

ADVISING STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS

Ensuring successful planning for students wishing
to study abroad

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- ▶ Make students more marketable
 - ▶ Skills acquired through study abroad are integral in today's society
 - ▶ *Multicultural competence, maturity, independence, cross-cultural knowledge, problem solving, critical analysis, flexibility, responsibility, listening, etc. etc. etc.*
- ▶ Interpersonal and intrapersonal development
- ▶ Professional benefits
 - ▶ Competitive edge
 - ▶ Networking abroad
- ▶ Contribute to a global campus

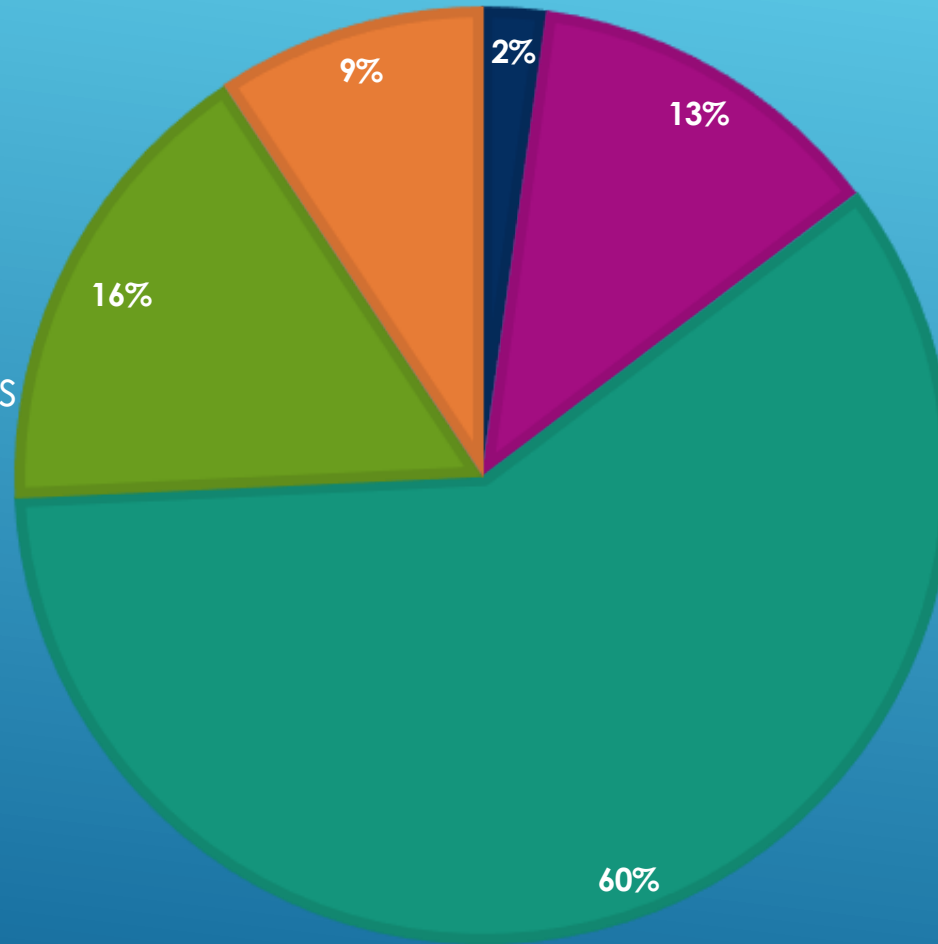
BENEFITS OF STUDY ABROAD

- ▶ **Finances**
 - ▶ Financial Aid
 - ▶ Scholarships and grants
- ▶ **Outside-the-classroom obligations**
 - ▶ Outside-the-classroom learning
 - ▶ Resume building
- ▶ **Graduating on time**
 - ▶ Course pre-approval process
 - ▶ Summer and J-term programs
 - ▶ Internship and student teaching experiences
- ▶ **Foreign language requirements**
 - ▶ International coursework in English

PERCEIVED BARRIERS

STUDY ABROAD GRADUATION RATES FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTER FREDONIA AS INCOMING FRESHMEN

■ Did Not Graduate ■ Early Graduation ■ On Time Graduation ■ Late Graduation ■ Uncertain



Compared to Fredonia

Early or On-Time Graduation: 73% vs 47%

Within 6 Years: 89% vs. 67%

89% of study abroad students graduated within 6 years.

- ▶ 600+ study abroad program options
 - ▶ www.suny.edu/studyabroad
 - ▶ Programs differing in length, focus, cost, location, etc.
- ▶ Classes taken while abroad can count for free elective, major, minor, or Fredonia Foundations credit, if equivalent
- ▶ Study abroad credit transfers back and is counted toward student GPA
- ▶ Courses taken abroad will show up on student transcript and Degree Evaluation
- ▶ Financial Aid can be used to finance study abroad

THE BASICS

- ▶ <https://home.fredonia.edu/studyabroad/for-advisors>
- ▶ The Academic Advisor is crucial to successful planning for a study abroad experience
- ▶ Advisor can:
 - ▶ Determine best term to study abroad
 - ▶ Advise on coursework that can be taken abroad/at home university
 - ▶ Help students plan their remaining semesters at Fredonia

ACADEMIC ADVISOR'S ROLE

Student Decides Whether or Not to Study Abroad

OIE's Role: Discuss the benefits of study abroad with interested students; provide basic information on finding programs, scholarships, etc.

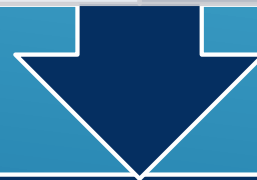
Academic Advisor's Role: Talk with student as early as possible to determine how study abroad fits into degree and identify best times to study abroad; refer student to OIE.



Student Identifies Possible Programs

OIE's Role: Advise student on application process for program(s), encourage student to meet with advisor to go over coursework.

Academic Advisor's Role: Review program specifics (course information, etc.) to help student determine which program best fits into degree.



Student Selects Program, Prepares to Study Abroad

OIE's Role: Assist student with next steps (visas, housing, registration, payment); facilitate pre-departure orientation.

Academic Advisor/Department Chair's Role: Go over course descriptions and syllabi to determine which courses transfer; meet with student to prepare for semester they return to Fredonia.

THE STUDY ABROAD PROCESS

- ▶ Do students in your department need to take courses in sequence/at Fredonia?
 - ▶ Helping students plan for a semester of Fredonia Foundations or free electives
 - ▶ Finding some flexibility in the curriculum
 - ▶ Encouraging internship or practical experience abroad (if possible)
 - ▶ Developing study abroad programs/partnerships that benefit students in that major

WHAT IF MAJOR CURRICULUM MUST
BE TAKEN AT FREDONIA?

- ▶ Once a student is accepted to study abroad, they may begin the process of seeking pre-approval for courses taken
- ▶ Major/Minor courses: student meets with Department Chair to determine what courses abroad match Fredonia courses
 - ▶ While courses may have different titles, *content* can be very similar
 - ▶ Department Chair may ask for course syllabus/description to make determination
- ▶ Fredonia Foundations courses: student meets with FF department chair AND Associate Provost for Curriculum, Assessment, and Academic Support
- ▶ Free Electives: the easiest courses to transfer, as there is no approval needed for free electives
- ▶ How can you compare curriculum?

CREDIT PRE-APPROVAL PROCESS

- ▶ It is important that students understand what coursework needs to be taken when they return to Fredonia
 - ▶ During advising week, students and advisors should fill out the Course Advisement Form together
 - ▶ Students are asked to carry Course Advisement Form with them when they go abroad
- ▶ Discuss what they are hoping to get out of their program
 - ▶ Why is study abroad important for their major?
 - ▶ How will this program help them grow in their field?

WHEN A STUDENT IS PREPARING TO
GO...

- ▶ Students are *required* to notify OIE and Department Chair(s) of any changes to course schedule if they want pre-approval for coursework
- ▶ Students must reach out to Academic Advisor during Advisement Week to receive PIN to register for coursework
- ▶ Student is responsible for notifying OIE, department, and others if they intend to extend their program
- ▶ If the student plans to graduate after their term abroad, student is required to apply for graduation

WHILE ABROAD

- ▶ Assist student with course approvals that they did not have pre-approved
- ▶ Students gain cultural knowledge and professional skills while abroad– engage them!
- ▶ Ask student to write up advice for future students in the major hoping to go abroad
- ▶ Work with your department/student returnees to promote study abroad within the major
- ▶ Student may bring new expertise to the area– encourage them to do research, internships, or a thesis based around their experience/new knowledge

UPON RETURNING

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QUESTIONS?

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