



STUDY ABROAD
INFORMATION FOR
FIRST-YEAR
STUDENT ADVISORS

Study Abroad Information for Advisors of First-Year Students

PREREQUISITES FOR STUDY ABROAD/OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

We encourage students to start on their Writing Intensive, QSR, and PE requirements as soon as possible to ensure the fewest number of obstacles to studying abroad. Students who complete these requirements by the end of their sophomore year will generally find the study abroad process straightforward and easier to navigate.

<p>WI's, QSR, and PE:</p> <p>Students must have these requirements completed or must be in the final stage of completing them, e.g. enrolled in a final course, in order to receive approval. If a student is missing one of these course requirements, they will be asked to submit a missing requirement acknowledgment form in order to receive approval. If a student is missing more than one requirement, they would need to petition to the Committee on Academic Standing to ask for an exception to the policy.</p>	<p>Study Abroad GPA:</p> <p>The College requires that a student have a minimum 2.7 Study Abroad GPA (not cumulative GPA). The study abroad GPA is the average GPA of the two semesters immediately preceding the last semester at Hamilton before going abroad.</p>
<p>Academic Probation & Disciplinary Points:</p> <p>A student on academic probation or disciplinary probation with 6 points or more is not eligible for study abroad or domestic off-campus study. Students who are scheduled to have points forgiven after the leave of absence deadline may petition the Committee on Academic for approval to study abroad.</p>	<p>Language Proficiency:</p> <p>A student must reach a minimum proficiency level in Arabic, Chinese, French, Italian, German, Japanese, Russian, Spanish if a student wishes to study in a location where one of these languages is spoken. The specific proficiency requirements, which range from two semesters of college-level instruction to four semesters, can be found here: Eligibility Requirements.</p>

STUDY ABROAD AND LANGUAGES

Several study abroad programs focus on a specific subject area and may provide an important opportunity to get an in-depth or one of a kind experience at the undergraduate level. These programs may be located in a country where Hamilton requires a specific proficiency level (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish). **We want students to know early in the process that they may need to enroll in a language class in order to participate in the program of their choice.** Furthermore, language proficiency may allow them to take more advanced courses in a specific subject area, qualify for special academic opportunities or other non-academic opportunities like an internship.

Some examples of pre-approved programs that fall into this category are: Accademia dell'Arte theater program (Italian), Lorenzo de' Medici for Art program (Italian), SIT Switzerland: International Relations and Multilateral Diplomacy for Government (French), SIT Chile: Human Rights and Social Justice (Spanish).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Major and Minor Requirements

We encourage students to inform themselves about potential major and/or minor requirements starting the second semester of their first year. Understanding that as first years, they may or may not have an idea of the major they want to pursue, we will often suggest that they set up an informational meeting with the department chair or other professor whom they might know in order to learn more about a specific area of study.

Pre-health professions students need to plan with great care with the pre-health professions advisor to ensure that they can be abroad for a semester and maintain sequenced courses at Hamilton.

Cumulative GPA

Most study abroad programs require a 3.0 cumulative GPA. We can assist students in finding programs if their GPA is 2.8 or higher but there are fewer options to choose from. If a student has a study abroad GPA lower than 2.7 but a cumulative GPA above 2.7, students would need to petition.

Required Coursework

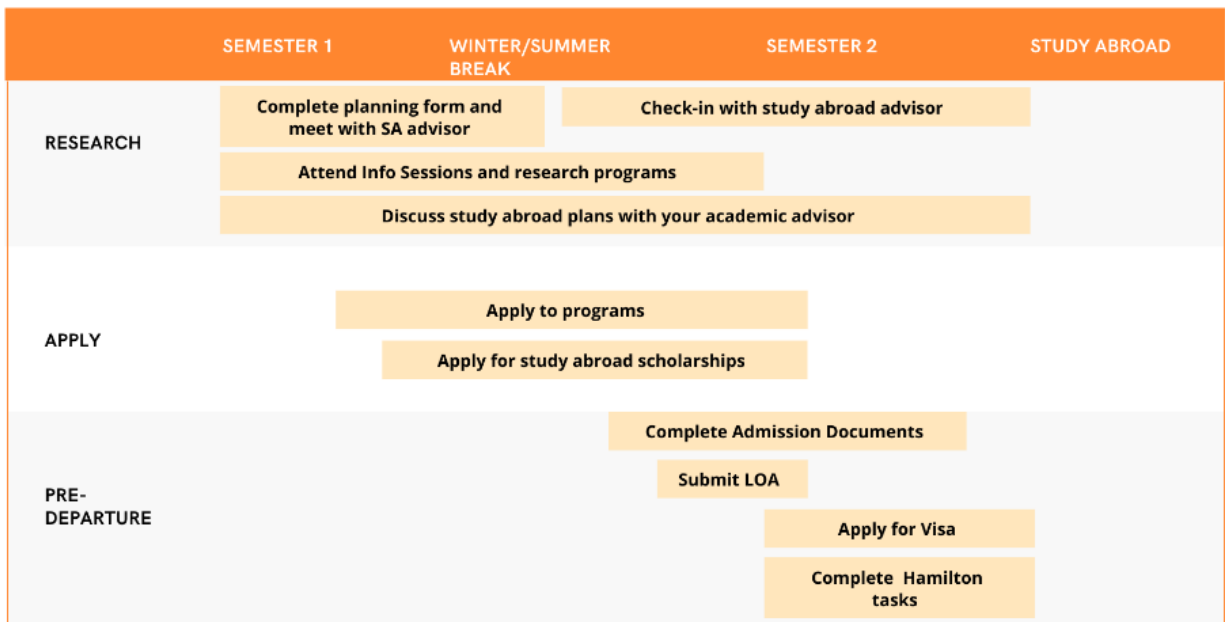
Students interested in taking Economics, Art, Theater, Math, and Science generally should have taken some coursework in these areas at Hamilton in order to be admitted into a program by a university department abroad.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STUDY ABROAD

Some students (and their parents) will understandably be concerned about the cost of study abroad. Hamilton generously allows financial aid to travel abroad and the Global Learning Office partners with many of our university and program partners abroad and the Scholarships and Fellowships coordinator at Hamilton to guide academically qualified and high financial need students to additional funding opportunities. **Students should not be discouraged by the cost of study abroad, but they should PLAN if they want to apply for national scholarships.**

TIMELINE FOR PLANNING

Students should ***start planning at least one year in advance*** of the semester they plan to study abroad or off-campus.



HOW TO GET STARTED

Complete the study abroad planning form and make an appointment with a study abroad advisor. Info can found on the [Global Learning: Getting Started](#) page.

RESOURCES FOR STUDY ABROAD

- ✓ [Hamilton College Guidelines for Transfer Credit and Study Abroad](#)
- ✓ [Global Learning Pre-Approved List](#)
- ✓ [Global Learning Getting Started Page](#)

✓ IG: [@Hamilton Abroad](#)

GLOBAL LEARNING CONTACTS

The Global Learning Office welcomes your inquiries. We are happy to speak with you about how study abroad is changing, to engage you and your department in curricular integration and to partner with you in the First-Year advising initiative. Please contact us if you have any questions.

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