



Study Abroad in Sociology

Imagine learning about social problems in Spain by volunteering with other college students and talking with the homeless in Seville, or visiting an archeological site in Delphi, Greece, or studying poverty in Ghana. All these opportunities are available to any student in the sociology major.

General Study Abroad Information

By its nature, sociology places great emphasis on cultural context. There is much to be gained from understanding the history and traditions of cultures outside your own. Study abroad is one very exciting way to begin to discover new approaches and build your professional skills.

Sociology students can study abroad at any time during their four years. However, keep in mind that studying abroad your last semester could result in delaying your graduation since courses may not be accredited at Penn State until the following semester. Most sociology students study abroad in the junior year and typically take General Education and/or BA requirements, or electives.

- Students may also take courses in the major, with prior approval from the department.
- Sociology majors may not take the following courses abroad: SOC 001, 207, 400W, 405, or 470.
- You may apply up to six study abroad credits in Sociology toward the major as long as you receive prior approval from the department.

A listing of SOC courses accredited at Penn State can be found on the sociology Web site at www.sociology.la.psu.edu.

Studying abroad will automatically fulfill the International Cultures (IL) requirement. Studying abroad will NOT fulfill the BA Other Cultures requirement, unless you take a course abroad that fits the definition of the requirement.

Once you choose a program, you will next need to decide which courses you want to take. You should choose more than you intend to take to make sure that you have chosen options that will be available. If you do not receive pre-approval for your major course selections from your adviser, there are no guarantees they will be used toward the major. To find out more about study abroad opportunities, go to the following Web site: www.sociology.la.psu.edu.

Other Study Abroad Programs Offering Courses in Sociology

Listed below are several programs that are recommended for sociology students. We have provided here only a partial list of the programs endorsed by the Penn State Education Abroad office that might be right for

Africa and the Middle East

The American University in Cairo, Egypt (www.aucegypt.edu/Pages/default.aspx)

The American University offers a wide variety of courses in Arabic language, history and culture, Middle East studies, archeology, art history, history, political science, and sociology. Classes are taught in English and Arabic and students may live on or off campus. It is recommended that students take an Arabic language class while abroad.

University of Cape Town and CIEE Study Abroad Center, Cape Town, South Africa (www.ciee.org)

Students can learn about contemporary South African society and issues and take courses in African languages and literature, humanities, arts, community service, and sociology. The University of Cape Town is located in an urban, coastal city with a diverse population. Students have the choice of living on campus, in apartments, or with a host family. It is recommended that students have taken previous coursework in African

Asia

National University of Singapore, Singapore (www.nus.edu.sg/oam/academic/academic.html)

A large selection of courses in liberal arts and social sciences are available to students who attend National University. Singapore has a diverse ethnic population, primarily consisting of citizens of Chinese, Malay, and Indian backgrounds, which allows students to learn about different Asian cultures, customs, religious practices, festivals, and cuisine. English is the common and official language of business and government. Students live



"Study abroad provides the most euphoric learning experiences one can imagine...the greatest tests of one's intellectual and human dexterity come from engaging cultures dissimilar to ours."

— Dr. Francis Dadoo, professor of sociology and demography

"Stepping outside of my comfort zone and immersing myself in Italian culture was an invaluable experience. Through my travels, I learned not only a great deal about the world around me, but a lot about myself as well. I was able to challenge myself in new ways by navigating different cities, trying new cuisines, and interacting with local people. While living in Rome, I was able to experience the city not only from a tourist's point of view, but experience the city as the locals do. Studying abroad was an amazing opportunity and something I will take with me for the rest of my life."

—Shelby Rudolph, SOC Undergraduate Student

gpgloblea.gp.psu.edu



Australia and New Zealand

The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (www.anu.edu.au/studyat/Interantional_office/exchange)

Australian National University is located in Canberra, Australia's capital. Students can take courses in government and political studies, psychology, sociology, fine arts, and Asian studies. Internships are also available. Canberra is mid-way between the beaches of New South Wales and the ski slopes of the mountains. Students may live on or off campus.

University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia (mobility.unimelb.edu.au)

Melbourne is Australia's second largest city and is culturally diverse and people-friendly. The University is located 5 minutes from downtown. Students may live on or off campus. The institution offers a wide selection of courses, including sociology.

Europe

Summer Education Abroad Program, Todi, Italy

(http://gpglobalea.gp.psu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=10123)

This is a summer only program offered to students who are interested in Italian art, language, and art history. Students receive 9–10 credits for the program, which combines field trips and classroom study. Students live with host families and spend six weeks in Todi and one week in Rome. Todi is a small town in the region of Umbria dating back to Etruscan times and includes excellent examples of Gothic and Renaissance architecture.

Universidad de Sevilla, Universidad Pablo de Olavide and CIEE Study Abroad Center, Seville, Spain—Liberal Arts or Advanced Liberal Arts tracks (www.ciee.org)

Students who choose to study at the Universidad de Sevilla must have a minimum of five semesters of college-level Spanish. Students take courses in Spanish, humanities, and social sciences and all classes are taught in Spanish. This is one of the oldest and most prestigious study abroad programs in Spain and allows students to participate in cultural activities and excursions in Seville and Andalusia. Students live with a host family while in Seville.

United Kingdom and Ireland

The University of Bath, Bath, England (www.bath.ac.uk/)

Bath is well known for its spas, and is a cosmopolitan, modern city. The city has been designated a UNESCO Heritage city because of its Roman architectural remains and Georgian terraces. A large selection of courses, including sociology, is available and students can live in residence halls or in apartments.

University College, Dublin, Ireland (www.ucd.ie/international/studyabroad/)

Dublin is the capital of the Republic of Ireland and has numerous museums, historical attractions, pubs, and shops. Students may take courses in sociology, economics, political science, geography, and social policy. Limited on-campus housing is available, and most students stay in a hostel or hotel until they find an apartment.

For Further Information

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[http://www.sociology.la.psu.edu/
undergraduate/study-abroad](http://www.sociology.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/study-abroad)