



The College of
Agricultural, Food and
Environmental Sciences

Knowledge for a changing world

“A quote here from someone in the department who has something interesting, enticing, and relevant to say about why Environmental Science students should consider study abroad.”

**Chair or Dir. of
Undergrad Studies
Environmental Science**

DRAFT

Learning Abroad Center
(a merged unit of Global Campus & ISTC)
University of Minnesota
230 Heller Hall
271 19th Avenue S
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612.626.9000
888.700.UOFM
UMabroad@umn.edu
www.UMabroad.umn.edu

An equal opportunity educator and employer.
Environmental Science Adv Sheet • 8/03

Study Abroad in Environmental Science

The skills and knowledge that you will gain as an environmental scientist are in high demand in many regions of the world. Therefore many of our graduates pursue international opportunities both during their degree program and following graduation. Study abroad exposes you to environmental problems and solutions that are unique to specific areas of the world. And, since your study abroad experience can be integrated into your degree, it won't delay your graduation. Study abroad programs specifically for Environmental Science are available in regions all over the world including Africa, Oceania, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Plan your study abroad program today and see the world!

Study abroad can help you...

- Find unique and challenging coursework in many different fields of environmental science around the world
- Understand environmental science issues from an international perspective
- Expand your cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Broaden your academic horizons
- Globalize your world view
- Improve your language skills

The opportunity to experience another culture and gain an international perspective on your career is invaluable to your professional development. International experience will add to your career options and avenues for professional advancement.

Set goals and plan for results

The process of selecting a study abroad program is similar to selecting your major or minor.

- Begin planning as soon as possible. It is never too early to start.
- Set some goals. There are many good study abroad programs, and the best one for you depends on **what you want**.
- Prioritize your goals. Consider long-term academic and professional goals, as well as on-campus degree requirements.
- Prepare academically. You may need to take language or other prerequisite courses for your chosen program.
- Give yourself time to research and talk to advisers and students who have studied abroad.

We have screened hundreds of international programs and identified several with a proven track record for on-site service, academic excellence, and good fit with the needs of environmental science students. Careful consideration of these program options will allow you to find a program that meets your individual needs.

Can I afford to study abroad?

YES! Early planning for study abroad helps you make cost-effective program decisions, and it also helps you prepare your finances through savings, scholarships, and financial aid. Financial aid applies to study abroad and, in some cases, your eligibility will increase to cover additional expenses.

The University of Minnesota offers more than \$500,000 in scholarships for study abroad. The Learning Abroad Center provides resources on these and a variety of other scholarships available to undergraduate students. Stop by the Learning Abroad Center to research all your options.

The College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences also offer significant scholarships through the **Academic Enhancement Program**. The Academic Enhancement Program supports students incorporating an overseas experience as part of their education while at the University. Go to 190 Coffey Hall or call 612.624.2710 for more information.

What are my next steps?

Attend a First-Step Meeting

Learn about study abroad resources and advising by attending a First Step Meeting at the Learning Abroad Center. See www.UMabroad.umn.edu or call 612.626.9000 for the latest schedule.

Investigate Programs

Use the Learning Abroad Center catalog, resource center, website, and advisers at the Learning Abroad Center and at the International Agriculture Programs Office in 190 Coffey Hall to find a program that fits your goals.

Talk to your COAFES adviser

Use an Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form to get approval from your academic adviser for major-specific courses. Your advisor in Environmental Science will work with the Undergraduate Studies Committee to pre-approve study abroad courses to meet your professional and area of emphasis requirements.

Academic Considerations for Environmental Science Students

How do I select a study abroad program?

Over 300 programs are available to University of Minnesota students. The Department of Soil, Water, and Climate has worked closely with the Learning Abroad Center to select some programs that fit particularly well for Environmental Science. All areas of emphasis in Environmental Science include options for study abroad. Consider your area of emphasis, your geographic and ecosystem interests, and your academic goals. Use this sheet; talk with your Environmental Science adviser; work with a Learning Abroad Center program selection adviser. You'll find a program that fits your goals.

The programs on this sheet were chosen because they offer a diverse representation of issues in environmental science, strong basic science courses, unique cultural experiences, or specialized internship options. While we suggest you look at these highlighted programs first, feel free to browse the Learning Abroad Center website (www.UMabroad.umn.edu) or catalogue also.

As the Department of Soil, Water, and Climate works with the Learning Abroad Center and the COAFES Office of International Agricultural Programs, the specific program recommendations on this sheet may change, so check with your adviser for the latest.

How will the study abroad program fulfill my requirements?

Liberal Education: All liberal education credits can be fulfilled abroad. All universities that qualify for study abroad offer courses that can fulfill requirements. The Learning Abroad Center has worked with the liberal education committee to pre-approve many courses. You can find the Study Abroad Liberal Education Database on-line by visiting www.UMabroad.umn.edu. With advance planning other courses can also be approved.

Major requirements: All basic science, Environmental Science core courses, and Environmental Science track courses can be taken at approved universities. There are also opportunities to fulfill the internship requirement abroad.

Soil and Water Sciences Track

All track courses can be taken at selected universities

Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Track

All track courses can be taken at selected universities

Environmental Management Track

All track courses can be taken at selected universities

Land and Atmospheric Sciences Track

All track courses can be taken at selected universities

When should I study abroad?

Freshman

The first semester is the best time to start planning for study abroad. May Session or Summer Session programs can be a great first step and fulfill many liberal education requirements as well as provide the opportunity to work on a second language.

Sophomore

Sophomore year is a good time to fulfill liberal education requirements, take basic science courses and/or core Environmental Science courses while abroad.

Junior

Junior year is a great time to spend a semester or year abroad. Short-term programs over May Session or Summer Session are also other options. Juniors will likely choose a program that is focused on environmental science. Consider taking the beginning courses in your general track area and completing any remaining liberal education requirements.

Senior

As students must take their upper division Environmental Science courses at the University of Minnesota, seniors who wish to study abroad need to plan carefully. Seniors should meet with their academic adviser immediately when considering study abroad.

May-Term or Summer Session

Consider short-term programs as a first international experience that fulfills liberal education requirements, or spend a summer conducting independent research, completing an Honors project, or doing an internship abroad. Studying a second language adds to your employment opportunities.

Minor in International Agriculture

COAFES recognizes the international nature of global food and agricultural systems as well as the interdependence of environmental systems. The minor provides students an opportunity to integrate course work in agricultural sciences; area, cultural and language studies; plus an overseas experience. Students select course work independently or through package programs available through the Learning Abroad Center. For more info contact John Vreyens (vreyens@umn.edu)

What do I do after I have selected a program?

Talk with your adviser! Environmental Science students need to start working on the Academic Planning for Study Abroad (APSA) form as soon as they have chosen a program. You and your advisor should complete the APSA form together. Courses you want to take that have not been pre-approved will need to be considered by your advisor.

Visit the Learning Abroad Center for help with financial planning, travel planning, and program application.

Africa & Middle East

South Africa

University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg and Durban

The University of Natal has two campuses, one in the coastal city of Durban and the other 45 miles inland at Pietermaritzburg. Both campuses have extensive course offerings in environmental science with a particular emphasis on issues relevant to southern Africa. Areas of study include environment and development in South Africa, water resources, and pollution biology. (Interstudy)

Rhodes University, Grahamstown

Located in the Eastern Cape, Rhodes University is a highly respected center of academic achievement. Rhodes is particularly known for its tutorial system, based on the Oxford and Cambridge Universities model, in which students are assigned to tutorial groups within academic departments allowing for individualized instruction and lively debate. Students can choose from any course offered by the university including classes in environmental science such as environmental management and environmental issues at global, sub-regional and national levels. (Interstudy)

Americas

Costa Rica

Ecology of the Rainforest in Costa Rica

Students on this program participate in tropical biology and conservation programs based at the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve in the mountains of northwestern Costa Rica and spend time at several other sites throughout the country. The program offers courses in tropical diversity, tropical community ecology and humans in the tropics. Each course combines classroom-based learning and extensive hands-on experience and experiments. Instruction is in English. (CIEE)

Guatemala

Environment, Economy, and Community in Latin America

This spring semester program examines environmental and development issues in Guatemala. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to exploring the current political, economic, social, and environmental conditions in Guatemala. Students study the central questions of what is the relationship between different communities and the environment and what is the impact of different communities on the environment. Two years of Spanish are required. (HECUA)

Asia & Oceania

Australia

Australian Wildlife and Conservation

This six-week summer program, specially designed for students from the US, explores the physical and biological nature of selected Australian landscapes. This program combines classroom-based work at the University of New South Wales and extensive field study excursions - including Kakadu National Park and the Great Barrier Reef. Topics covered include conservation, preservation of biodiversity and the study of flora and fauna unique to Australia. (Arcadia)

The Australian National University, Canberra

Located in Australia's capital city, ANU is one of Australia's most distinguished universities. Through its School of Resource Management and Environmental Science, students can choose from a great diversity of course offerings ranging from biodiversity conservation to environmental politics and policies to wildlife and habitat management. (Butler, Arcadia)

The University of Adelaide

The University of Adelaide is a center of academic excellence in South Australia. Surrounded by outback, the Flinders Mountain Range, and the Pacific Ocean, Adelaide is a particularly interesting place to study environmental science. Students can take classes from throughout the university including extensive offerings in environmental science such as natural resource management, environmental management, and tropical environments. (Butler, IES)

James Cook University, North Queensland

With its tropical location near the Great Barrier Reef, rainforest, and outback, James Cook University provides an ideal location to study environmental science. JCU has long been respected as a world leader in tropical environmental study with coursework available in areas such as tropical rainforest ecology, hydrology, marine ecology, and environmental assessment. Courses that feature fieldwork, both on the reef and in the rainforest, are available. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Asia and Oceania

Australia (continued)

The University of Western Australia, Perth

The University of Western Australia is one of the country's leading universities with an international reputation for excellence. Students can take classes throughout the university including classes in their Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. Students will find a wide variety of subjects in environmental science such as hydrology, environmental geoscience, and land and water management. (Butler, Arcadia)

The University of Queensland, Brisbane

The University of Queensland, located in the tropics, provides a opportunity to study environment science in a very different climate from Minnesota. The University of Queensland has a highly regarded reputation in environmental science with a particular emphasis on field studies. There are opportunities to study topics such as arid zone ecology, marine botany, and coral reef ecology. (Butler, Arcadia)

New Zealand

Massey University, North Palmerston

Massey University is New Zealand's largest university and is located in New Zealand's second largest inland city. It has a long tradition of academic and research excellence across a wide range of disciplines. Students can choose from any course offered by the university including a wide variety of environmental science classes available through their Institute of Natural Resources including soil and water resources, ecology, and conservation and environmental planning. (Butler)

Natural Resource Management in New Zealand

This intensive four-week program summer program, specially designed for students from the US, offers an introduction to New Zealand's biogeography and the history and current policy in natural resource management. This program combines classroom-based academics as well as extensive field-study excursions around New Zealand's South Island. Topics covered include sustainable use and management of land, conservation and natural resource management and management of groundwater. (Arcadia)

Thailand

Environment, Ecology and Development in Thailand

This program provides students the opportunity to learn about a broad range of environmental and development issues in Thailand. By incorporating classroom-based work and extensive practical field experience, students gain a grassroots perspective on globalization and its impact on local communities. Students will have the opportunity to explore many environmental issues including the effects of dams, organic farming, and pollution. Instruction is in English. (CIEE)

Europe

Germany

Area Studies in Berlin

This program provides students with the opportunity to take courses in areas such as German language and literature, business and economics, and history. In addition, students can take regular university classes at Humboldt University in biology, chemistry, environmental science, and geography. This program also offers an extensive range of internships in many fields. Instruction is in German. (IES)

Ireland

University of Limerick, Limerick

The University of Limerick is located on the west coast of Ireland on the banks of the Shannon River and is known for its innovation and excellence in the sciences. The University has extensive course offerings in environmental science including environmental management, conservation ecology, and geoscience. (Butler, Arcadia)

Sweden

Karlstad University

Karlstad University offers students the opportunity to study in English in the heart of Scandinavia. Coursework available in environmental science includes natural resource management, sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region, and swedish environment and culture. (ISEP)

Ukraine

National Security Education Program

In partnership with Penn State University, students study at Lviv State Agriculture University. This program includes an on-line culture course in May followed by a Ukrainian language course fall semester. During Spring semester, students continue Ukrainian language with five additional courses (in English) in residence at Lviv State Agriculture University. (COAFES)

Europe

United Kingdom

Lancaster University, England

Located on the edge of England's Lake District, Lancaster University is one of the UK's leading universities known for its comprehensive curricula, esteemed faculty, and a top-ranked department of environmental science. Students can enroll in any course offered by the university including a wide variety of classes in their Institute of Environmental and Natural Sciences in areas such as hydrological processes, environmental management, and environmental assessment. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

University of East Anglia, England

The University of East Anglia is a modern university with an emphasis on creativity and open-mindedness. UEA has one of the largest and most distinguished departments of environmental science in the UK. The department has extensive course offerings in areas such as environmental risk management, ecology, hydrology, and energy resources and conservation. The department is also home to several research centers including the Climatic Research Unit; the Centre for Social and Economic Research on the Global Environment; the Centre for Environmental Risk; and the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Conservation. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

University of Stirling, Scotland

The University of Stirling, located in central Scotland, is often referred to as the "Gateway to the Highlands." Stirling provides an interesting location for studying the environment. The campus has its own loch and woodlands set against the backdrop of the Ochil Hills. For field opportunities there is easy access to landscapes as diverse as the Scottish Highlands, the Forth estuary and land degraded through past industrial activities. Students can take classes throughout the university including classes in their environmental science department on topics such as environmental policy, environmental change, and conservation issues. (Butler, Arcadia)

University of Leeds, England

The University of Leeds is one of Britain's largest and has an international reputation for excellence. The School of the Environment at Leeds has also achieved an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research. The School offers a wide variety of courses and is also home to three research centers: the Institute for Atmospheric Science; the Environmental Geochemistry Group; and the Leeds Institute for Environmental Science and Management. (Butler)

Country Varies

Global Seminars

Every year the Learning Abroad Center offers up to ten short seminars abroad led by UMTC faculty during May Session or over winter break. Global Seminars can help you get an international experience in a short period, earn credit and fulfill liberal education requirements. Topics and locations vary each year. Check the Learning Abroad Center website for a list of this year's Global Seminars. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

International Field Study Seminars

Designed as introductory courses to explore agricultural production systems, food processing and market systems, these seminars provide intensive study in several countries. Students participate in pre-departure seminars on the country. The two-week country visit is organized by faculty at partner institutions in collaboration with UM faculty. Past seminars visited Russia, Morocco, China, Germany and Costa Rica. (COAFES)

MAST International

The MAST International program provides qualified individuals a travel abroad opportunity to gain hands-on experience in agriculture, horticulture, agri-business, forestry or related areas. This cross-cultural experience living and working in another country helps you develop a global perspective and a broader understanding of the world. Contact: Susan VonBank svonbank@umn.edu (COAFES)

Minnesota Studies in International Development

Ecuador, Ghana, India, Kenya or Senegal

MSID offers credit through coursework, research, field placements, and internships in this "mini- Peace Corps," program where students can work along side host nationals on development projects or with agencies working in their area of interest. Enrollment options include both semester and academic year opportunities. MSID has five sites, including Ghana, India, and Kenya (no prior language study required), Ecuador (two years of Spanish required), and Senegal (two years French required).

Internship placements are individualized. Past examples include:

- Environmental monitoring in the Ecuadorian rain forest.
- Assisting with a watershed development project in the Indo-Ganges plains of India.
- Animal care for conservation/rehabilitation program through the Kenya Wildlife Service. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Country Varies

Student Project for Amity among Nations (SPAN)

Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe

This field study program offers a unique opportunity for students to create their own study abroad experience by conducting independent research under the guidance of qualified academic advisors during the summer. Sites vary each year. (SPAN)

Directed Study

Study abroad opportunities are not limited to formal instruction. Directed Study allows students to create a contract between themselves and a faculty member that outlines a project and credits to be earned. This provides the opportunity to work independently on a project of your own design while abroad, under the direction of a University of Minnesota faculty member. Ask a Learning Abroad Center adviser, or speak with your academic adviser about this option.

Language Study

Study abroad is a great way to acquire second language skills. Fluency in another language can be a real asset for a career in the environmental sciences. The following are a couple of examples of intensive language programs that can really speed up language learning. Many more language options are available, see the Learning Abroad Center for details.

China

Chinese Language and Culture in Tianjin

This University of Minnesota-sponsored program at Nankai University permits you to take all of second, or third-year Chinese in a single summer and be ready for the next level in the fall. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

France

Study Abroad in Montpellier

Spend a summer studying in one of France's fastest-growing cities. Montpellier is an ideal place for an introduction to French language and culture. This UMTC program offers intensive French language study for students at beginning through advanced levels. You can choose a four or eight week term. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Mexico

Language and Culture in Mexico, Cuernavaca

This UMTC sponsored Spanish-language program offers a variety of enrollment options: fall or spring semester and/or any of five three-week terms, one during the winter break and four in May and summer. You can take a full language course in a term or up to three in a semester; a semester plus an adjacent term, or the four back-to-back summer terms, can yield two full years of language credit. (UMTC Learning Abroad Center)

Program Sponsor Websites

To learn more about these programs, come to the Learning Abroad Center and use our resources and advisers, or visit the website that corresponds with the program sponsor listed in parentheses with each program description.

Arcadia

www.arcadia.edu/cea

Butler

www.ifs-butler.org

CIEE

www.ciee.org/study/index.html

COAFES International Agricultural Programs

oiap.coafes.umn.edu

HECUA

www.hecua.org

Interstudy

www.interstudy.org

IES

www.iesabroad.org

ISEP

www.isep.org/nus

UMTC Learning Abroad Center, SPAN

www.UMabroad.umn.edu