

## Tips to get you started with your Study Abroad Experience

There are many Study Abroad opportunities for students and there are study abroad advisors for each major to help you find the best experience.

[Ana-jimenez@uiowa.edu](mailto:Ana-jimenez@uiowa.edu) is the amazing study abroad advisor for Studio Art and Art History majors. She will help you navigate to find a program that fits what you are looking for.

### What are you looking for?

1. Do the Discover Study Abroad self-paced learning to find information about what is possible:  
<https://international.uiowa.edu/event/74166/13>
2. Thoughtfully consider why you want to do a study abroad. There may be many reasons. But knowing your objective will focus your search. Be honest with yourself.
3. Some reasons for going on a study abroad:
  - a. Never been out of the country before and want to go somewhere.
  - b. Want to learn or practice a new language. Want to complete the World Language requirement in a country where the language is the first language.
  - c. Have family in that country.
  - d. Want to get courses in the major or Gen Eds done.
  - e. Want to go somewhere that is accessible to multiple countries to visit.
  - f. A specific experience is available, ie. Studying gothic cathedral architecture.
4. Things to remember about courses for the Art and Art History majors.
  - a. You can only bring in a total of 12sh of credit for the BA degrees for Studio art and Art History from outside of the University of Iowa. You can bring in 20sh for the BFA degree. If you have transferred in coursework from another college already, you will need to speak with your academic advisor about how many you can bring in and then you will need to speak with the Study Abroad advisor to see if that program is considered to give UI credits or non-UI credits.
  - b. **Minors**-If you are hoping to bring in credits to a Studio Art minor or Art History minor, only 3sh can be brought into the minors from outside of Iowa.

### Course approval to come into the Major requirements:

1. All Art History courses have to be pre-approved by the Art History DUS if you want them to come into the major. You cannot have courses approved after you have completed the course.
2. **Art History courses**-There are questions about the Art History courses you are seeking to approve that need to be answered and submitted to the DUS. Those can be found here:  
[https://art.uiowa.edu/sites/art.uiowa.edu/files/SAAH\\_AH\\_Transfer\\_%20Equivalency\\_Form.pdf](https://art.uiowa.edu/sites/art.uiowa.edu/files/SAAH_AH_Transfer_%20Equivalency_Form.pdf)
3. **Studio Art** courses will not be automatically brought in to meet the major requirements. They will need to go through a portfolio review by the head of the program in which you took the course, when you return. There are no guarantees that they will be accepted so please speak with your academic advisor about how to increase your chances that you will pass a portfolio review on return.

### **Additional Information:**

1. Your academic and your study abroad advisors work closely together to help you find a good program and curriculum for each student. However, you should always have extra courses approved in art history before leaving in case the program is unable to offer a course at the last minute. It happens.
2. Study Abroad requires preparation and planning. Faculty and Advisors may not be able to sign off on forms in one afternoon. Please make sure to allocate plenty of time to get everything in place before you go.
3. Taking courses in the hopes of passing upper level course requirements in the major is not recommended. Upper level courses are harder to pass. Please speak with your art advisor about this.

### **When you return:**

1. If an Art History course is approved, you will need to keep the email from the DUS which assigns the study abroad course a UI course equivalency. Once the grades come in for the course (not the R that will appear on the transcript until grades are sent), then you will forward the email to your art or art history academic advisor for processing.
2. If you took Study Abroad courses that you want to portfolio review when you return, please speak with the advisor about the content of the submitted portfolio to maximize your chances of passing the review. You will submit a digital portfolio of 8-10 images that are reflective of the work that would be required in the UI course you hope to receive credit for. This pdf portfolio will be submitted to the head of the program and they will let you know what is decided.

### **Final words:**

1. Study Abroad experiences can provide you with an incredible experience. They also can be more powerful to employers if you spend some of your time in the country participating in their unique experiences, volunteering locally, learning a language. Speak with the Study Abroad advisor about programs that might have some of these experiences available for students.
2. There are semester/academic year and summer and winter study abroad opportunities. There are also some unpaid internships abroad. Allot plenty of time to explore your many options. They each have their advantages!