STUDY ABROAD REQUIREMENT & POLICIES

Why study abroad?

Study abroad provides valuable insight into the theories and processes you study in the classroom. Living in another country and experiencing a culture different from your own adds an essential element to an international education that a student cannot obtain simply by staying at home. As a student abroad you will learn to function within a new set of social rules and values, hopefully achieve cultural competencies, as well as proficiency in a foreign language, and return with an enhanced perspective of the world and your place in it. Students are often surprised by the insight they gain about U.S. culture and how it is perceived abroad. Your self-confidence will grow, as well as your ability to adapt to new situations, an asset you can market to future employers. Furthermore, if you are intent on an international career, meaningful cross-cultural experiences, beyond vacation travel, are vital.

Where can you go and what programs are eligible?

DU Partner Programs:

The Office of International Education oversees study abroad at the University of Denver and currently offers more than 150 study abroad partner programs around the world. Depending on your goals and needs, you can select from a wide range of criteria including location, degree of language immersion, and level of program structure. Credits earned on DU study abroad partner programs are resident credits.

Unaffiliated Programs:

While it is possible for students to participate in unaffiliated programs (i.e. non-DU partner programs), such programs must be pre-approved first by the Office of International Education in order for the credit to transfer to DU, then by INTS for departmental approval. Failure to follow this process before seeking study abroad course approvals will invalidate any INTS course approvals previously authorized.

NOTE: Given that students are required to take their final 45 credits in residence at the University of Denver, INTS majors and minors that have reached senior standing are ineligible to participate in unaffiliated study abroad, given that unaffiliated study abroad programs earn transfer credit, rather than resident credit.

To learn more about the DU partner programs, the Cherrington Global Scholars program, and/or other study abroad possibilities, please visit or contact the Office of International Education (2200 S. Josephine St. - 303-871-4912).

More information regarding general DU study abroad policies can be found here.

INTS Course Approval and Transfer of Credits

Students are limited to transferring and applying a maximum of 13.5 quarter credit hours toward the INTS major (4.5 quarter credit hours for the INTS minor). Courses must be pre-approved by the BA Program Office prior to the start of the program, via the online approval portal. Please be aware that study abroad courses approved to be applied to the INTS major or minor will be counted as INTS elective credit only (not as INTS course equivalents), and do not count toward your selected specialization area(s). Moreover, study abroad courses that replicate INTS coursework or content already completed by a student at DU, are ineligible to be applied to the INTS major regardless of whether such courses have been pre-approved by the INTS department; it is the student’s responsibility to avoid seeking approval for a course that is similar to one they have already completed at DU. Approved study abroad courses must be completed with a grade of “C-” or better in order to be eligible to be applied toward the INTS major/minor.

Note: Given the need to plan carefully in order to remain on track for the dual degree BA/MA program, students that intend to pursue the dual degree BA/MA program INTS are strongly advised to refrain from applying study abroad coursework to the INTS major. While all INTS majors are required to complete an approved study abroad experience, potential dual degree BA/MA candidates that opt to apply coursework from study abroad to the INTS major, may inadvertently exceed the 60 hour credit limit for the undergraduate major and thereby disqualify themselves from dual degree BA/MA program eligibility.
Courses taken at a semester system institution generally transfer to DU based on the following formula: x (study abroad credits) multiplied by 1.5. For example, if you take a 3 semester hour credit course during your study abroad program, it is likely to transfer back to DU at 4.5 quarter hour credits. Please be aware, however, that other credit conversion formulas may govern your particular study abroad program and that the BA Program is not responsible for these decisions. In the event that approved courses exceed the total maximum credit allowed for transfer in INTS, credits may not be modified, split or divided under any circumstances. Conversely, courses that return to DU at less than 4 quarter credit hours will not be modified or rounded-up. The BA Program Office assumes no responsibility in this matter and strongly encourages all students to consult a study abroad advisor regarding credit conversions prior to departure, in order to plan accordingly for any credit deficit or overage which may arise as a result of applying study abroad courses to the INTS major or minor.

Finally, all students seeking INTS credit for courses taken abroad must contact an INTS advisor for course approval and future planning prior to departing. The BA Program in INTS reserves the right to decline the review of courses that did not receive pre-approval or were not presented to an INTS advisor in a timely manner (e.g.: submitted for review after the completion of the study abroad program). Information booklets, applications and approval forms for the various study abroad programs can be obtained from the Office of International Education.