**Top 10 Things to Know When Advising Your Student About**

**Term-Time Study Abroad**

**1. Harvard students DO study abroad!** Though Harvard College does not have its own term-time study abroad programs, Harvard students from all academic disciplines study abroad each term through external programs, or by directly enrolling into international institutions. Please take a look at these programs [here](https://oie.fas.harvard.edu/pages/term-timeprograms).

**2. Study abroad is about finding the right fit!** As there are so many options for study abroad available, the Office of International Education works with each study abroad student individually, to match his/her academic goals, personal aims and linguistic skills to facilitate a truly transformative experience abroad.

**3. How to choose a program?** Students should start at OIE’s web site: [oie.fas.harvard.edu](http://oie.fas.harvard.edu/). Here there are great resources regarding course credit eligibility, financial aid, deadlines, past study abroad student experiences, etc. Not to mention the list of 200+ approved study abroad programs all over the world!

**4. The application process to study abroad is two-fold.** Students must apply for admission to their study abroad program and for transfer credit to Harvard, through the OIE:

**To apply for transfer credit**, students must log onto

[oie.fas.harvard.edu](http://oie.fas.harvard.edu/). It is an on-line process with one form in

hard copy (Approval of Term-Time Study Abroad Plan). This

form requires students to meet with **concentration advisers and**

**Allston Burr Assistant Deans.**

**5. Credit Transfer Application Deadlines:**

Students apply one semester before their study abroad experience:

October 1st for Spring applications

March 1st for Fall applications

**6. Study Abroad and Credit Transfer Policies**

* Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing.
* Students can transfer a maximum of 32 credits for study abroad (16 credits per term). These can be courses for concentration, elective, and secondary field credit, as well as courses counting towarad a language citation. All courses must be reviewed by the academic department and/or Elective Credit Committee for approval.
* All courses must be taken for a letter grade.
* Study abroad grades (and course titles) do not appear on the Harvard transcript, nor are they calculated into the Harvard GPA.

7. **Full course load:** All students are expected to take a full course load of credit eligible courses.

**What makes a course credit eligible?**

* Each course needs to be in the Liberal Arts & Sciences (no pre-professional courses).
* Each course must be at least 4 weeks in duration, and meet for a minimum of 36 classroom hours.
* Students cannot repeat a course abroad.
* Internships and service opportunities are not credit eligible.

**8. Each course is individually reviewed by Harvard faculty.**

Each course is reviewed twice by Harvard faculty; once during the student’s study abroad add-drop period, and once when the student returns to campus and their study abroad transcript has been received.

**9. Financial aid travels with the student!** [Financial aid](https://college.harvard.edu/financial-aid/applying-aid/studying-abroad) can help cover everything from airfare to books and ground transportation. Generally, a student can expect to have the parent and student contribution remain the same. (Financial concerns should not be a hinderance to a Harvard student from studying abroad!)

**10. A diversity of students study abroad!** Students from every academic discipline study abroad (even SEAS)! They are also premed, athletes, first generation, student organization leaders, thesis writers, etc. To receive past study abroad student perspectives, advisees can contact the [OIE Student Advisers](https://oie.fas.harvard.edu/people/people-terms/student-advisers), and review the [Student Experience](https://oie.fas.harvard.edu/pages/outside-yard) page of the OIE website.

**FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION:**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR ADVISEES TO THE OIE DURING DROP IN HOURS:**

**77 Dunster St**

**2 – 4 pm,**

**Monday - Friday**