



Study Abroad in Political Science

Department of Political Science • Social Sciences Bldg. • Room 301 • <http://polisci.ucsd.edu>
Programs Abroad Office • International Center • Second Floor • <http://pao.ucsd.edu/>



"While on EAP, I worked on a special Irish politics project, which allowed me to visit Irish Parliament and to write papers regarding peace issues in Northern Ireland. Now that I have studied abroad I feel like I better understand American politics and political theories in general. I think it is practically impossible to get a full grasp of political science without seeing how politics differs individually and institutionally abroad."—Alicia Williams, EAP Ireland

What are my First Steps?

- Attend a First Steps session
- Research the program that is right for you
- Meet with a Programs Abroad advisor
- Search for courses you can take abroad that may fulfill major/minor/GE requirements to add to your Academic Planning Form
- Meet with your major/minor advisor
- Meet with your college advisor

97% of Political Science students who took courses in their major abroad received or are in the process of receiving major credit.

Social Science Majors Who Studied Abroad Four-Year Graduation Rate

• 72%

Social Science Majors Who Did Not Study Abroad Four-Year Graduation Rate

• 61%

Picture yourself here!

It is a clear and brisk morning in Belfast, and you and your roommates walk over to campus to meet up with the rest of your classmates. Everyone is extra jittery and excited today because you are all going on a field trip to Carrickfergus Castle!

Partly because castles are cool and nowhere to be found in Southern California, but mostly because you're interested in medieval history, these co-curricular field trips like this one are so much fun because you are physically able to experience a bit of what you've read/learned in class. At Queen's University Belfast, you're taking *Britain and Ireland in Comparative Perspective*, *The Great Irish Rebellion of 1798*, *Political Identity in Ireland*, and *Integration and Disintegration*. You're fascinated by Ireland's turbulent history and enjoy everything about Irish culture –food, music, language, arts, etc.!

Later that night, you and your friends take shelter from the heavy rain in your dorm room. Inside, there is a warm, crackling fire, boisterous laughter, Irish folk music, dancing, plentiful snacks and drinks on the table, and boxty (a traditional Irish potato pancake) cooking on the griddle. Anyone looking in easily would be jealous.

Why Study Abroad?

Regardless of your future career choice, studying abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education.

Consider your value to an employer or a graduate program if you've:

- Participated in a different educational system
 - Increased your proficiency in another language
 - Improved your critical thinking skills
 - Developed self-confidence and independence
 - Prepared for a career in an internationally competitive world
- Enhanced resumes and/or applications for graduate school

Some highlighted programs...for more programs in Poli Sci, see pao.ucsd.edu



China

Topic: International Studies/Politics
Program: Fudan University, Shanghai
Date: Spring
Info: eap.ucop.edu



Brazil

Topic: Institute of International Relations
Program: Pontifical Catholic Uni./Rio
Date: Fall, Spring, Year
Info: eap.ucop.edu



Ireland

Topic: Transformation of Social and Political Conflict
Program: SIT Study Center
Date: Fall, Spring
Info: sit.edu



Australia

Topic: Political and Social Inquiry
Program: Monash University, Melbourne
Date: Fall, Spring, Year
Info: globalinksabroad.org



How Much Does it Cost?

Study abroad may be more affordable than you think. The cost of studying abroad can be comparable to staying at UCSD and may even be less expensive.

Financial Aid

In almost all instances, students can use most or all of their financial aid packages for study abroad. Over half of UCSD's study abroad participants are financial aid recipients.

Scholarships

UCSD students were awarded about \$500,000 in study abroad scholarships last year. The Programs Abroad Office offers regular workshops to help students prepare a competitive scholarship essay.

Visit Our Website to Learn More:

<http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/funding.htm>

What Happens When I Return?

The support of the Programs Abroad Office does not end when you return. We continue to help you with the process of receiving credit for your classes and also provide opportunities to reflect on your time abroad and connect with other returnees and prospective students.

To Petition Courses for Major Credit

- Bring all course work from abroad to the Political Science advisor (notes, tests, quizzes, syllabi, etc.)
- Wait for courses taken abroad to post to your UCSD transcript
- Fill out an undergraduate student petition for each course you would like to satisfy a major requirement
- The Political Science faculty advisor will review courses for final approval

To Use What You've Learned Abroad:

<http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/uponreturn.html>