

Study Abroad for College of Natural Resources Students

260 Mulford Hall

The College of Natural Resources encourages its students to add an international dimension to their education by participating in a study abroad program. Study abroad provides an opportunity to expand your academic and cultural experiences while staying on track to complete your major requirements. Each year, CNR students attend a variety of programs around the world. With proper academic planning, students can have the experience of a lifetime with no loss of time in completing their degrees.



Why study abroad?

Studying abroad can provide you with many unique skills and experiences that are valuable to future employers, such as:

- Language skills
- Flexible thinking and open-mindedness
- Independence
- International and cultural awareness
- Self-confidence
- Communication skills
- Hands-on experience in an international setting (for those participating in internships or research abroad)

Through studying abroad, you will observe different economic, ecological, and environmental policies in action, and witness how other countries are responding to an increasingly interrelated world. At the same time, you can take advantage of unique course work offered abroad. All of this will help you obtain the broader perspectives, knowledge, and skills necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing global economy.



When can I study abroad?

Study abroad programs are available at all class levels. The particular semester, summer, or year that you study abroad depends on your individual progress in your major, what coursework you plan to complete abroad, and your immediate plans after graduation. Some majors may have specific requirements that must be completed here on campus, so it's important to plan ahead with your major advisor.

Transfer students are eligible to participate starting the second semester of their junior year, though most CNR transfer students find it better to go abroad during their senior year, during a summer, or during the fall semester following their senior year. For more information: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/transferstudents>

Study Abroad & the Degree List

Students studying abroad in their final semester should discuss the effects of this with their major advisor. In many cases, the grades are not received in time for a student to be processed on that semester's degree list. If this happens, CNR will automatically roll the student onto the next degree list. Students attending programs with late end dates should sign up for the next term's degree list.

Cost: Study on BSA can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. In some cases, it is less. BSA participants pay UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, BSA students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources.

Plan ahead: Applications typically are due six months to a year prior to the program's start date and some programs have academic or linguistic prerequisites that must be satisfied in advance. Please check the BSA website for guidance on "how to apply": studyabroad.berkeley.edu/how-to-apply



Where can I study abroad?

There are many different program options in more than 40 different countries available through Berkeley Study Abroad. Some offer only intensive language and culture programs, others offer “set” courses which may or may not fit your interests. The majority allow you to choose from regular host university course choices (offered in English or in the host country language). Or consider an internship to gain hands-on experience in your major or field of interest.

Students in the College of Natural Resources have participated in a variety of programs through BSA and non-BSA programs. For example:

- Business and Economics programs offered at Fudan University in Shanghai, China and at the University of Commerce Luigi Bocconi in Milan, Italy
- Marine Biology at the University of Queensland in Australia, Tropical Biology at the Monteverde Institute in Costa Rica, Biodiversity at the National University of Singapore, and CNR’s own research program in Moorea, Tahiti
- Summer School at the London School of Economics, Pembroke College at the University of Cambridge, Free University of Berlin (FU-BEST), and many others
- Environmental Policies and Global Environmental Problems in South Africa, Germany, Australia, Hong Kong, and many other locations
- Language and Cultural Immersion programs in France, Italy, Spain, Japan, Sweden, China, and others



What classes can I take?

Students wanting to fulfill major requirements abroad should consult closely with their major advisor. We encourage students to take courses specific to the region they are studying in, for example:

- Environmental Economics and Policy in Europe, Berlin
- Environmental Economics & Sustainable Development, London School of Economics
- African Environment, Botswana
- Tropical Community Ecology, Costa Rica
- Course content must be equivalent to an upper division course offered at UCB
- A maximum of 4 equivalent courses can be applied toward the major

Additionally, some students have been able to participate in internship and research projects while abroad. You should inquire directly with the study abroad program sponsor about these opportunities.

I’m interested! What are my next steps?

Students interested in study abroad through BSA should first research program options on the BSA website (studyabroad.berkeley.edu), then meet with their CNR advisor to discuss departmental regulations and the academic planning process.

“Studying abroad opened my mind, and many doors, to endless possibilities and friends around the world. I collaborated with peers on topics such as ethnobotany in relation to nutrition, and the role of animals in our society. The experience broadened my understanding of our global environment.”

Cypress Lynx, MEB/NST

What happens when I return?

If you participate in a BSA program, your grades and courses are automatically added to your UC Berkeley transcript. If you participate in a non-BSA program, you must request a formal transcript be sent to your major advisor in order to have the units added to your transcript.

Students who wish to get the courses approved for the major can do so after going abroad. Students should bring the full course syllabus and reading list with them to meet with their major advisor to discuss the course. If the courses were offered in another language, please bring a translated copy of all course materials. Students will earn UC credit for BSA courses they complete abroad. However, application of credit to major requirements is subject to the discretion of the department.