Education Abroad Advising Sheet: Faculty of Science

Education Abroad can help you...

- Understand your field of studies from an international perspective
- Expand and enhance cross-cultural communication and competency
- Improve problem-solving skills
- Broaden outlook and understanding of the world
- Take a step toward personal, academic, and professional goals
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Experience another culture and language environment first hand
- Challenge yourself to discover new strengths and perspectives
- Enhance critical and independent thinking skills
- Improve language skills
- Gain confidence academically, personally and professionally
- Network and develop academic and professional contacts

Set goals and plan for results

- Begin at least 12 months in advance of participation in education abroad. It is never too early to start planning;
- Set some goals. There is no single program that is best suited for you in the Faculty of Science. There are many good education abroad programs and the best one depends on what you aim to achieve;
- Prioritize goals. Consider long term academic and professional goals, as well as University of Alberta degree requirements;
- Give yourselves time to research and talk to the Education Abroad Program Office, academic advisors and returning education abroad participants

Can I afford education abroad?

Yes, you can afford to go abroad through financial planning such as saving, applying for scholarships and student loans. Seeking financial support through student loans and scholarships will help offset costs incurred by international travel and accommodation. Even though you are studying abroad, you are eligible to apply for student loans. The University of Alberta International (UAI) offers more than $500,000 in scholarships to support students participating in education abroad. Personal saving is another great way to save up for your education abroad. If you work, you should consider saving for education abroad when setting spending priorities.

For funding information consult the Education Abroad Program website or visit the Education Abroad Program (EAP) office in 3-600 Enterprise Square Building, 10230 Jasper Ave.
What are the next steps?

Research
- EAP/UAI and Faculties have online resources and websites where you can find useful information on education abroad programs and options.
- Get a general overview of the types of education abroad programs offered, eligibility information, costs of studying/working abroad, etc. by visiting the Education Abroad website.

Investigate Programs and Options
The University of Alberta provides a variety of education abroad programs such as semester/year exchanges, short term/summer and faculty-led programs, and various types of work abroad programs.

Learn more by viewing the definitions of the different types of education abroad opportunities available at the University of Alberta.

To search for international opportunities provided through the Education Abroad Program office and across campus, you can use:
- EAP’s Go Abroad Program Finder (searchable database)
- External Opportunities information

Talk to EAP and Faculty Advisors
The EAP coordinators will be able to provide guidance, consultation and detailed information on the program(s) of your interest. Advisors in your faculty can help you determine if you are eligible to go on an exchange and can show you what remains for your degree.

- Education Abroad Drop-In Advising Schedule
- Please check with faculty for advising hours

Understand the Application and Selection Process
The application process differs for exchanges, summer/short term programs and internship programs. Please click on the appropriate link to find more information on how to apply, what documents are required and how participants are selected etc.
- To apply for exchanges or summer/short term programs, please click here: Apply for an Exchange/Summer/Short Term Program
- To apply for internship programs, please go to Apply for an Internship Program

Apply for Funding
- UAI offers Education Abroad Group and Individual awards for students going abroad. To see what scholarships are available, please consult the UAI Awards and Funding webpage
- Students may also find funding opportunities within their own faculties and through external sources. To see what scholarships are available, please consult the Faculty Awards and Other Funding webpage
Risk Management

Pre-Departure Training
Students going abroad must receive pre-departure training which is comprised of two parts:
- **Online Pre-departure Moodle course**: this course is part of the pre-departure training offered by EAP and is designed as resource to support students before, during and after their experience abroad. Students will cover relevant topics such as cultural adaptation, financial issues, academic matters, risk management, etc.
- **In-person Pre-departure workshop**: students will attend an interactive workshop to prepare for cultural encounters and risk management through the review of case studies and scenario simulations. As well, students will have the opportunity to meet and talk with returned education abroad participants for helpful and practical advice.

Travel Registration
Before students go abroad, they must register with:
- UAlberta’s UGo Off-Campus Travel Registry
- Government of Canada’s Registration of Canadians Abroad

Academic Considerations
You should discuss the specifics of going abroad, such as the choice of academic courses, with an academic advisor in your faculty. Below are some things you should be aware of:

Faculty Approval
All students participating in an Education Abroad program must get approval from their Faculty to go abroad. You need to take the following steps to get Faculty Approval:

1. Create an online application and submit it for initial approval. Once approved, access will be granted to complete the final application online.
2. For all but summer programs, print, complete and submit the Preliminary Approval form to your Faculty office for approval.
3. Once you have received the form back from your Faculty, scan and upload the form to your online application.
4. Print and complete the Permission to Participate form and submit it to your Faculty for approval. Be sure to attach course descriptions and full information about the hours of instruction of the courses you are planning to take.
5. Once you have received the signed form from your Faculty, scan and upload the completed form to your online application.

Please note, the Preliminary Approval form and the Permission to Participate form are only available once the student has been approved to complete the application process. As well, you must allow sufficient time for your Faculty office to complete processing of these forms.
Credit Transfer
Students may be eligible to receive transfer credit if the coursework they complete abroad fits into the program requirements of their University of Alberta degree. Faculties will assess credit on a per-course basis taking into consideration such factors as:

- the hours of instruction for a course
- the length/duration of a course
- the level of a course
- the course content
- the ECTS credit value

For more information about credit transfer to the Faculty of Science, please contact advisor.science@ualberta.ca.

A partial list of courses previously assessed for transfer credit in the Faculty of Science is available.

Education Abroad Programs for students in the Faculty of Science

As a student in the Faculty of Science, you are eligible to apply for and participate in all of the education abroad programs that are open to all University of Alberta students. Use the Go Abroad Program Finder to find a program suitable for your needs and interests.