

Program in the Environment

STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION FOR PITE STUDENTS

In the past decade there has been increasing recognition that environmental issues are global concerns and that their solutions seldom lie within borders of a single country. As a student of the environment you desire not only to gain a better understanding of these global issues, but to develop field skills and learn to apply theories and techniques from your courses in a real-world setting. Studying abroad is the perfect opportunity for you to examine global environmental problems firsthand and explore different alternatives for addressing these problems.

Whether you wish to hike through the Costa Rican cloud forest, explore aquatic ecology off the Great Barrier Reef, or investigate urban and environmental planning in Europe, there most likely is a study abroad program to meet your educational and cultural needs. The U-M Office of International Programs provides offerings in environmental studies, ecology, geography and other related fields. With planning, courses taken abroad on these programs may be used to satisfy Program in the Environment concentration requirements.



Students participating in programs sponsored by the Office of International Programs (OIP) earn in-residence credit, are eligible to use U-M awarded financial aid and scholarships toward program costs, and may fulfill general and concentration requirements with courses taken abroad.

GETTING STARTED

1.) Plan early: Talk to your general academic and concentration advisors about your interest in going abroad and your goals while abroad.	To meet with a PitE concentration advisor contact: environment.program@umich.edu
2.) Visit the OIP: Learn about program offerings and attend the OIP's 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 general 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: Some programs, including the Oxford Summer program at St. Peter's College, may be done as early as the summer after your first year. Others require at least three semesters at U-M (including programs in Australia), while British universities prefer students with junior or senior standing. (The programs with field components [at ICADS in Costa Rica and EcoQuest] may be more suitable for students in their junior or senior year at.)

"You effortlessly develop a deeper understanding for the complexities between people and the environment and develop a bigger heart and compassion to help."

Daniel C.

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 PitE

Concentration requirements – Requirements that may be satisfied with courses taken abroad include General Ecology, Analytics, Social Science, Culture and Environment, Natural and Earth Systems Science, and Advanced Social Science; and Specialization requirements. Plan to meet with the Concentration Advisor for the PitE to discuss this possibility before going abroad; bring a copy of the course description(s). You may be asked to meet with the advisor upon return to provide further information about the course(s) taken abroad.

Using internships/field experience from study abroad to satisfy the Field Experience requirement:

It may be possible to fulfill the PitE Field Experience requirement with work done abroad. Students considering this possibility should review the programs described on the following pages. It is also critical to meet in advance with the Field Experience Coordinator for the PitE to discuss satisfying the requirement through international study.

Funding study abroad – PitE has several scholarships available to help offset Field Experience expenses. These are limited in number and amount (typically \$500-1,000). If you are planning to use a study abroad program for your Field Experience requirement, please contact the PitE office or visit the website (<http://environment.lsa.umich.edu/environ>) for information on scholarships. Other environmental organizations offer funding for study abroad and field experiences as well. We encourage you to explore these.



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 appears on your UM 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 you feel is right for you.

AUSTRALIA

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Single semester or full year program. Relevant courses are offered in environmental studies, earth sciences, geography, biology, history and philosophy of science, geology, landscape architecture, and urban planning. Internship placements may also be possible.

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH

Single semester or full year program. Relevant courses are offered by the faculty of science in biology, chemistry, geography, geology, botany, and zoology. Also see the Faculty of Agriculture for courses in natural resource management, landscape management, and animal science.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY

Single semester or full-year program. Relevant courses are offered by the Faculty of Science in environmental and earth science, biology, zoology, geography, geology, and history, and philosophy of science. Other pertinent general education courses can be found in the faculties of science, law, engineering, and the built environment.

CIC AUSTRALIA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Combines half-time internship placement with enrollment at the University of New South Wales.



CHILE

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

Single semester or full-year program in Santiago. Relevant courses are offered in agriculture, biology, forestry, geography, and urban planning. Program requires Spanish proficiency.

*"I have loved my experience in Program in the Environment at Michigan but I would not leave college ready to be an aware and motivated environmentalist if it were not for studying abroad."
Daniel C.*

COSTA RICA

INSTITUTE FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (ICADS)

Single semester program. Students receive Spanish language instruction; study environmental, natural, and social sciences in the Field Course in Resource Management and Sustainable Development; and complete a field research project, which may be used to fulfill PitE's field component requirement. Some Spanish proficiency recommended.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Summer program combining Spanish language study and an independent research project. Two semesters Spanish language study recommended.

FINLAND

UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

Single semester or full-year program. Relevant courses are offered by the Faculty of Humanities in Baltic Sea Region Studies and by the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science in biology, development studies, geography, and environmental sciences.

GREAT BRITAIN**[KING'S COLLEGE LONDON](#)**

Winter term or full-year program. Courses offered in environmental science, biological sciences, and geography.

[SUSSEX UNIVERSITY, BRIGHTON](#)

Winter term or full-year program. Courses offered in environmental science, geography, and biology.

[UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON](#)

Winter term or full-year program. Courses offered in geography, geological sciences, and biology.

[OXFORD SUMMER PROGRAM AT ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY](#)

This is a six-week summer program with special component in environmental, urban, and regional Studies. Program includes a four-day field excursion to Wales.

**NEW ZEALAND****[ECOQUEST NEW ZEALAND](#)**

Single semester program. Students complete integrated coursework in ecology, ecosystem management, and environmental policy as well as an applied direct research project, which can be used to meet PitE's field component requirement.

SOUTH AFRICA**[UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN](#)**

Single semester or full year program. Relevant courses are offered by the departments of Environmental Science, Botany, Zoology, and Geology. Students participating in the program during Michigan's Winter semester (which begins in February) may apply to participate in pre-semester field trips which are integrated into classes offered in the Botany and Zoology departments.

SPAIN**[INSTITUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OF STUDENTS \(IES\) IN MADRID](#)**

Winter semester IES program through the OIP. Relevant courses include biology, chemistry, geology, physics, and geography. Requires five semesters of Spanish language classes.

SWEDEN**[UPPSALA UNIVERSITY](#)**

Single semester or full year program. Relevant courses are offered in biology, cultural anthropology and ethnicity, earth science, and the Center for Environment and Development Studies.

SWITZERLAND**[UNIVERSITÉ DE LAUSANNE](#)**

Full year program. Relevant courses are offered by the faculties of earth science and environment, arts, social and political sciences, and biology and medicine. Program requires French language proficiency; five or more semesters at the college-level recommended.

THAILAND**[CIEE STUDY CENTER IN KHON KAEN](#)**

Single semester program. Each semester's program focuses on issues of globalization and grassroots development. The fall semester program in Thailand is designed for students wishing to learn about a broad range of issues – effects of dams, urban slums, persons living with HIV/AIDS, organic farming, pollution, social movements, human rights, NGOs – primarily from a grassroots perspective within the social and political context of a developing country. The spring semester program is designed for students wanting to learn about globalization from both an academic and a grassroots community level and its overall effects on a developing nation. In both semesters, students participate in grassroots development projects.



TURKEY**MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

Single semester or full year program. Relevant courses are offered in biology, city and regional planning, and environmental engineering.

In addition to these programs, there is an extensive selection of programs taught in English throughout the world. There are also non-UM programs offered through other universities that may allow you to meet your particular needs.

NON-UM PROGRAMS WHICH FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

See the programs offered by the School for International Training (www.sit.org) and the School for Field Studies (www.fieldstudies.org). Both offer programs with significant field experience components in non-traditional destinations. (Students should be aware, however, that these program costs are often greater.)