



# Education Abroad in WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY

## Steps to go abroad

1. Get a passport.
2. Watch the Education Abroad Workshop. [www.studyabroad.virginia.edu](http://www.studyabroad.virginia.edu)
3. Meet with an education abroad advisor and explore opportunities.
4. Talk with your academic advisor about timing and course requirements.
5. Research and Apply online.
6. Engage in pre-departure and cross-cultural seminars (CORE).
7. Experience Study Abroad.
8. Apply to compete in the Education Abroad Symposium.
9. Excel by putting your experience on your CV.
10. Share your experience with your peers.

Contact for major course approvals:

Karlin Luedtke, Director of Undergraduate Program  
[kl5k@virginia.edu](mailto:kl5k@virginia.edu)  
263 Monroe Hall  
434-924-8863

For more information, make an appt. online with an Education Abroad Advisor according to the region of your interest.

International Studies Office  
208 Minor Hall  
[www.studyabroad.virginia.edu](http://www.studyabroad.virginia.edu)  
[studyabroad@virginia.edu](mailto:studyabroad@virginia.edu)

## Benefits of International Experience for WGS

When asked what they benefited from by going abroad, one of the most common responses from students is that they learned more about their own country and culture through their study in, and of, another culture. Students interested in Women, Gender and Sexuality (WGS) can enhance their U.Va. education by gaining another perspective on the United States and in their academic discipline. Upon graduation, undergraduate students must be prepared to embrace both the challenges and the exciting opportunities of an interconnected world. As such, studying abroad is a critical step towards being able to navigate such an environment, both in the workforce and in everyday life.

Studying abroad can help you develop skills in cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, empathy, and tolerance. A multi-faceted perspective in their discipline will help you develop abilities to approach problems and tasks with different methods.

There are a wide variety of opportunities offered through U.Va., both through faculty-led options and semester/year exchanges. Internships, research, or service-learning opportunities are also available, whether as the focus of an education abroad program, or as a complimentary component.

## Student Experiences

### Anya Good, UVA in Morocco, summer 2007

“By the end of six weeks, I recognized and extracted the ‘exotic’ postcard images from my pre-Morocco bubble. But at some point, somewhere between days twelve and fifteen perhaps, this bubble popped. I experienced moments that were pretty, and likewise ugly. I saw things that were seemingly painted, and other things I thought should be addressed, fixed, or erased... I no longer feel wholly unknowing, but it seems that such complex diversities demand continued study, experience, learning of and about Morocco. I wish, still, to know more.”



## Academic and Timing Considerations

Students who declare a major or minor in WGS can count up to six upper-level credits from their study abroad experience towards requirements. Since you will declare the major or minor in your second year, third year is likely to be the best time to study abroad. However, it may be possible to take WGS focused courses abroad before declaring the major or minor, but you should consult with the Director of Undergraduate Programs whether these classes can count towards requirements. All credits earned abroad will count as elective credits within the major or minor.

You may be able to count relevant independent study or internship credit while taken abroad, but this will count towards the 6 possible credits of independent study students can count towards the major overall, as well as the 6 credits allowed for study abroad.

If you are not a declared WGS major or minor student, but interested in taking courses in this area, this document may also be a good starting point for you. If you are only seeking general elective credit towards graduation (not a WGS major), you do not need formal approval from the department for your courses, but instead should see Meredith Burke in Monroe Hall for elective credit approval.

*[While on the St. Kitts and Nevis J-term program], we had an interactive and unique learning experience in which we worked closely with local authorities on the healthcare board, including the Minister of Health for both islands.*

-Jasmine Brown, J-term in St. Kitts and Nevis 2012

## International Opportunities in Women, Gender & Sexuality

### Semester or Year-long Exchange Options\*

#### Canada

- **U21 UVA Exchange at McGill University:** McGill's program in Women's Studies offers U.Va. students the opportunity to continue their studies with a unique perspective from our Northern neighbor.
- **U21 UVA Exchange at University of British Columbia:** UBC has a variety of courses in Women and Gender studies. Note: UBC has one exchange deadline per year in February for the upcoming academic year. For example, applications for either fall or spring of the 2012-2013 academic year is Feb. 15, 2012).

#### Europe

- **Germany, UVA Exchange at Humboldt University:** Live in the cosmopolitan and historically vibrant city of Berlin and take classes with local students. HU has a number of classes in Gender Studies. Four semesters of German language is required for this exchange.
- **The Netherlands, U21 UVA Exchange at the University of Amsterdam:** Students have access to a range of courses in English while enjoying the culturally rich city of Amsterdam.
- **Sweden, U21 UVA Exchange at Lund University:** Many classes Lund are taught in English. There are a number of classes in Gender Studies from a Scandinavian and European perspective that exchange students can take.

#### Middle East

- **Egypt, UVA Exchange: American University in Cairo:** The AUC exchanges offers students the rare opportunity to study women and gender issues, history and politics of a dynamic and evolving Middle Eastern country. All classes are in English.

#### Oceania

- **New Zealand, UVA Exchange: University of Otago:** Students in Otago can take classes in areas such as English, History, Political Studies—among others. Courses in New Zealand are referred to as "Papers".
- **Australia, U21 UVA Exchange: University of New South Wales:** The Women's and Gender Studies program at UNSW is interdisciplinary covering areas such as philosophy, politics, sociology, and linguistics.



## Non-UVA Program Options\*

### Europe

- **Copenhagen, Denmark: DIS (Danish Institute for Study Abroad):** Students take a core course that includes at least one week-long field study to another part of Europe. Students augment this core course with additional classes in one or multiple areas of interest. DIS offers several women and gender studies courses. No Danish is necessary.
- **Munich, Germany: Junior Year in Munich with Wayne State University:** Take classes with local students at Ludwig Maximilian University or through the program center. This program requires two years of college-level German Language.

### Latin America

- **Buenos Aires, Argentina: IFSA-Butler Argentine Universities Program:** Continue to improve your Spanish while focusing on one of six concentrations, such as Diversity, Modernity, and Gender Studies; or Human Rights. Students live in a homestay and also have the opportunity to participate in service-learning or volunteer work. You must have five semesters of Spanish for this program.
- **Salvador da Bahia, Brazil: CIEE Liberal Arts in Salvador da Bahia:** You'll need either four semesters of Spanish and/or two semesters of Portuguese for this program. All students start with a four-week intensive language class before taking courses alongside local Brazilian students or at the CIEE study center.
- **Valparaiso, Chile: SIT: Cultural Identity, Social Justice, & Community Development:** The SIT program combines seminars with field-based learning to offer students a truly experiential learning environment. After roughly six weeks in class, students participate in an independent research project out in the field.

### Oceania

- **Melbourne, Australia: Education Abroad Network: Monash University:** The Gender studies program at Monash focuses on feminist models of analysis and development of transferable professional skills, while examining the belief that social processes are "gendered. EAN offers students multiple housing options, planned excursions and a variety of cultural activities. to introduce students to all Melbourne has to offer.
- **Sydney, Australia: Education Abroad Network: Macquarie University:** Based in the sociology department, Macquarie's major in Gender Studies offers numerous courses to visiting students. EAN offers students multiple housing options, planned excursions and a variety of cultural activities introducing students to all Sydney has to offer.

### Africa

- **Cape Town, South Africa: Interstudy: University of the Western Cape:** Located in a suburb outside of Cape Town, students study alongside local students in English. There are a variety of courses offered in areas such as Gender Studies, History, and Anthropology. Students should visit Interstudy's website and the University of the Western Cape course catalogue for available courses.
- **Pietermaritzburg, Kwazulu-Natal: Interstudy: University of Kwazulu-Natal:** Students can choose from many courses offered in Gender Studies and other areas of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Pietermaritzburg is located one hour from Durban and the Indian Ocean. Students live in university residence halls with local students.

### Asia

- **Kyoto, Japan: Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies:** Courses vary year to year, but KCJS does offer courses in women's studies on occasion.



Kelyn Gibson, WGS and History  
CLAS 2013, UVA in Australia



Hamidi Rangina, SWAG  
CLAS 2000, Afghanistan

\*students are not limited to these options; this is just a starting point.