



Study Abroad & Psychology



Study Abroad and Psychology Concentrations

Studying abroad can be a unique learning experience that complements and intensifies your undergraduate experience. This opportunity can enhance your cross-cultural and global understandings. In today's World, this type of environmental encounter can prepare you for a variety of diverse careers and you will gain invaluable skills and knowledge to successfully navigate the demands of globalization.

The study of Psychology varies around the world. The variety of approaches with which the world studies Psychology offers a beneficial, life-altering learning experience that helps you to pursue a successful career in the global economy. In some areas, psychology is taught solely focusing on the biological aspects, in others, it is founded on developmental principles or developed as an applied field to address the pressing and immediate problems concerning the society (e.g., South Africa). Studying abroad will provide an opportunity to understand how the socio-cultural ethos of various countries shapes the pedagogical as well as the theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of psychology. For example, the UK emphasizes psychodynamics (Freud, etc.) in their instruction.

Students are encouraged to explore their options through the Center for Global and Intercultural Study (CGIS) and elsewhere. With careful planning, and the assistance of a concentration and CGIS advisor, you can address your individual needs. Choose the program that is right for you!

Where do you start?

Begin by searching through the CGIS website of potential programs and attending the CGIS Study Abroad Fairs. Plan early; a year in advance is not too soon. You should also meet with a study abroad advisor in the CGIS. The CGIS Office requires that you attend a "Ready, Set...Go Global" presentation (see the website for more information: <http://www.isa.umich.edu/cgis/>). They also offer walk-in hours.

Choosing the right program:

1. Look through programs at the CGIS or on their website.
2. Explore options through other institutions.
3. Go to a CGIS "Ready, Set...Go Global" Presentation
4. Meet with a CGIS advisor to discuss location, transferable credits, financial cost and other information.
5. Apply to the program.

Timing: Study abroad is not just for juniors! Rather, the timing (and program choice) varies by your academic goals in studying abroad. There are programs for which sophomores are well prepared and seniors who have most of the concentration completed can definitely benefit from seeing the field of Psychology from a broader perspective of a different culture. Summers offer a more focused opportunity while the semester or year-long programs offer the possibility of gaining greater insight from

having more time in a different culture. In planning for study abroad, you should discuss with a concentration advisor how your proposed plans might best fit the department's requirements and your particular goals.

Having your courses count toward your Psychology Concentration

Before you go abroad:

1. Find a program that will fit your needs.
2. Choose courses to take through the host institution.
3. Visit the CGIS and complete all necessary paperwork.
4. Make an appointment with a Psych concentration advisor to have the course preliminarily approved; you will need to bring the course syllabus and course description for the class.

While abroad:

1. Keep your course materials (i.e. syllabus, graded assignments) in the case that they are needed by your advisor after you return.
2. Send any questions or concerns to psych.saa@umich.edu.

After your return from abroad:

1. Ensure the credit has been posted to your UM transcript.
2. Make another appointment with a concentration advisor to finalize your credits counting toward your concentration.
3. The advisor will check on the credits posted to your transcript (keep in mind that you must receive a C or better in the courses for them to transfer).

What is an appropriate course to count toward your concentration?

It should have a significant amount of psychologically based material. The course should not compare to or repeat other courses you have taken or plan to take at UM. Students can use courses in all areas of each concentration (Gateway courses, Electives, Cognates, Stats) if they are approved by a concentration advisor.

*Please note that there are restrictions on the amount of credits you may transfer into your concentration. Please check with your Psychology Dept. Concentration Advisor to determine your individual restrictions.

Having your courses count toward your LSA requirements

Meet with your LSA Advisor!

Helpful Study Abroad Contacts:

Psychology Department:
www.lsa.umich.edu/psych
(734) 764-2580

LSA Academic Advising Center:
www.lsa.umich.edu/lsa/home/
(734) 764-0332

Center for Global & Intercultural Study
(CGIS):
www.lsa.umich.edu/cgis/
(734) 764-3229

International Center
<http://www.umich.edu/~icenter/>
(734) 764-9310



CGIS Programs that offer Psychology courses:

Abroad Universities need to be a valid, accredited institution. Always check with the CGIS & the Psychology Department to ensure credits are transferable. This list is not all encompassing and is subject to change.

- *University of Melbourne, Australia
- *University of New South Wales, Australia
- *University of Western Australia, Australia
- University of Federal Minas Gerais, Brazil
- *Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Chile
- Cambridge University, England
- King's College-University of London, England
- Lancaster University, England
- London School of Economics, England
- Sussex University, England
- *University College London, England
- University of Essex, England
- University of London, England
- *University of York, England
- American University, Cairo, Egypt
- *Universite d' Aix-Marseille, France
- Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland
- University of Padua, Italy
- Ewha University, Korea
- Yonsei University, Korea
- Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico
- University of Leiden, Netherlands
- *University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- National University of Singapore, Singapore
- *University of Cape Town, South Africa
- University of Kwazulu-Natal (Durban/Pietermaritzburg), South Africa
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
- Universidad de Granada, Spain
- *Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
- *Université de Lausanne, Switzerland
- National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan
- Bilkent University, Turkey
- *Bogazici University, Turkey
- Middle East Technical University, Turkey

* While most universities will offer courses in Psychology, here are some that may be of particular interest to you.

Non-CGIS programs

University of Michigan students may also attend foreign institutions through programs offered at other American Universities or they may enroll directly at foreign universities. If considering these options, it is important to make sure how the credit will transfer ahead of time.

Regardless of whether you go through UM or not, you should still meet with CGIS to determine what paperwork you need to complete. Some possible programs may be through:

IES (International Education of Students): www.iesabroad.org

CEA (Cultural Experiences Abroad): www.gowithcea.com