

English

STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION FOR ENGLISH CONCENTRATORS

The Michigan Department of English Language and Literature has long been recognized as one of the top English departments in the nation. As one of the largest departments within the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA), English serves as an extraordinary center of creativity, inquiry, and discovery with a proud tradition of leadership in scholarship and teaching. The Department not only offers opportunities for study of all aspects of English language and literature on campus, but also encourages student interest in study abroad experiences. Expanding upon the strong academic base created in Ann Arbor, students with an English concentration will find many programs overseas where they can continue to make progress towards their U-M degree and have the rich experience of studying English language and literature from an international perspective. Instruction typically consists of lectures, seminars, and tutorials, often with more independent study opportunities than at U-M. Classes are small by



American standards and this creates a stimulating learning environment, often with close personal instruction and student-teacher interaction. Depending on the program, students can often explore the actual places where works of literature were written or the places captured in these works. And they enjoy all the benefits of living and learning abroad.

GETTING STARTED

1.) Plan early: Talk to your English concentration advisor about your interest in studying abroad.	To make an appointment with an English concentration advisor, please visit the Department Website at: www.lsa.umich.edu/english If you have questions, please contact the Undergraduate Office, Department of English Language and Literature, 3187 Angell Hall. Phone: (734) 764-6330
2.) Visit the OIP: Learn about program offerings and attend the OIP study abroad fair and information sessions.	OIP's Study Abroad Fairs: Fall Fair – Mid September Summer Fair – Mid January
3.) Narrow down your program options: Review course offerings and how they can satisfy concentration and distribution requirements.	See OIP's website: http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/oip-study-abroad.htm
4.) Research program costs: Review OIP information on program costs; learn about scholarship options and financial aid for which you may be eligible.	http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/financial.htm
5.) Apply for your program.	Online application: http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/applying.htm

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Timing: Because students in Great Britain, Australia, and South Africa generally are highly specialized in their studies at university, studying a single subject, these universities are reluctant to accept US study abroad students until they have completed two full years at an American university (or have sufficient AP credits to have third-year status). English concentrators hoping to study at one of these universities therefore should delay studying abroad until either their junior or senior years, for either a single semester or full year. Students may apply to U-M's summer programs after having completed a single semester at U-M.

English Honors and Study Abroad: Honors students are encouraged to study abroad for a term, when that study is academically feasible and seems likely to contribute to a successful student project. Those intending to study abroad should inform the Honors Director of their plans as early as possible. It is strongly recommended that students see their English advisors and general advisors before leaving so that curricula for the junior and senior years may be carefully planned.

*"I cannot emphasize enough the importance of studying abroad--it's not only the most fun you might have in college; the cultural exchange is something you have to experience as an English major, and as a human being."
~ Zaina J. Oxford 2007*

Satisfying distribution and general LSA requirements with courses taken abroad:

◆ **Distribution credit** – To use a course or courses taken abroad to satisfy Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science, or another distribution category, you should meet with your LSA advisor before going abroad. Take detailed course descriptions or as much information as you can gather to the advising appointment. If you are unable to get this information ahead of time, or if your course elections change while abroad, bring back as much course information as you can, so that your advisor can effectively evaluate the course upon return.

◆ **Race and Ethnicity** – It is generally advisable to take R & E class on campus. However, if you want to use a course taken abroad to satisfy this requirement, you need to petition the LSA Academic Standards Board upon return. As part of your petition, you need to provide a syllabus for the course and write an argument explaining how you felt the course met the spirit of the requirement. Petition forms with the R & E criteria are available on the web or at the Newnan LSA Advising

Center. Keep in mind that you may not be able to get a syllabus for the course, so you should bring back as much course information as you can—e.g. reading lists, coursepacks, papers, etc. If the syllabus and/or course materials are not in English, contact the Academic Standards Board to see if you need to have them translated. Board members can translate Spanish, French, and German.

- ◆ **Quantitative Reasoning** – To use a class taken abroad to satisfy the Quantitative Reasoning requirement, you need to petition the LSA Academic Standards Board upon return. You need to present a course syllabus as well as materials showing the type of work done in the course (homework, quizzes, exams, and textbooks are helpful.)
- ◆ **Upper level writing requirement** – It's extremely rare for a study abroad course to be approved for Upper-Level Writing. Generally these courses must be taught on campus by U-M faculty. If you want to request an exception, contact the Sweetland Writing Center, but keep in mind that such approvals are not likely granted.

Counting courses taken abroad towards English

Concentration requirements: The Department of English may accept up to 12 credits earned away from Ann Arbor toward the concentration; these courses must be sufficiently advanced to warrant credit at the 300-level and 400-levels. Courses may be approved for elective credit or to meet specific concentration requirements (e.g., pre-1830 literature, American literature), though only one program requirement is allowed to count towards the major. The department will not give concentration credit for courses on literature in translation (e.g., Italian literature in English). English Department courses which must be taken in Ann Arbor include: English 239 (What is Literature?), English 240 (Introduction to Poetry) and English 417 (Senior Seminar).



ACADEMIC YEAR, TERM-LONG (FALL OR WINTER), SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Office of International Programs offers over 80 study abroad options. Credit from these programs appear on your U-M transcript as in residence credit and can be used to meet any College requirements. It is wise to discuss your possible programs with your concentration advisor before you select the program right for you.

AUSTRALIA, MELBOURNE, PERTH, AND SYDNEY

The Universities of Melbourne and Western Australia (in Perth) have very strong departments of English and, in addition to more traditional English literature courses, offer classes which focus on Australian literature. The U-M also sends students to the University of New South Wales in Sydney, which offers courses in its Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Students may apply for either the Fall or Winter semester for Australia programs. Academic Year and Winter.

GREAT BRITAIN

The universities in Britain with especially highly ranked English departments and to which U-M sends are: Cambridge University (academic year and new winter option), Oxford University, Queen Mary (University of London), Sussex University, University College London, University of York and Saint Andrews University. Academic Year and Winter.

"St. Peter's College is a small, friendly campus where you get plenty of personal attention and receive instruction by some of the world's leading experts in their respective fields. My experience at St. Peter's College was life changing and fueled my determination and desire to pursue a Master's Degree in English Romantics at Oxford."

~ Alex C.

GREAT BRITAIN, LONDON SUMMER

Two of the three courses offered in the six-week long summer program usually focus on British literature and theater. Please see the OIP website for course descriptions.

GREAT BRITAIN, OXFORD SUMMER

The Medieval Studies component of the six-week long summer program at St. Peter's College, Oxford, offers courses in medieval English literature and history.

IRELAND, DUBLIN

In addition to the director's course, often on Irish literature, students elect shorter units (modules) at Trinity College Dublin, several of which focus on Irish literature, drama, and culture. Summer



Florence, Italy – Academic Year, Fall, Winter, Spring Honors and Music, and Summer

The course offerings at the Academic Year Program in Florence change each term, and although art history and Italian language classes are central to the curriculum, English literature courses are offered relatively frequently, usually during the Winter semester. Course offerings in Florence for the current and coming academic years can be found at on the OIP website.

South Africa – Academic Year, Fall, and Winter

Both the University of Cape Town and the University of Natal (in Durban) have English departments with a wide range of offerings in English literature, including Anglophone and specifically South African literature. Students may apply for either the Academic Year, or chose either Fall or Winter semester.

In addition to these programs, there is an extensive selection of programs taught in English throughout the world. Please visit the OIP website to find a program that interests you. There are also non-U-M programs offered through other universities that may allow you to meet your particular needs.

Non-Michigan Programs for English concentrators:

Students hoping to use courses from a non-Michigan study abroad program for English concentration credit should first verify that they will receive transfer credit for a particular program (check with U-M Undergraduate Admissions) and then make an appointment to speak with Kathy Teasdale or another English concentration advisor. Final approval for courses taken away from Michigan is granted once the student has submitted a petition to the department; the petition is available on the English Department's website (<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/english>). This may be done in advance of program participation, provided you have detailed course information, or upon return. If possible, you should include a copy of the course syllabus with the petition.

