitive but most are essay-based, so your GPA and level of financial need don't determine whether you're awarded. It's the quality of your essay that matters.

So spend time on your essays and apply early for your best shot at a scholarship.
There was just so much support all around, and I really felt like I was doing well. It helped me realize who I am, and experiencing different cultures was very fascinating for sure. I learned I can be independent and do more than I think.”

Sophomore
Sports management major
Choose Your Study Abroad Program

There is no one or best way to choose a program, but here are some aspects to consider.

**STEPS TO TAKE**

1. Determine your goals. Consider your academic focus, geographic interests, learning style, personal identity, and career path.
2. Decide how long you want to study abroad. Programs range from ten days to a full academic year.
3. Search for a program. [UMabroad.umn.edu/programs](UMabroad.umn.edu/programs)

**PROGRAM MODEL**

- **Study Abroad Center**
  Offers customized classes and internships taken with other US study abroad students designed for UofM students studying abroad

- **Instructor-Led**
  Led by UofM faculty or staff; includes Global Seminars, Freshman Seminars Abroad, and programs offered by UofM colleges, departments, and units

- **Host-University Study**
  Allows integration into classes with students from the host country

- **Experiential Learning**
  Features structured academics outside of the classroom, including field research or experiential assignments

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**Sophia on Minnesota Studies in International Development—Senegal**

“I got to observe some English classes, and it really impacted what I want to do in the future. I’ve decided I’m going to apply for some English teaching programs in a couple other countries.”

**Senior**
Global studies and linguistics majors

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UMabroad.umn.edu
“A really cool aspect of my coursework, especially in my political science course, was getting an outside-of-the-US perspective. The professor was from New Zealand and the students were mainly from New Zealand. It’s such a different perspective on the world when you’re taking classes with local students.”

**Joey**
Political science and philosophy majors

**Study Abroad by the Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>180</th>
<th>2,000+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average years to graduation for a UMTC student who studies abroad</td>
<td>Number of programs in 50 countries</td>
<td>Study abroad courses approved for UofM liberal education requirements</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1,941</th>
<th>1,038</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UofM students who went abroad in 2023–24</td>
<td>UofM students who met one on one with a Learning Abroad Center adviser</td>
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</table>
You Can Study Abroad with Any Major

The list below represents Major Advising Pages (MAPs) we have created with partners in each department.

You can find an experience that will add value to your major and minor, fit your academic program, and accelerate your career and professional goals. Your academic adviser can help you determine the best programs and times for you to study abroad. Even if your major is not listed, you can still study abroad.

**CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**
- Business

**COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**
- Biological Sciences Coursework Abroad
- CBS Pre-Health Students
- Marine Biology Minor
- Research/Fieldwork Abroad
- Construction Management
- Health and Wellbeing Sciences
- Health Services Management
- Individualized Degree Programs

**COLLEGE OF DESIGN**
- Apparel Design
- Architecture—BDA
- Architecture—BS
- Graphic Design
- Interior Design
- Landscape Architecture
- Product Design
- Retail Merchandising

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**
- Business and Marketing Education
- Early Childhood Education Foundations
- Elementary Education Foundations
- Family Social Science
- Human Resource Development
- Kinesiology
- Special Education
- Sport Management
- Youth Studies

**COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, & NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES**
- Agricultural and Food Business Management
- Agricultural Communications and Marketing
- Agricultural Education
- Animal Science
- Applied Economics
- Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management
- Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology
- Food Science
- Food Systems
- Forest and Natural Resource Management
- Nutrition
- Plant Science
- Pre-Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering
- Sustainable Systems Management
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
African American and African Studies
American Indian Studies
American Studies
Anthropology
Art
Art History
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Concentration: Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Middle Eastern Studies
Biology, Society, and Environment
Chicano-Latino Studies
Classical and Near Eastern Religions and Cultures
Communication Studies
Computer Science
Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature and Studies in Cinema and Media Culture
Dance
Developmental Psychology
Economics
English
French
Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies
Geography
German, Nordic, Slavic, and Dutch
Global Studies
History
Individualized Degree Programs
Italian Studies
Jewish Studies
Music
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology General
Sociology of Law, Criminology, and Justice
Spanish and Portuguese
Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
Statistical Practice/Science
Strategic Communication, Journalism, and Mass Communication
Technical Writing and Communication
Theatre Arts
Urban Studies

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
Science and Engineering
SCHOOL OF NURSING
Nursing
ADVISING RESOURCES FOR SPECIFIC COHORTS
Honors Students
Leadership Minor Students
Student-Athletes
Students Exploring Majors
INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Sustainability Studies Minor
PRE-PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ABROAD ADVISING RESOURCES
Pre-Health Sciences
Pre-Law
THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING
Community-Engaged Scholars Program

You Can Earn Academic Credits
Our study abroad programs can help you progress toward graduation.

LIBERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
Visit the U-Credit database to browse the many courses that have already been pre-approved for liberal education requirements. You can also submit any course not yet evaluated for approval online.

MAJOR/MINOR REQUIREMENTS
Work with your academic adviser while deciding on a program to discuss whether your courses would be approved for major/minor requirements.

CREDIT-BEARING INTERNSHIPS
International internships allow you to gain professional experience in your field while earning academic credit. Many of our programs offer internships.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
Study abroad does not require foreign language proficiency.
However, you can complete second language requirements abroad. Intensive language programs are designed to provide more credit and/or accelerated language learning at beginning and intermediate levels. Advanced language programs help you refine and perfect your language skills, as well as potentially allow you to take content courses taught in the host country language.
You Can Afford to Study Abroad

Study abroad can be affordable, especially when you compare program costs and consider financial aid and scholarships.

COST COMPARISONS
Program cost varies widely depending on the program type, length, and destination. While going abroad does cost more than staying on campus, the Learning Abroad Center offers a number of programs where the cost difference is less than $2,000. For a sample cost comparison, see the chart on page 11.

PROGRAM FEES
Program fees vary—but typically include tuition, fees, insurance, housing, and some meals. To help calculate your costs, visit the Learning Abroad Center or use our cost of participation sheets and cost breakdowns:

UMabroad.umn.edu/students/finances

FINANCIAL AID
You can apply most of your regular financial aid—federal, state, and university, as well as private loans, grants, and scholarships—to the cost of studying abroad. Your financial aid award will depend on the cost of your program and your eligibility.

FINANCIAL AID PREVIEW MEETING
A financial aid counselor can help you review total program costs and your financial aid package before you confirm your spot on a program. To set up a meeting with a counselor who is familiar with study abroad, visit:

z.umn.edu/scheduleFAPreview

SCHOLARSHIPS
Many scholarships are available to you, and the Learning Abroad Center is here to help.

Study abroad scholarships from the Learning Abroad Center range from $1,000 to $6,000.

Tips to consider:

• Apply early! You can apply for study abroad scholarships before you’ve even applied for a program.
• Scholarships are competitive. Be sure you answer all of the essay prompts and carefully proofread your scholarship essays.
• Look into scholarships from your college and department, as well as national awards.
• Seek out program-specific scholarships and fee reductions.

Kee on Minnesota Studies in International Development—Thailand

“I interned at an NGO called Baan Kru Nam Foundation, which works to rescue vulnerable, stateless children from trafficking and exploitation and support them to know their basic rights, obtain an education, and develop life skills. My roles included teaching Thai language, outreaching to target groups, and leading dance and games.”

Graduate student
Youth Development Leadership
Stella on Study & Intern in Buenos Aires

“I found Argentine people to be incredibly generous. My walking tour guide invited me to his birthday party. My host mom was always lending me things—sweaters, umbrellas, towels. A girl I met in passing, Valentina, offered to show me the city, and ended up welcoming me into her family, friend group, and traditions.”

Junior
English language and literature major

You Can Afford to Study Abroad

This bar chart compares the estimated costs of staying on campus to going abroad.

On Campus

TOTAL $16,441

Abroad

TOTAL $19,210

TOTAL $17,630

TOTAL $27,148

*For current fees, visit our website or One Stop onestop.umn.edu/finances/cost-attendance
Student Experiences

Arlette on University Study in South Korea: Korea University, Seoul

“My parents’ home country, Ecuador, was the only other country I had traveled to, so I had experience traveling abroad alone. When I arrived in South Korea, the humid and hot temperature greeted me. The weather in the summer was warmer than in Minnesota, which was a new experience for me.”

*Junior*
English major

Maddie on Minnesota Studies in International Development—Ecuador

“The quality time that I was able to spend with my host families was [very meaningful]. We spent a lot of time at the dinner table eating and talking together, and I’m really thankful for everything that they taught me and some things that I was able to share with them.”

*Junior*
Spanish studies and sociology of law, criminology, and justice majors
Your Employability & Learning Abroad

Learning abroad is a smart way to differentiate yourself.

**PREPARE FOR YOUR CAREER**
In today’s globalized marketplace, employers seek those who demonstrate exposure to widely diverse people, cultures, ideas, and viewpoints.

- Incorporate learning abroad planning into your advising appointments, career counseling appointments, and faculty visits
- Maximize your study, intern, community engagement, research, or volunteer experience by linking it to your career interests and degree program
- Think about your academic and career goals before, during, and after your experience abroad
- Develop intercultural competencies appealing to potential employers and graduate schools

**CONNECT YOUR EXPERIENCE ABROAD TO YOUR FUTURE**
While you’re abroad, you can take a one-credit intercultural learning course to help you reflect on the experience and position yourself as a competitive member of the global workforce.

In OLPD 3332: Global Identity: Connecting Your International Experience to Your Future, learn how to effectively articulate your study abroad experience to future employers, graduate or professional schools, and scholarship committees.

**Build Career Skills**
Studying abroad can help you develop these skills sought after by employers.

- **Ability to work in a team**
- **Effective interpersonal communication**
- **Ability to learn new ideas quickly**
- **Intercultural fluency**
- **Professionalism**
- **Ability to identify, define, and solve problems**

Source: University of Minnesota 2020 Employer Survey
What’s Next?

Visit our website: UMabroad.umn.edu

Complete a First Step Session

Research program options

LEARNING ABROAD CENTER MISSION STATEMENT

The Learning Abroad Center creates meaningful educational opportunities abroad for students through ethical and innovative engagement within the University of Minnesota and the greater education abroad community.

UOFM TITLE IX STATEMENT

As required by Title IX, the University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education programs or activities, including in admissions and employment. Direct inquiries about the application of Title IX to the University’s Title IX Coordinators or to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights. See the University of Minnesota’s Title IX Statement (eoaa.umn.edu/resources) and the University’s policy (policy.umn.edu/hr/sexharassassault) for information about (1) how to contact the Title IX Coordinators on the University’s campuses; (2) how to report or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, sexual assault, stalking, or relationship violence; and (3) the University’s procedures for responding to reports and formal complaints.

ABOUT THIS VIEWBOOK

The University of Minnesota Learning Abroad viewbook is a publication of the Learning Abroad Center in the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance and is created specifically for University of Minnesota students.

This edition was produced through the collaborative efforts of Ilya Kravchik, Antonia Lortis, Emily Newhall, and numerous other education abroad staff.

All photos and quotations used in the learning abroad viewbook were furnished by study abroad participants or Learning Abroad Center staff. The cover photos were taken in South Africa.

The contents of this viewbook and other University bulletins, publications, or announcements are subject to change without notice. This viewbook was published in fall 2024 for programs beginning winter break 2024–25 and later.

Learning Abroad Center

We are happy to help you explore the many options to study abroad. Start with this viewbook, while knowing that the Learning Abroad Center staff is ready to support you all along the way. Perhaps you are questioning the affordability of going abroad or you have some fears about what it will be like to live in a different culture. Talk to us! We can connect you to returned students who had the same concerns and who will share their experiences—and wisdom—with you.

Earning a university degree is both about expanding your mind and acquiring skills for your career. It may seem a contradiction, but the most important skills here in the Digital Age are the transferable ones—things like flexibility, empathy, and communication. Studying abroad is an opportune way to learn more about yourself and recognize your strengths. Students who study abroad are career-ready.

We look forward to meeting you and helping you succeed in studying abroad.

Sincerely,

Ann Hubbard
Assistant Vice Provost, Learning Abroad
Learning Abroad Center
Ask an Adviser
Take the next step.

ADVISING SERVICES
- First Step Session
- One-on-one program selection advising
- Financial aid and scholarships
- Advising on non-credit opportunities
- Cultural orientation

FIRST STEP SESSION
Begin planning your international experience by completing the required First Step Session online. Learn how to research programs, begin academic planning, and explore financial aid and scholarship options.
Schedules are available on our website.

UMabroad.umn.edu/students/advising

ADVISING RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR:
- Freshmen through seniors
- International students
- LGBTQIA+ students
- Student athletes
- Students of color
- Student parents
- Student veterans
- Students with disabilities
- Transfer students
- Parents and family members

LEARNING ABROAD CENTER ADVISING TEAM

Not pictured: Anna DeWitt, Thúy Đoàn, Christina Dunbar, Lindsey Lahr, Ryan McCarthy, Jill Reister, Dunia Tesfaye.