

Choosing a Non-UM Study Abroad Program

There are many different opportunities and programs outside of the University of Michigan. Visit the International Center Education Abroad Office to speak with an advisor about program options.

Factors to Consider

Factors to consider when choosing a study abroad program—the following types of information are shown in the [IIE Passport](#) [1] search engine, for thousands of programs:

Sponsoring institution	Is the institution an accredited institution of higher learning?
Language of instruction	What are the language requirements for participants? Are classes conducted in English or in the host country's language?
Duration of the program	Academic year, Fall, Winter, and Spring/Summer options are available.
Credits	Meet with your general and concentration advisors to discuss credit transfer issues before leaving. Students should see Academic Credit to learn how to transfer credit.
Level of Immersion in the Host Culture	Would you be taking courses with other U.S. study abroad students, or with students from the host country?
Living Arrangements	Will you be living in a home-stay, in a dormitory, or in a private apartment? Is housing with other U.S. study abroad students, international students or with host country nationals?
Fees	What do the fees cover? Are any excursions included?
Financial Aid	Does the program offer any scholarships? Will you be able to transfer your aid to a non-UM program? Did you know that going on a non-UM program could potentially make you lose your UM scholarship? Federal aid will often transfer while aid specific to U-M does not. Aid specific to the state of Michigan will usually transfer to study abroad programs administered through other public universities in the state of Michigan. Contact the U-M Office of Financial Aid [2] for more details about how specific aid packages apply towards studying abroad. If you receive a Pell Grant, you are eligible to apply for the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship [3].

Eligibility Requirements and Number of Participants	Is this program open to students from other universities? What level of foreign language fluency is required? Is there a minimum GPA? Ask the program representatives how many other participants are in the program.
Contacting Past Participants	Contact the Education Abroad Office ic-abroad@umich.edu [4] to see they can put you in touch with alums from the program you're interested in.
Read Student Reviews	Search for your programs of interest on study abroad review websites such as Abroad101 [5]

Primary Study & Work Abroad Resources

Below is a list of search engines designed to find study abroad programs. These search engines are comprehensive, up to date, and suggest programs in many countries, for various times frames, and for multiple educational disciplines.

[GoAbroad.com](http://www.goabroad.com) [6]

Search options available for both study and work abroad opportunities. Search programs by country, subject, or both. Provides summary of program as well as addresses, telephone numbers, and website links. Programs include: study, volunteer, internships, language schools.

[IIE Passport](http://www.iiepassport.org) [1]

Abroad search engine that lets you select program characteristics you're interested in.

[Studyabroad.com](http://www.studyabroad.com) [7]

Comprehensive database lists study abroad programs, [language courses](http://www.studyabroad.com/intensive-language-worldwide) [8], and [internships/volunteer programs](http://www.studyabroad.com/internships-worldwide) [9].

[Transitions Abroad Webzine](http://www.transitionsabroad.com) [10]

Covers study and work abroad programs and educational travel. Resources include study, language, work abroad, and travel abroad.

Source URL: <https://internationalcenter.umich.edu/abroad/swt/study/choosing-program>

Links

[1] <https://iiepassport.org/>

[2] <https://finaid.umich.edu/studying-abroad/>

[3] <https://www.iie.org/en/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program>

[4] <mailto:ic-abroad@umich.edu>

[5] <https://www.studyabroad101.com/>

[6] <https://www.goabroad.com/>

[7] <https://www.studyabroad.com/>

[8] <https://www.studyabroad.com/intensive-language-worldwide>

[9] <https://www.studyabroad.com/internships-worldwide>

[10] <https://www.transitionsabroad.com/>