

How to Study Abroad

The Checklist (Outside Programs)

www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/

- STEP 1: Watch the General Study Abroad Info Session (optional)**
 - https://www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/study_abroad_info_session.mp4
- STEP 2: Research!**
 - Research courses at host university/program that could potentially fulfill your lower-division general education, major/minor, or electives
 - Make sure that host university/program offers enough courses for you to take at least 12 credits/semester during your time abroad; winter/summer 3-6 units
- STEP 3: Talk to your Advisors**
 - Meet with your Academic Advisor (optional, but recommended)**
 - Discuss your remaining major/minor requirements, graduation plans, review your Degree Planner, etc.
 - Meet with a Study Abroad Advisor**
 - Walk-Ins available:
<https://www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/contact.html>
 - Make an appointment online by visiting the link above or by calling (760) 750-4090, or emailing studyabroad@csusm.edu
 - Talk to your Study Abroad Advisor about any concerns, health or disabilities, that may require support while abroad
- STEP 4*: Get Documents Ready!**
 - Apply or renew your Passport ASAP** (must be valid at least 6 months past your return to the U.S.)
 - Visit www.travel.state.gov for passport information
 - Enroll into Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)**
<https://step.state.gov/step/>
 - This program requires your trip dates/details and offers you embassy support and country specific updates
 - Screenshot profile page with your trip dates included
 - Complete the General Study Abroad Application:**
https://csusm.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6m1GJqjhpuV4uI5
- STEP 5: Complete the Outside Program's Application**
 - The sooner you complete your application, the sooner it can be processed.
Deadlines vary by program so double-check!

- Determine if you will need to complete a host university application

STEP 6: Money Matters

- Financial Aid**--Apply for FAFSA and scholarships by deadlines
 - **Financial Aid:** https://www.csusm.edu/finaid/apply_for_finaid/index.html
 - **Study Abroad Scholarships:**
<https://www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/finaid.html>
- Budget your time abroad**
 - Research flight options (don't buy until you are fully admitted)

STEP 7: Receive Acceptance Letter from Partner University

STEP 8: Attend Pre-Departure Orientation (Mandatory)

- Fall/Summer orientation held in late April
- Spring/Winter orientation held in late November

STEP 9: Prepare for Take Off

- Apply for Visa (if applicable)**
 - Check your local consulate if you will need a visa
 - Make an appointment with your program country's embassy/consulate
 - ***Make sure you have all your documents prepared and make a copy for your records!***
- Complete Credit Approval**
 - Meet with **Faculty Advisor** in your major/minor to present the credit approval form along with course descriptions and back-up courses
 - **Classes must be approved before you leave!**
 - Copies available in ELB 588 or online at

<https://www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/doc/creditapprovalform08.pdf>

STEP 10: Complete the Flight Form

https://csusm.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2hrnogLVbqavhUp —trip protection insurance recommended

STEP 11: Study Abroad! ✈️

For more information, contact us at
CSUSM Study Abroad
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www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/
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