AGENDA

- Learning Abroad Structure & Mission
- Program types & examples
- Course equivalency and GPA requirements
- Financial aid and scholarships
- Passport for Coogs
LEARNING ABROAD STAFF

- Maggie Mahoney, Advisor
- Kailey Posterick, Advisor
- Marisol Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant
- Regina Johnson, Passport Facility Manager
- Mounica Ippili, Graduate Assistant
- Isabella Benavides, Student Worker
The Learning Abroad office advances the goals of UH Global by offering undergraduate and graduate students unique, life changing, educational overseas experiences. It facilitates opportunities for students to participate in faculty-led, reciprocal exchange, and affiliated third party provider programs, as well as research collaboratives, internships, experiential and service learning, and volunteer activities.
Learning Abroad

Learning Abroad is more than just studying abroad. Students can go abroad for both curricular and co-curricular experiences:

• Study
• Intern
• Research
• Volunteer
• Attend Conferences
• Art & Music Academies
• Educational “study tours”
LEARNING ABROAD IS FOR EVERYONE!

We support all students going abroad:

• All student identities
  • UH Pride Partner

• All majors

• All budgets

• All availability
LEARNING ABROAD PROGRAMS

- Faculty-Led
- Exchange (REEP)
- Affiliated
- Student Service Orgs
- Create Your Own Adventure
• **Credit Bearing**
  – Follows THECB guidelines – 15 contact hours for 1 hour of course credit

• **Non-Credit**
  – Educational experience abroad without credit

Some programs are restricted by college, department, major, or classification
FACULTY-LED EXAMPLES

• Art History in Mexico City with Dr. Koontz (standard)
  – ARTH 3314 Latin American Art
  – 3 credits/1 course in the winter session
  – This program counts for core credit!

• Chinese Language in China with Dr. Wen (multiple course options)
  – All levels of Mandarin Chinese
  – Repeats every other academic year, Summer 2020

• Business with Dr. Sebastijanovic (hybrid)
  – Students take 3 hours online courses and travel 1 week in host country

• Honors in Barcelona with Dr. Gish (study tour)
  – Non-credit bearing
RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Students pay UH tuition to UH
- Other fees are paid abroad (housing, meals, travel)
- UH accepts students from the host institution
- Recruitment often comes from the colleges
- Balance must be maintained
- Typically Fall and/or Spring
EXCHANGE PROGRAM EXAMPLES

Swansea University

– Swansea, Wales
– Similar to UH in course offerings
– Classes taught in English
– UK Credits (4x US)
– Spring semester or full year
– Spring Political Science Internship Option (highly selective)

University of Stavanger

– Stavanger, Norway
– Svalbard: Summer field camp option for Geology students
– Courses in English (Arts & Education, Engineering, Hospitality, Social Work, Business, Nursing, Sciences, Technology)
– ECTS Credits (2x US)
Companies/Organizations that facilitate learning abroad options in 100+ countries

• Internships, Research, and Service Learning in addition to courses
• Students pay all tuition/fees to provider directly
• Many logistics provided including housing
• Prices vary
  – Destination/cost of living, program length, amenities
• Variety
  – Location, length, courses, and time of year
AFFILIATED PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- Spanish Language Immersion
  - Sol Education Abroad, Kukulcan Language School

- General Programs
  - AIFS, CEA, CIEE, ISA, KEI, SIT, USAC

- Specialty Programs
  - Semester at Sea, School for Field Studies

- Internships & Service Learning
  - Global Experiences
  - Included with General Program Providers
Earn course credit & gain experience in your field

- Summer 4 or 8 weeks abroad
  - 1 course & 1 internship OR 1 internship
- Semester courses & internship
- 3-6 hours of internship credit
- Seek approval before going abroad
STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Registered student organizations at UH who facilitate educational service-learning trips abroad

• Global Medical Brigades
• Bauer Global Brigades
• Honors Biomedical Sciences
• Global Dental Brigades
• Friends of Haiti
• APhA
Students can find their own programs and bring them to our office for review

Program approval is not guaranteed

• Staff can consult on program legitimacy, quality, and credit eligibility

Co-Curricular Program Registration with LA

• Students **MUST** register with LA for conferences, volunteering, research, and any other co-curricular programs
LEARNING ABROAD PROCESS

Stay on Track with your Learning Abroad Application Process

**STEP 1**
Learn the basics at Learning Abroad 101 & create your traveler profile on ViaTRM.

**STEP 2**
Start your program search & find classes to fit your degree.

**STEP 3**
Meet with a Learning Abroad advisor & narrow your search.

**STEP 4**
Apply for your program in ViaTRM & with your program provider/faculty loader.

**STEP 5**
Complete required paperwork & your ViaTRM checklist.

**STEP 6**
Attend mandatory pre-departure orientation.
COURSE EQUIVALENCY FORM

For Affiliated, Non-Affiliated & Exchange Programs:

- Students must provide syllabi to their advisors/faculty members
  - Students do not automatically get advisor signature, there should be a conversation/discussion
- Students should *not* complete the “course equivalent” side
- Signatures are required
  - Faculty level signature
  - Dean signature

Type of credit

- Exact equivalent
  - Need exact course number
- Elective within department/major
  - Need to know level and number of credits
- General elective credit
  - Need to know level and number of credits
# Course Equivalency Form

## Student Information
- **Student Name:**
- **PeopleSoft ID:**
- **UH College:**
- **Major:**
- **Phone:**
- **Email:**
- **Career:**
  - [ ] Undergraduate
  - [ ] Graduate
  - [ ] Post-baccalaureate

## Program Information
- **Type:**
  - [ ] Affiliated Studies
  - [ ] Exchange (REEP)
- **University Abroad:**
- **Provider:**
- **Country:**
- **Term:**
  - [ ] Spring
  - [ ] Summer
  - [ ] Fall
  - [ ] Winter
- **Year:**
- **Start Date:**
- **End Date:**

## Courses Abroad
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## UH Course Equivalent

## UH Placeholder

## Department/College Comments:

## Total

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**Learning Abroad Director**

**Student Name and Signature**
- **Date Signed:**

**UH Faculty/Advisor Name and Signature**
- **Date Signed:**

**Dean Name and Signature**
- **Date Signed:**

**Learning Abroad Director Name and Signature**
- **Date Signed:**
COURSE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

• Completed Course Equivalency Form

• Completed GPA waiver form if needed (details later)

  Below a 2.0 doesn’t go!

• Student Registration process with Learning Abroad
  – Placeholder Courses (except for faculty-led programs)
  – Billable vs. non-billable hours: xxRE vs. xxAF

• All grades earned abroad count for GPA credit

• Transcripts – sent to & input by Learning Abroad
  – Can take up to 90 days+ to arrive
  – Program end dates may differ from UH calendar
  – Could delay graduation, so it is highly inadvisable to go abroad just before graduating
COMMON ISSUES WITH CEFS

• Old forms
• Equivalency questions – call us!
• Multiple courses/extra courses
  – Just in case, student won’t be taking all classes

Notes section of Course Equivalency Form

• Use these for any stipulations
  – Student cannot take more than X credit hours
  – Student must earn a C- or better
  – Student must meet with faculty upon return from program to double check equivalency
GPA REQUIREMENTS

• All students must have a 2.5 to participate in an affiliated/non-affiliated/REEP for-credit program

• Faculty-Led students must have a 2.0 at the time of application and be approved by faculty leader

• Transfer GPA requirement

• If students have a 2.0-2.49, they can submit a GPA requirement waiver to their primary academic advisor and College Dean’s office

• This should be done before they submit a course equivalency form
Learning Abroad GPA Requirement Waiver

Student Name: 
PSID: 
Term Abroad: 
Current Cumulative GPA: 
Program Abroad: 

Students with a cumulative GPA below 2.0 at the time of application are not eligible for participation in learning abroad programs. Students with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 - 2.499 at the time of application must receive approval from their primary academic advisor and from their Dean’s office before consideration for their affiliated, reciprocal exchange, or non-affiliated program.

Students participating in a Faculty-Led program do not need to complete this form.

Student Acknowledgement: I understand if my GPA falls below a 2.00, I am not permitted to participate in my Learning Abroad program.

Student Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Academic Advisor Only

As the primary academic advisor for the student noted above, do you believe that they can successfully navigate the academic of the program abroad, recognizing that A) grades for courses taken abroad count toward the student’s GPA, and do not count as pass/fail courses, and B) academics abroad are often more rigorous and may be graded more harshly than at UI?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Please elaborate on your response:

Advisor Name: 
Title & Department: 
Advisor Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

College Dean’s Office Only

☐ Approved  ☐ Not Approved  ☐ Approved with the Following Conditions:

Designated Official Name: 
Title: 
Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Student should submit completed, original form directly to Learning Abroad - E. Cullen Bldg., Suite 103.
Students log on to create a traveler profile

Link from Learning Abroad website

Students must have a completed profile before they are accepted to a program

ViaTRM is linked to PeopleSoft, including current GPA

Once accepted, students upload documents

*Software for students only
FINANCING LEARNING ABROAD

• Financial Aid
• Grants
• Scholarships

Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship
Students who receive Pell Grants are eligible to apply for awards up to $5,000

International Education Scholarship (IES)
UH Scholarship through Learning Abroad
Amounts Vary
Competitive
PASSPORT FOR COOGS

- Official US Passport Acceptance Facility
- Open to faculty, staff, students, and the general public
- Faculty/Staff – free photos & copies
- Current UH students may have the cost of their passport book reimbursed - $110 value
- Appointments only, schedule through our office
UPCOMING EVENTS

Learning Abroad Fall Fair
• Thursday, September 12\textsuperscript{th} 11-2pm in the Houston Room

Scholarship Workshop
• Wednesday, September 18\textsuperscript{th} 10-11:30am in the LA Office

Gilman Writing Workshop
• Thursday, September 19\textsuperscript{th} 2-3:30pm in the Writing Center
MEET AND COLLABORATE

- Opportunities for streamlining course approval
- Bauer Model for course approval example

Want more info? Schedule a meeting with your department’s LA advisor for specific course & program options

Students can now make appointments in Navigate!

- Kailey: BAUER, ARCH, HRM, ENG, NSM, TECH, GCSW, Opt, Pharm, Law, Exchanges
- Maggie: CLASS, COTA, EDU, Honors, Nursing, Service Learning