



## STUDY ABROAD

To study abroad is to embark on an amazing intellectual journey that will lead you to discover new ways of thinking and learning. You will be able to immerse yourself in the culture and language of another country; meet people from different parts of the world; journey through historic cities, charming villages, and breathtaking terrains; reflect on your own culture from a new perspective, and acquire a unique sense of self-reliance. While study abroad is rewarding for students who are learning another language, exploring their own heritage, or studying international politics, virtually every discipline — from biology to music to business administration — is enriched by this experience.

Illinois Wesleyan offers a wide variety of study abroad programs in over 60 countries with the goal of offering students in every discipline a program of study that will enhance your undergraduate academic and personal experiences. As you begin your search for an appropriate program, and in subsequent explorations, you need to spend some time taking a serious inventory of the interests and goals that are most important to you. Do you want to attain fluency in a foreign language? Do you want to find course work that will supplement your major or approach it from a different perspective? Is the possibility of an internship or practice teaching experience something you had hoped to incorporate into your college career? Would you be comfortable being “on your own” in a foreign university, or would you prefer to be a member of a group of American students studying together, or would you prefer the IWU abroad experience offered each fall in London and spring in Madrid?

The study abroad experience you choose will be an important part of your curriculum and your personal development. Above all, it should fit your goals. The Study Abroad Director is available for individual advising appointments to help you select a program that best meets your academic and personal goals. You should also plan to meet with your department chair and academic advisor to discuss the courses which may

be eligible for major/minor credit and your overall progress towards graduation. The International Office website also has a wealth of information on programs available to IWU students.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Consider this brochure the first step of a journey of a lifetime.

## IWU PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATED PROGRAMS

Illinois Wesleyan University provides a wide variety of opportunities and experiences in countries all over the world. Students can choose to study abroad through our own programs, in London or Madrid, or through one of our many affiliated study abroad programs. The IWU programs provide you with the challenging and rewarding experience of studying abroad while maintaining a close connection to IWU faculty and peers and to our General Education goals of fostering independence, critical thinking, imagination, social awareness, and sensitivity to others.

In giving its approval for participation in one of our affiliated programs, Illinois Wesleyan warrants that, to the best of its judgment, the program is an appropriate curricular option for students and worthy of Illinois Wesleyan credit.

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## PLANNING TO STUDY ABROAD

You should begin planning for study abroad as early as possible. It is not too early to attend information sessions or to visit the Director of Study Abroad during your first year at Illinois Wesleyan to learn about opportunities and begin exploring different options. The earlier you have an idea in mind of what you think you would like to do, the more time you will have to make on-campus course choices that lay sound curricular foundations for your future program abroad.

**Who:** Illinois Wesleyan students have the opportunity to study in the IWU London program as early as their Fall semester sophomore year. To study with any of our affiliated programs, ordinarily students go during their junior year, but talented sophomores and interested seniors are free to apply.

**When:** All plans for international study during the academic year or summer must be approved by the Director of Study Abroad the semester before your participation in the program begins.

**Deadlines:** For fall application October 1st  
For spring application February 15th

*Note: IWU London, Madrid, and Pembroke College programs have earlier deadlines.*

**Eligibility Requirements:** While admission standards for programs vary, competitive applications require a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

- ▶ You must have successfully completed at least two semesters on campus before participating in a study abroad program.
- ▶ You must be approved by the program sponsors themselves (or the on-campus selection committee for certain programs).
- ▶ You must not be on academic or social probation and your Illinois Wesleyan account must not be in arrears.

**Financial Aid:** The Financial Aid Office may revise your award for any semester in which you are participating in an affiliated study abroad program. If the total cost of your program is more than an equivalent term at Illinois Wesleyan, your aid package will be revised proportionately upward by increasing your loan eligibility. Similarly, if the cost of your program is less, your package will be revised proportionately downward. In all cases, the Financial Aid Office takes into account such things as the cost of airfare and the likelihood that personal expenses will be greater than on campus as you visit museums, participate in supplementary excursions, and otherwise take advantage of being abroad to expand your horizons.

Generally speaking, and with certain restrictions, Illinois Wesleyan will support study abroad on any one semester, May Term, or year-long program during your career at the University, provided you are enrolled through the University and you are billed by our Business Office.

You are expected to take a full course load abroad, as defined by the sponsoring organization for the program in which you enroll. The credit you earn meets general requirements for graduation but may or may not meet general education requirements or specific departmental major requirements. You should consult both with the director of study abroad, department chairs and advisors for information on how credit from a specific study abroad program might be counted toward your general education and major requirements. All grades earned in an approved study abroad program appear on your Illinois Wesleyan transcript and the grades earned will be calculated into your cumulative GPA.

**Orientation:** The International Office organizes an orientation meeting each semester for students about to embark on study abroad programs. Participation in orientation activities is required as a prerequisite to registering for off-campus study.

**Travel Documents:** Participants in all programs abroad must have a valid U.S. passport. In addition, some countries also require visas. Note that it can take up to six weeks to get a passport and, for some countries, an additional sixty days to get a visa. If you are planning to study abroad, you should begin taking care of passport and visa requirements early.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE OR CALL:

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