Why should economics students study abroad?
Due to the increasing importance of international trade and the globalization of economic activity, all economics students can benefit from spending a semester or year abroad. You will learn about the field of economics from an international perspective, develop a deeper understanding of the implications of globalization, and gain a greater awareness of how differences in political institutions play a role in economic outcomes. At the same time, you can sharpen your cross-cultural communication, critical thinking, and problem solving skills, making you more attractive to future employers.

When should I go?
It is possible to study abroad as soon as your first semester sophomore year or as late as your last semester at USC (note that some programs end after commencement). Transfer students must spend at least two semesters at USC before going overseas. As an Econ major, it is relatively easy to fit studying abroad into your schedule, but planning is important. Some overseas universities require students to stay for a full year, or are only open to juniors and seniors. Others offer certain economics courses in one semester but not the other. Be sure to consult with your academic and study abroad advisors when deciding on the most ideal time for studying abroad.

What courses should I take?
The Department of Economics allows students to take lower division requirements, upper division electives and mathematics overseas. It is recommended that ECON 303, 305, 317 and 414 be taken on campus (though exceptions may be granted, notably for the London School of Economics). Most students choose two or three economics courses and at least one course that provides a deeper understanding of their host country (literature, history, film studies, etc). You should also consider courses that deal specifically with your host country’s economy. Students with double majors can usually find programs offering courses in many different disciplines.

Studying abroad is the perfect opportunity to take courses in a completely new discipline, just for fun! Any courses not approved for major, minor or language credit will count as electives toward the total number of units required for graduation. You can also take courses to fulfill the USC College language requirement.

What should I consider when choosing a program?
- Attend an overseas university if you plan to take courses for the economics major or minor. Economics courses such as those offered by CIEE in Prague or IES in Milan do not go into enough depth and will come back to USC as general electives only.
- Many economics courses abroad require technical math skills, so you should complete at least MATH 118x or MATH 125 before going overseas.
- Look at the course catalogs for the programs that interest you. Are there interesting economics courses available that are not offered at USC? How can the program’s course offerings complement your studies?
- Have you fulfilled the program’s language requirement? If the program is located in a country where the local language is taught at USC, there is a minimum two semester language requirement. (A few programs require more than two semesters.)
- Do you want to live in a metropolis, medium sized city, or a small town? Do you want to be in a developing country or somewhere with living standards that are similar to the US?
- Are you ready to live in another country as a resident rather than a tourist, and accept the challenge of meeting locals and immersing yourself in another culture? Do you want to go for a semester or a year?

Where should I go?
The most important thing to remember is that you should choose the program that suits you best, not the program that is the most “popular”. Economics students can choose from many different locations!
Recommended **ECONOMICS programs**

**Africa & the Middle East**
Egypt - American Univ. in Cairo
Jordan - CIEE program in Amman
South Africa - Univ. of Cape Town

**Europe**
Czech Republic - CIEE program in Prague
France** - Sciences Po Paris and Sweet Briar Junior Year in France
Germany** - IES programs in Berlin
Ireland - National Univ. of Ireland (Galway)
Italy - Syracuse Univ. program in Florence and IES program in Milan
UK - Univ. of Sussex (Brighton), Univ. of Edinburgh, London School of Economics, University of East Anglia

**Asia**
India - IES program in Delhi
Japan - Nanzan Univ. (Nagoya), Sophia Univ. and Waseda Univ. (Tokyo)
South Korea - Yonsei Univ. (Seoul)

**Latin America**
Brazil** - Pontificia Univ. Catolica de Sao Paulo and Univ. Catolica do Salvador (Bahia)
Chile** - Univ. de Chile (Santiago)

**Oceania**
Australia - Australian National Univ. (Canberra) and Univ. of Queensland (Brisbane)
New Zealand - Univ. of Otago (Dunedin)

* Note that availability of a specified field of study does NOT guarantee that major/minor credit will be granted. Consult with your academic advisor to obtain approval for courses taken abroad.

** Economics courses taught in local language.

**Want more info? Contact a Study Abroad Advisor today!**

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*Where will YOU go?*

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**Turn over for more details...**