



Overseas Programs

Dear Departmental Study Abroad Advising Colleagues,

It is that time again, study abroad applications for Spring semester 2025 will open March 1 and will be due May 1! The [Petition for Late Application](#) for Summer, Fall, and Academic Year are open until March 15. Please note that the petition for late application can only be used for regularly approved programs. If you are no longer Departmental Study Abroad Advisor for your department or program, please let us know so we can update our website!

The volume of applications for Spring study abroad can be heavy. Here are some ways Overseas Programs can support you as you are working with applicants:

- [Overseas Programs advisors](#) are here to answer your questions as well as your students' questions
- Overseas Programs advisors and peer advisors are happy to participate in a study abroad information session if your department would like to organize one
- We have handouts like the general process graphic, attached, that you can share with students
- We can produce additional materials if you need them – let us know what would be helpful!

Feedback requested

Before launching the Spring 2025 applications, we are asking for your input on final tweaks to the study plan and feedback on the revised credit request questionnaire, both attached. Based on your feedback, we have added the year and changed the approval mechanism for individual courses from signatures (which tended to lock the document) to initials in the Study Plan. For the Credit Request Questionnaire, our goal was to capture the most relevant information about coursework taken abroad in an organized and brief way to make it easier for advisors to evaluate. Let us know how we did by completing [this questionnaire](#) by February 28th.

Updates to the Study Abroad Program list

New semester programs were approved by the Study Abroad Advisory Board for Spring 2025 and beyond:

[CET Brazil: Social Justice and Inequality in São Paulo](#)

[CET Colombia: Race, Identity, and Ethnicity in Colombia](#)

[Decolonizing the Mind: Racial and Environmental Justice \(Namibia and South Africa\)](#)

[SIT Study Abroad Spain: Social Movements, Democracy, and Cultural Identity](#) (Replaces

SIT Spain and Ireland: Geopolitics and the future of the EU, which is being retired after Spring 2024)

If any of these newly-approved options seems like a valuable addition to you department's list of study abroad programs, please contact me to discuss.



We have put **King's College London** and **University College London** on hiatus after seeing increasing restrictions on availability of certain areas of study, unreliable admission, and difficulty in placement in suitable courses. Other UK institutions remain available.

Other important program advising information for Spring 2025

Denmark Due to anticipated high demand and concerns about capacity, Overseas Programs cannot accept departmental petitions for any of the DIS Copenhagen programs for Spring 2025.

Exchange programs We expect very limited spots for our A&S exchanges with Bocconi University in Milan and Sciences Po in Paris. Students considering these programs should have a back-up option in mind.

Ireland Trinity College Dublin is not a good match for students with specific course needs or those hoping to earn credit in multiple TCD departments, since each department has its own protocols that can make crossing boundaries complicated. Admission decisions come very late and students must be flexible in their course choices.

Netherlands Both partner universities of the IES Amsterdam program have announced caps on the number of international students they will admit. IES has developed a list of priority majors for consideration but cannot guarantee admission in those priority areas. The [WU program page](#) has been updated to reflect these limitations. Due to these restrictions, Overseas Programs cannot accept departmental petitions or applications from students with minors (not majors) in priority fields.

UK [Middlebury College CMRS Oxford Humanities Program](#) has a small capacity, is very selective, and does not admit students on a rolling basis. Students considering this option should consult the Overseas Programs advisor and have a back-up option in mind.

We continue to monitor the impact of labor actions on Queen Mary, SOAS, University of Edinburgh and University of St. Andrews for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Students may apply for Spring 2025, but if there are significant concerns after we have more data from the 2023-2024 cohort, we may need to redirect students.

Caveat Every semester is a new adventure. Programs that were once reliable may become glitchy and new issues may come up at any time. If the known challenges listed above significantly restrict the choices for your students, we are happy to help you identify alternatives. Currently approved programs at [University College Dublin](#), [University of Sydney*](#), [University of Queensland*](#), [University of Cape Town*](#), [University of Auckland*](#), and [Chinese University of Hong Kong](#) could offer good options in many fields. Please note that the programs with * are on Southern Hemisphere calendars, so Spring term may be February – July.

A reminder about petitions

There are two types of petitions for semester programs, a [Departmental Petition for a WU-Approved Program](#) and an [A&S Petition for Alternative Program](#). Departmental advisors should be aware that there are significant differences between the two.



Departmental Petition

- For students who would like to study on a program that is approved by WU but not by their major department
- Requires an endorsement from the DSAA indicating the curriculum is suitable and confirmation of the study plan
- Follows the normal application deadlines
- Is reviewed by Overseas Programs staff.

Petition for Alternative Program

- For students who want to participate in a program that WU does not approve
- Requires a clear and compelling academic need (beyond geographical preference or desire to earn credit for multiple majors on the same program), significant preparation in the proposed field of study and, often, language and/or area studies coursework. The program must also have a robust curriculum in the proposed area of study.
- Requires strong endorsement from the DSAA and approval of the study plan
- Has an earlier application deadline of April 15 for Spring 2025 and requirement to meet with the Director of Overseas Programs to proceed
- Is reviewed by the Study Abroad Advisory Board – the bar for approval is much higher.

If a student approaches you to discuss a Petition for Alternative Program, please refer the student to me and contact me directly before you encourage the student and provide an endorsement. Previous experience with the program, program reputation, and other factors I am aware of could affect likelihood of approval.

A final note, if your department is interested in developing a custom or faculty-led summer study abroad program, Overseas Programs is here to support you in that process from conceptualization through implementation. Because of all that is involved in the development of a new program, we ask for a long runway – 18 - 24 months before the intended launch is ideal. Please reach out if this is something your department wishes to explore.

This email will be archived on the Overseas Programs website for your convenience - <https://overseas.wustl.edu/faculty-and-staff#primary>

Best wishes and happy advising,

Amy and the [Overseas Programs team](#)