

# Psychology | Study Abroad Advising

Thinking about studying abroad? Great! Step 1 involves talking with the Global Education Office and your academic advisor. You should begin planning for your study abroad at least a year in advance.

The Global Education Office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Check the website for weekly Virtual Advising Hours. Contact [vtabroad@vt.edu](mailto:vtabroad@vt.edu) or (540) 231-5888 for more information.

## When to Study Abroad

Generally, your sophomore year is the best year to go abroad. However, the year and semester must fit your academic plan of study, career plans, family obligations, and personal concerns. Early planning is key in determining when studying abroad fits best into your four-year plan. Consult your academic advisor for the best fit for your major. If you cannot go abroad for an entire semester, look into short-term programs over the summer, spring break, or winter break.

## Program Types

**VT Faculty-Led:** VT offers programs designed by VT faculty and sponsored by a specific VT department. In addition to program fees, pay VT tuition and enroll in VT courses that count towards your GPA. Cost-effective for all students.

**VT Exchange/ISEP Exchange:** VT has forged partnerships with 60 prestigious universities across the world. To expand options, VT also partners with ISEP, a non-profit educational organization with a network of about 170 universities for exchange. Enroll at VT, but take courses abroad. Tuition and fees are paid to VT. Room and board varies. Most cost-effective for in-state students.

**ISEP Direct:** VT partners with ISEP, a non-profit educational organization, with direct enroll options into 60 universities. A program fee is paid to ISEP. Cost-effective for all students.

**VT Partner Program:** These are VT-supported opportunities offered through specific universities and third-party study abroad providers. Students apply with VT and the organization, receive transfer credit and pay the university or provider directly.

**Third Party:** non-VT affiliated study abroad organizations help you find and plan your program. Costs are paid to the 3rd party. Most cost-effective for out-of-state students.

For more a more detailed explanation including cost, tuition, fees, and GPA, see this [comparison chart](#).

## Key Study Abroad Procedures

### Program Application Deadlines:

- VT Faculty-Led and Third Party: depends on the program
- VT Exchange: Fall - February 15; Spring - September 15
- ISEP Direct or Exchange: Fall - January 25; Spring - August 25

### Credit Transfer:

- Only faculty-led programs receive VT credit; all other programs receive transfer (T) credit.
- When choosing your courses abroad, talk to your academic advisor and fill out [the Authorization to take Courses Abroad](#) form.
- Of the last 45 hours before graduation, 18 can transfer from another institution.
- You must earn a C or better to receive transfer credit. Only credit transfers, not grades. The grades you receive while abroad will not affect your GPA.
- **Transcripts:**
  - Request an official transcript prior to returning to VT.
  - Must come from an accredited university (not a 3rd party) and be in English.
  - Send transcript to the Global Education Office.

### University Requirements:

Register with the Global Education Office prior to departure and complete [this](#) checklist found on the Global Education Office website.

### Financial Aid and Scholarship Information:

- In most cases you can apply your federal aid (grants and loans) towards study abroad.
- There are also VT and non-VT scholarships you can apply for. Detailed information and eligibility can be found on the [Global Education Office website](#).



# Featured Programs for Psychology Students

Where to Start Looking: [Search for VT programs](#) based on a variety of criteria - location, program type, area of study, term, etc. Find out more about [VT and ISEP Exchanges](#).

## Featured Virginia Tech Faculty-Led

For more options, check out our [website](#).

### **Medicine, Caregiving & Neuroscience**

#### **COS: Global Perspectives in Neuroscience and Medicine**

**Term: Summer**

This program allows students to study diseases from various scientific, clinical, economic, societal and historical perspectives while staying at the Steger Center in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland.

#### **CLAHS: International Dementia Care**

**Term: Summer**

This 4-week summer study abroad program examines the global prevalence of dementia and multicultural approaches to care practices and policies across several European cities.

### **Learning, Education & Childhood**

#### **CLAHS: Informal Learning in Northern England**

**Term: Winter** (Next offered Winter 2021-22)

This is a two-week program in Northern England and London where students will explore historical and modern topics and the pedagogy of place.

#### **CLAHS: Children's Literature in the United Kingdom**

**Term: Winter** (Check link for updates on next available term)

This program journeys from London to Edinburgh to explore the places and texts that have woven the magic of children's literature.

#### **CLAHS: Teaching and Learning in Zambia**

**Term: Summer**

The program gives participants an opportunity to work with Zambian students and teachers in high schools or colleges, explore trends and issues affecting education, and conduct a service project.

### **Societies & Social Justice**

#### **CLAHS: India and Social Justice**

**Term: Winter** (Next offered Winter 2021-22)

This program studies both on the ground activism and creative works of literature and film related to social justice movements in India.

## Featured Third Party Options

**DIS Scandinavia** - Study abroad for a Fall or Spring semester in Copenhagen or Stockholm, featuring hands-on learning opportunities and coursework in Public Health, Psychology, Neuroscience, Sociology, and Education, plus electives in other areas.

## Other Third Party Options

To learn more about third party providers, visit [the Global Education Office](#) website.

## Featured Virginia Tech Exchanges and ISEP Options

*\*Availability for placement in specific exchange programs vary each application cycle. Check with the Global Education Office for the most up-to-date information on exchanges.*

### **Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ)**

**Location:** Quito, Ecuador

**Language of Instruction:** English, Spanish

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring

### **Oxford Brookes University**

**Location:** Oxford, United Kingdom

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring

### **University of Technology Sydney (UTS)**

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring

### **Universita Degli Studi di Trento**

**Location:** Trento, Italy

**Language of Instruction:** English, Italian

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring, Summer

### **Kansai Gaidai University**

**Location:** Hirakata, Japan

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring, Summer

**Language of Instruction:** English

### **American College of Thessaloniki (ISEP Direct)**

**Location:** Thessaloniki, Greece

**Program Terms:** Academic Year, Fall, Spring, Summer

**Language of Instruction:** English

Check out the [list](#) of other Virginia Tech Exchange options!

For other ISEP options, check out the [ISEP website](#).

