International Programs

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Study Abroad

Explore the World with Minot State University! The Office of International Programs offers an array of opportunities to study abroad. Students will find options that are affordable, exciting, and rewarding.

Study Abroad programs and other international experiences, such as internship, work and travel abroad, offer students the opportunity to significantly enhance professional and personal competencies. Experience abroad expands one's knowledge of international affairs, provides a deeper understanding of other cultures, and offers new perspectives on subject matter that students have already been exposed to in the classroom. In addition, time spent in a foreign country can increase a student’s career opportunities by providing direct, hands-on experience developing the skills necessary for success in an increasingly diverse and globally interdependent workforce.

The following education abroad options are available to MSU students:

Affiliate Programs

Affiliate programs are third-party study abroad providers that have been thoroughly researched and pre-approved by the MSU International Advisory Committee. MSU affiliate programs have been chosen specifically for the quality and credibility of their academic offerings, affordability, and the level of service provided to participants. Students can choose from a wide array of locations, program lengths and fields of study through MSU affiliate providers. Current MSU affiliate programs are: ISA (International Studies Abroad), Semester at Sea and the Florence School of Fine Arts.

Faculty-led Study Tours

Study tours are a great way for Minot State students to experience the world. Travel is organized by an MSU instructor who relates course objectives with local culture, customs, famous sites, and history. These programs also give students a chance to develop deep relationships with others in their academic field. Study tour programs vary from year to year and course credit offered will differ depending on the nature of the program and the faculty member leading the program.

Exchange Programs with Partner Institutions

Minot State has developed partnerships with institutions around the world, offering MSU students the opportunity to participate in exchanges. Students benefit from existing institutional relationships and departmental familiarity of academic programs and course offerings when they choose to study at a partner institution. Current exchange partners include locations in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark.

Credit Transfer and Financial Aid

Credit from approved study abroad programs may be applied towards a student’s overall degree program at Minot State University. Students participating in a MSU Study Abroad program must be registered for full-time credits in either INT 497 (exchange programs) or INT 496 (non-reciprocal study abroad) during each term away. Registration in these courses allows for the release of financial aid to cover program costs.

General Education Credits

In addition to any course equivalency credit earned from classes taken abroad, students who successfully complete INT 496 or INT 497 will fulfill both of the following General Education Developmental Content requirements:

- IP2- Interconnecting Perspectives
- PSR1- Personal and Social Responsibility

Requirements for Participation

All students considering study abroad are required to work with the Office of International Programs staff in preparation for their time abroad. Students are encouraged to explore study abroad opportunities early in their academic career. Advance planning helps assure that study abroad programs will not unnecessarily prolong the period of time needed to get a degree, and assures that students meet application deadlines. The first step to studying abroad is to visit the International Programs website at http://www.minotstateu.edu/international, calling 701-858-4645, emailing: studyabroad@minotstateu.edu, or by stopping by the Office of International Programs on the 1st floor, Multicultural Center in the Student Center.

Study Abroad advising sessions with the Office of International Programs provide students with information regarding educational opportunities abroad, program selection, financial aid, and scholarships. In addition, the office offers support services such as pre-departure orientation sessions, assistance with the visa application process, and general cultural guidance once a student is on program.

In order to be accepted into a study abroad program, students must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher, and must have sophomore status (24 credits).
Application materials must be submitted by the appropriate application deadline and might include some or all of the following: MSU Study Abroad Application Form, Recommendation Forms completed by the Academic Advisor and another Faculty Member, Official MSU Transcripts, Personal Statement and the Host Institution or Program Provider Application. Further information on eligibility requirements, application materials, deadlines, policies, procedures and costs of participation may be found at http://www.minotstateu.edu/international.

**Application Deadlines**

Fall Semester and Academic Year Programs: February 15  
Spring Semester Programs: September 15  
Summer Programs: February 15

**Mandatory Health Insurance**

All participants in a Minot State University sponsored study abroad program or other approved study abroad programs are required to carry the international travel and health insurance policy specified by MSU. The fee for health insurance must be paid prior to the start of the study abroad program and will be billed to the student’s account.