Finding a Non-UM Study Abroad Program

✔️ Looking for a Study Abroad Program?

If you have already explored your options at the International Programs in Engineering Office and at the Center for Global and Intercultural Studies, you shouldn’t get discouraged. There are plenty of opportunities out there through Non-UM programs. Programs will vary widely on educational focus, required language experience, and trip duration, among other things. Try and keep your criteria broad so you have as many options as possible.

☐ Apply for Passport

You will need a passport that is valid for more than six months after you return from planned study abroad. The processing time for a new passport or a passport renewal can be four to six weeks. If you have never had a passport, you must apply in person. There are two places in Ann Arbor that accept passport applications, the U.S. Post Office on W. Stadium and the Washtenaw County Courthouse on Main. Persons looking to renew their passports may do so at one of these locations or by mail. Check out the IPE passport information page for links to the application as well as additional information:
http://www.engin.umich.edu/ipe/studyabroad/predepartureinfo/passports.html

☐ Visit Financial Aid Office

Consult the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible to review your options and understand how your financial aid will work. Contact the Non-UM program directly for funding advice as many have their own scholarships to offer students who participate in their program. Review the IPE financial planning page to search for funding and scholarships: http://www.engin.umich.edu/ipe/studyabroad/finances

☐ Talk to Your Advisor

It is important to meet with an academic advisor before you depart for your overseas experience. Advisors can point you in the direction of classes you need to take in order to graduate in your desired timeframe or they can warn you of potential pitfalls such as classes that must be taken at the University.

☐ Apply to the Program

When you have found the program you are looking for you will either need to submit an application. Keep in mind, if you want your credits to transfer back you must study at an accredited university. Beware of programs that offer certificates, which can be common with language programs, as this will not transfer back as credit towards your UM degree. Different programs will have different requirements for applying. Be prepared to submit a copy of your passport, an official UM transcript, and an approval from an advisor, among other things.
Register your Study Abroad with the College of Engineering:

http://www.engin.umich.edu/ipe/registry.html

Even if you don’t participate on a UM program, the IPE office still wants to know where you are traveling. Make sure you register your experience online so the University knows your location and we can get in contact with you if needed for safety purposes, provide info on health insurance, and pre-departure materials.

Submit Transfer Credit Approval Form online to CoE Credit Evaluation Office:

https://www.engin.umich.edu/students/academics/transfercreditapproval/app/index.jsp

The College of Engineering requires all students to have courses evaluated before departure. It is important to fill out your Transfer Credit Approval Form with CoE, even for humanities and social science credits. It is helpful to submit syllabi, if available, along with your course descriptions and it can be helpful to get multiple classes approved for the same requirement in order to increase your chances. Stop by the office if you have any questions about how to fill out your Transfer Credit Approval Form. You can also find courses previous study abroad students have taken at foreign universities with the Engineering Course Equivalency Database: www.engin.umich.edu/transferdatabase.

Research Country-Specific Visa requirements

Look up the visa requirements for your host country as they vary from country to country. If your program will require a visa, it is often the job of the student to contact the appropriate Consulate and provide the necessary paperwork. Talk with your program provider for a letter of invitation, advice on a visa type, etc. Keep in mind this takes four to six weeks to process, on top of the time it takes to secure your passport.

Download the Pre-Departure Handbook for Non-UM Programs from the IPE website:

http://www.engin.umich.edu/ipe/studyabroad/predepartureinfo/Non-UMPre-departureHandbook

You are not done just quite yet. Be sure to read the Pre-Departure Handbook for useful information on things such as health insurance. As always, please email the IPE office or stop by during walk-in advising hours if you have any questions.