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**Cc:** [Suelzer, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** Departmental Study Abroad Advisor newsletter - August 2023  
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Dear Arts & Sciences Departmental Study Abroad Advisors,

Welcome to the new semester! Overseas Programs wanted to take this opportunity to check in and share some updates and reminders before classes begin. This email contains information we thought might be useful, but if you have questions that aren't addressed, please let me know.

If you are new to the departmental study abroad advisor role, we'd love to meet you! This conversation can provide an opportunity to get a big picture overview of study abroad processes and policies in Arts & Sciences to ground your department or program's practices. Please reach out to [Amy Suelzer](#), Director of Overseas Programs, at [acsuelze@wustl.edu](mailto:acsuelze@wustl.edu) or use [Calendly](#) to schedule a time.

### Updates from Overseas Programs

- [Kim Mantia-Ochoa's](#) role has shifted to exclusive support for our on-line application system, which supports global programs in all schools on the Danforth Campus.
- [Will Bonfiglio](#) (re) joined us in July as Program Manager. His focus is study abroad scholarships, program advising for Summer and Semester programs offered by DIS Copenhagen and Stockholm and College Year in Athens, and supporting faculty-involved A&S global programs such as Ampersand and WU Summer Programs alongside [Cassidy Thompson](#). Email: [bonfiglio.w@wustl.edu](mailto:bonfiglio.w@wustl.edu).
- Dr. Anthony Pezzola, Resident Director of the [WU in Chile Program](#), will have an extended visit to St. Louis from September 11 – October 6. The WU in Chile Program combines a very immersive Spanish language and Chilean culture experience with coursework alongside local students at the Pontificia Universidad Católica (PUC), the top university in Chile. It also offers opportunities for internships, volunteer experiences, and more. Almost all fields of study offered at WU have analogues at the PUC, so it can be a good fit for most disciplines as long as the student has advanced Spanish language skills. If you want to learn more, we would be happy to set a meeting with Dr. Pezzola.

### Credit transfer from Summer 2023 and Spring 2023 in full swing and will likely continue through Fall semester

- Overseas Programs needs two things in order to start the credit evaluation process: a transcript from the program and a credit request questionnaire from the student. If either is missing, the file won't come to you. The student can see the status of these documents in their study abroad portal.
- You are only responsible for evaluating the coursework that applies to your major/minor

program. Someone else will take care of the additional courses and distribution requirement requests.

- If we had been holding files to accommodate your summer work schedule, we have begun sending them for processing. Please keep an eye on your inbox!
- If after reviewing a file, you feel a student has done truly remarkable work while abroad, you can nominate them for Study Abroad with Distinction via the credit evaluation form and a brief statement explaining why you feel the student's performance was noteworthy. Nominations are reviewed by the Study Abroad Advisory Board (SAAB) and, if conferred, the distinction appears as a marker on the student's WU Transcript. Study Abroad with Distinction should be based on more than high grades (think more Latin Honors than College Honors). The SAAB seeks nominees who have sought out challenging curricula, achieved excellence in research, and/or received special commendation from their host university or study abroad program.
- Both the UK and France experienced strikes that disrupted university teaching and/or assessment in the Spring 2023. You may hear about them from students, or see anomalies on transcripts from the affected programs, including partial reporting of grades from UK programs affected by marking strikes.

### **Looking forward**

- We are already preparing for our next application cycle (Summer, Fall, Academic Year), which opens Nov. 1. Please review the list of approved study abroad options for your department/program by searching for your major/minor here: <https://sa.wustl.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.AdvancedSearch>. These are the programs that, at one time, your department told Overseas Programs should be approved for study in your field. This list is intended to be dynamic! If you see programs that no longer serve your program's needs, or have noticed gaps you wish to fill, please contact Amy at [acsuelze@wustl.edu](mailto:acsuelze@wustl.edu).
- We expect to host a series of events in the Fall for both outbound Spring 2024 study abroad students and prospective students for future terms and will send you a list once events have been scheduled. Your help in promoting them to your students would be greatly appreciated!

### **Program updates**

- Overseas Programs and Arts & Sciences welcome Hong Kong University of Science and Technology's School of Humanities and Social Sciences - <https://shss.hkust.edu.hk/> - to its list of global partners. Arts & Sciences will receive HKUST students via exchange as well as sending our students out beginning in Fall 2024. An Overseas Programs advisor may reach out to you as we work to match HKUST's strengths to WU major and minor

programs.

- School for Field Studies programs in [Cambodia](#) and [Peru](#) have been added to our list of approved programs for Environmental Analysis and Environmental Studies. If these field-based semester study abroad programs would also be relevant to your major/minor curriculum, please let us know!
- Kings College London, University College London, and the University of Amsterdam will restrict both the number of visiting students they admit and the fields in which they may take courses. The Overseas Programs advisor will contact you if we need to resituate a Spring 2024 student who wishes to earn credit in your field, either on another program or with a different host university in the same location. These restrictions are unlikely to ease anytime soon, so please also keep it in mind if advising prospective study abroad students.
- Some programs have capacity limits that may affect admission. Bocconi University Milan, Sciences Po Paris, Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies, Middlebury CMRS Oxford, Syracuse University Florence, Organization for Tropical Studies Programs in Costa Rica and South Africa, and most of our exchange partners are among those we have identified. Some programs do not make admissions decisions until October or later. Please note this list is always changing, but we will always work to try to resituate a student if they are not admitted to their program of choice. If you or a student is concerned, please check with the [program advisor](#).

Thank you for reading and stay in touch as questions arise!

best wishes,

Amy and the Overseas Programs team

Amy C. Suelzer, Ph.D.

Director, Overseas Programs

Appointment Calendar: <https://calendly.com/amysuelzer>

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