Liberal Studies
Study Abroad Programs
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

www.libst.sdsu.edu
SDSU and the Liberal Studies Program recognize that student participation in approved international experiences is a transformational educational experience. Toward that goal, the Liberal Studies major includes a study abroad requirement. Use this brochure to help you get started!

Why study abroad?

- Learn flexibility, adaptability and new ways of doing things, as you adapt to a new culture.
- See the United States from a different perspective.
- Learn to effectively communicate with and work with groups of diverse backgrounds.
- Develop cross-cultural competence that will set you apart on a résumé, in a job interview, and in a future career in a diverse classroom.
- Pursue personal goals such as exploring a culture related to your ancestry.
- See the world! Have fun!

Plan early! Here are guidelines to help you plan for different options:

- Year-long study abroad – Liberal Studies students with many AP units may be eligible to study abroad the entire sophomore year. Plan during freshman year.
- Semester study abroad – Sophomore year usually works best for Liberal Studies, but junior year is also possible. Start planning as a freshman.
- Summer programs (2-8 weeks) – These generally work best for Liberal Studies students who have completed their sophomore or junior years, but some Liberal Studies students may be eligible to go earlier. Start planning as a freshman.
- Spring Break programs (9-10 days) - All Liberal Studies majors are eligible, but priority is given to juniors and seniors.
Steps

1. Create a profile in Aztecs Abroad
   www.sdsu.edu/aztecsabroad

2. Apply for or renew your passport

3. Attend a General Information Session at the International Student Center (ISC)
   www.sdsu.edu/studyabroad

4. Ask yourself:
   What are my goals for study abroad?

5. Find your program

6. Fund your study abroad with scholarships, financial aid & more!

Passport

Goals

- Improve foreign language skills
- Take Liberal Studies coursework
- Volunteer in a classroom abroad
- Gain experience teaching English
- Immerse yourself in a particular culture
In 2013 I had the opportunity to be a part of the “Liberal Studies in England” study abroad program at Keele University in North Staffordshire, U.K.

At first, I was nervous to go abroad and make decisions on my own, but studying abroad taught me more about myself and helped me grow.

Being in a cohort of SDSU students made a positive impact on my study abroad experience and the lasting friendships have continued throughout my career at SDSU.

Through my SDSU study abroad experience, I gained confidence, passion, and a love for international travel that I will bring to my future classroom of students!
I’ve had the opportunity to participate in study abroad in England and China. I had never spent much time away from home and the time I spent abroad profoundly impacted me. Not only was this a way to stretch personally by stepping out of my comfort zone, but I was also deeply inspired to pursue a possible career in teaching abroad.

Studying abroad gives you the opportunity to be more than a tourist. The study abroad programs forced me to really become involved with others and be active in their communities. Some of my favorite times were when I had conversations with local people.

Studying abroad is an incredible opportunity to experience other cultures and to learn about yourself.

Mikayla Lacebal

I just returned from my first study abroad in Finland at the University of Jyväskylä. This experience allowed me to learn so much about myself. In Finland I learned how to fully immerse myself in a culture, learned about another country’s education system, grew as an individual, and made lifelong friends.

People ask me what was my favorite part of studying abroad. I have tried so hard, but cannot pick just one thing! By the end of the program I noticed my willingness to step out of my comfort zone, as well as being more aware of the different cultures around me.

Living in a world where everything is fast paced, this program allowed me to take a step back, slow down, and fully enjoy what is right in front of me.
The rich diversity of flora and fauna in Costa Rica and Belize is the context of these programs, providing pre-service teachers with experiences to share with future school children.

**Liberal Studies in Costa Rica**

**Leader:** Donna Ross, Professor

**Highlights:**
- Interact with local principals, teachers and students
- Volunteer in elementary schools
- Stay with local families (2-3 students per home)
- Experience the rain forest
- Enjoy a nature walk through the cloud forest
- Visit a butterfly farm
- Boat along the Sarapiqui River
- Volunteer with rescued wild animals at the Asis Wildlife Center
- Hike lava beds in Volcano National Park
- Visit a local coffee grower and creamery

**Approximate cost:** $2000, Includes enrollment in GEN S 350 (1 unit) and all expenses except airfare and approximately 3 meals.

**March 26 - April 3, 2016**

Add your name to the interest list in Aztecs Abroad to have an opportunity to apply for this program!
The rich diversity of flora and fauna in Costa Rica and Belize is the context of these programs, providing pre-service teachers with experiences to share with future school children.

Leader: Sharon Bendall, Director of Liberal Studies

Highlights:

- Interact with local principals, teachers and students
- Co-lead a math & science camp for K-6 children
- Stay with local families (2-3 students per home)
- Journey to ancient Mayan ruins
- Visit the Green Iguana Conservation Project
- Tour the Belize Zoo
- Canoe down the Macal River, see howler monkeys in the wild
- Stroll the Belize Botanical Gardens
- Learn about the Belize Barrier Reef and snorkel Caye Caulker

Liberal Studies in Belize

Approximate cost: $2000, Includes enrollment in GEN S 350 (1 unit) and all expenses except airfare and approximately 3 meals.

March 26 - April 3, 2016

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Liberal Studies in Spain

If you were to visit only one city in Spain, this should be Granada.

-Ernest Hemingway

A fairytale city, Granada is known for its unique historic, artistic and cultural heritage. Complete Liberal Studies coursework, work with children in an elementary school, and explore Granada and the surrounding area.

Granada, Spain
Late May - Late June 2016

Includes 3 units of SDSU credit in a Liberal Studies course, and enrollment in the mandatory companion course LS 350 (1 unit).

Includes all expenses except airfare and some meals.

Approximate cost: $4,300 + airfare

Highlights:

Practice teaching in a local school
Group excursions to Alpujarras and Sevilla
Tour of Albaycin and Sacromonte
Guided tour of the Alhambra
Guided visit to the Sephardic Museum
Guided tour of the Royal Chapel and Cathedral
Flamenco dancing workshop

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Other Recommended Programs

Education for Sustainability - Finland

- Short term summer program
- Joint program with SDSU Weber Honors College
- Learn firsthand about one of the world’s best education systems

University of Roehampton
England (ISEP Direct Summer Program)

- 3-week or 6-week summer program
- Located just outside London
- Liberal Studies lower division courses and Literacy Option courses available

University of Stirling
Scotland (Partner Institution Program)

- 4-week or 8-week summer program
- Located in central Scotland
- Wide variety of courses, including a course about education from a Scottish perspective

John Cabot University
Italy (Partner Institution Program)

- 5-week or 10-week summer program
- Centrally located in Rome
- Study Italian language, or take literature and art courses taught in English

These are just a few of our recommended programs.

Visit Study Abroad at libst.sdsu.edu
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Scholarships

DUS Liberal Studies
Study Abroad
Scholarships

Associated Students
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Scholarships

More scholarships available through
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Project Travel
Crowd Funding

Gilman
International
Scholarships

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