Study Abroad in Visual Arts

UC Davis Majors in Visual Arts:
- Art History
- Art Studio
- Design
- Film Studies

Why Study Abroad

“If I had one word of advice for anyone it would be to travel. Exposure to new cultures and the visual world is particularly relevant for those interested in the creative design process... explore the design of the ‘narrative environment,’ from museum exhibitions to cultural, commercial and entertainment experiences.”

- Tim McNeil, UC Davis Design Program

The Benefits of Studying Abroad

Would you like to better understand how visual arts have changed through time and location? Do you want to develop your own unique style? Are you interested in understanding your field from multiple perspectives? Studying abroad will fulfill all these goals and more!

- Study past artistic movements in their cultural setting.
- Be exposed to a wide variety of styles both past and present.
- Study the great masters in their home countries, or discover little known virtuosos around the world.
- Continue to develop mastery with newfound international perspective.
How to Study Abroad as a Visual Arts Student

Define Your Goals

**Academic Options**
- Visual arts courses
- GE courses
- Language acquisition
- Internship/Research

**Personal Considerations**
- City size
- Housing options
- Program length
- Cultural comfort
- Travel options

**Financial Planning**
- Financial Aid
- Scholarships
- Program cost—some are less expensive than attending classes in Davis

Find a Study Abroad Program

**Visual Arts Focus**
- Focus on visual arts
- Include an internship or research project
- Complete your coursework in visual arts
- Study for a Summer, a Quarter, a Semester, or a Year
- Programs: Summer Abroad and independent programs

**Immersion**
- Take courses with host country students
- Take coursework in English and/or host country language
- Could include an internship or research project
- Length: Quarter, Semester, or Year
- Program: EAP, ISA, USAC

**Language & Culture**
- Learn a language!
- Complete GE courses
- Length: Summer, Quarter, Semester
- Programs: Quarter Abroad, Summer Abroad, EAP, ISA, USAC

Language & General Education (GE) Opportunities

**Coursework in English**
- Programs taught in English include Summer Abroad, Quarter Abroad, EAP, and independent programs.
- Programs can have visual arts courses offered in English while learning the host country language.

**GE Credit**
- EAP GE petitions are filed through the EAC upon return from abroad.
- Summer Abroad and Quarter Abroad Programs are UC Davis classes out of the catalog—many are GE’s
- Students taking courses while on programs offered outside the UC system need to consult their College Dean’s Office.

**Learning a Language**
- Learn the host country language and take your classes in English.
- Some courses are not taught in English. Language prerequisites are listed in the program requirements.

Next Steps?

Attend a 30-minute ‘First Steps Workshop’ at the Education Abroad Center (Tue, Wed, Thurs @ 1:00pm) to learn more about our programs.

Visit the Education Abroad Center website to find a program that suits your needs: studyabroad.ucdavis.edu

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Special Considerations for Visual Arts Students

When to Go Abroad

Depending on what is important to you determines when you should study abroad. If you are interested in GE’s and language acquisition alone, you could go anytime. If you want to take upper division classes and/or perform undergraduate research abroad, you should plan to go abroad your junior or senior years.

**PLAN AHEAD** The most common piece of advice from returning students is that it is never too early to begin planning for studying abroad. We recommend you begin your freshman year, but at any point you can come to the EAC for advising on program selection based on your status.

Talk With Your Major Advisor

1. Write out quarter-by-quarter plan of classes to graduate.
2. Identify study abroad program time (summer, quarter, semester, year).
3. Figure out which classes you can take abroad.

Earning Credit for Graduation

1. Courses taken on an EAP program are offered for UC credit. Summer Abroad and Quarter Abroad classes offer UC Davis credit. Courses taken on a program outside the UC system (referred to as “independent” programs) are “transfer” credit if the student applies for NUCSA Leave.
2. Discuss your study abroad goals with your major advisor EARLY!
3. Your department **and** the College should review your planned coursework before you leave. The college can assist you with GE’s and a degree check.
4. Grades, units and course names are recorded on your transcript for UC study abroad programs. Transfer units are recorded on your transcript for other programs offered outside the UC system.
Special Programs in the Visual Arts

These programs are designed for students in the following Visual Arts:
Art History, Art Studio, Design, Film Studies, Technocultural Studies, Landscape Architecture

- **UC Davis Quarter Abroad, Italy, “Italian Language and Culture”**—16-week program in the beautiful city of Florence, Italy. In Florence, you will take accelerated language courses, Italian film and culture courses, and are free to explore electives such as art history, studio art, food science, and more!

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, Europe, “Sustainable Cities of Northern Europe”**—Take 8 units of Landscape Architecture while examining principles of sustainability as they apply to urban areas in a European context.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, France & Switzerland, “World Cinema and the European Film Festival”**—Enroll in 8 units of Film Studies in this summer program. The program examines the role of film festivals in producing and distributing films worldwide.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, France, “Art Studio in Paris and the French Riviera”**—Gain a valuable experience in artistic execution in this 8-unit art studio course. Explore the French landscape, architecture, and artistic history throughout Italy.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, Spain, “Spanish Art”**—In this 8-unit Spanish program you will experience Spanish art and culture by visiting the Burgos monasteries and Cathedral, traveling to Salamanca to see Spanish Renaissance, traveling to Madrid to visit the Museo del Prado and Reina Sofia, and take a trip to Bilbao to explore the Guggenheim museum.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, United Kingdom, “Design in Britain: Inside and Outside Museum Walls”**—A key component of this 8-unit design program is creative research projects to address the fluid boundaries between public art and design, and British culture.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, China, “Artistic Wonders and Monuments in China”**—This 8-unit program focuses on early Buddhist art in sculpture, painting, and architecture and gives participants the chance to examine sculptures and paintings at major cultural sites.

- **UC Davis Summer Abroad, Ireland, “Documentary Filmmaking in Ireland”**—This 8-unit program explores the concepts and practices of documentary media production focusing on the use of video and new media tools to illustrate social issues and promote international understanding.

Other Options for Finding Visual Arts Courses Abroad

Search by keyword such as “art” in the program search tools at the following web sites:

- UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) **Advanced Search (by major):** 
  http://bit.ly/eapsearch (or pick up the EAP discipline-specific card in the EAC)

- Use a study **abroad search engine**, such as goabroad.com, studyabroad.com or iiepassport.org