

STUDY ABROAD IN MATHEMATICS



Berkeley Study Abroad

160 Stephens Hall
(510) 642-1356

<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>

"Study abroad is a critical part of a global education. Students must be equipped with a broad set of international skills and cross-cultural understanding in order to excel in an increasingly interdependent world."

Robert Birgeneu,
Professor of
Physics, Chancellor
Emeritus

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The Mathematics Department encourages its students to consider study abroad as part of their UCB academic experience! In a world that is becoming increasingly globalized, exposure to other cultures can help students gain new perspectives and achieve a greater understanding of the world in which we live. This is an ideal time to take advantage of the opportunity to live abroad for a summer, a semester, or a year. In addition to developing your self-confidence, independence and perspectives, your international experience will benefit your career goals and/or graduate school opportunities.

WHY STUDY ABROAD?

Study abroad provides opportunities to broaden perspectives, knowledge, and skills necessary to be effective professionally in our rapidly changing world. Possibilities are numerous to further your study of mathematics, as well as innumerable other subjects, in many countries around the world.

The benefits of studying and living abroad are tremendous. You can:

- Take advantage of unique academic coursework opportunities in mathematics
- Participate in a different educational system
- Advance your cross-cultural and problem-solving skills
- Expand your world view by experiencing another culture firsthand
- Prepare for a career in an internationally competitive world
- Enhance your resume for job or graduate school applications

Returning students often describe their experience abroad as a life-changing and uniquely valuable one for future choices of professional and personal goals.

WHEN CAN I STUDY ABROAD?

The particular semester, summer or year that you study abroad depends on what courses you plan to take. It is important to explore study abroad options through Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) and consult with your advisor to determine the best time and program.

Transfer students are eligible to participate as soon as they arrive at Berkeley. Please note that application deadlines are quite early. For more information: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/transfer-students>

Graduate students may apply to study or pursue research at most BSA-affiliated host institutions, and may participate in the short-term language programs. More information: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/graduate-students>

• PLAN AHEAD! •

Applications typically are due six months to a year prior to the program's start date and some programs have academic or linguistic prerequisites that must be satisfied in advance. Please check the BSA website for guidance on "how to apply": <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/how-to-apply>

• THE COST OF BSA •

Study on BSA can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. In some cases, it is less. BSA participants pay UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, BSA students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources.

WHERE CAN I STUDY ABROAD?

Math and Applied Math majors will find relevant courses in many parts of the world. The following list provides an example of just a few of the universities that feature excellent mathematics program and course options:

Australian National University, Canberra

Chinese University of Hong Kong, HK

Lund University, Sweden

National University of Singapore

University College Dublin, Ireland

University of Bordeaux, France

University of Cape Town, South Africa

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

University of Granada, Spain

University of St. Andrews, Scotland

University of Sussex, Brighton, England

For a summary of the above programs and others that that work well for mathematics, go to the UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) website:

<http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/Pages/math-and-physical-sciences.aspx>



*Giant's Causeway, Northern Ireland
Photo by Jeffrey Zeng, Mathematics major,
BSA – Dublin Internships Program*

I'M INTERESTED, WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS?

Mathematics students interested in study abroad through BSA should first research program options on the BSA website (<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>), then meet with a Mathematics Department advisor to discuss departmental regulations and the academic planning process.

Find application information and BSA advising at the BSA office, 160 Stephens Hall.

WHAT CLASSES CAN I TAKE?

Meet with your advisor to determine whether your study abroad courses will satisfy major requirements or electives. Even if your courses will not fulfill requirements, this experience may be well worth your time!

Students will earn UC credit for BSA courses they complete abroad. However, application of credit to major requirements is subject to the discretion of the department. To search for program and course options, go to the BSA website: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/programs> and follow the links to courses offered through UCEAP and Berkeley Abroad.

Some examples of math courses offered through UCEAP are: "Algebraic Topology," at Technical University Berlin, Germany; "Multivariable Calculus," at University of Hong Kong; "Theory of Games," at University College Dublin, Ireland; "Algebra (Abstract Algebra)," at University of Bologna, Italy; "Ordinary Differential Equations," at Yonsei University, Korea; "History of Math," at New Zealand Universities; "Matrix Theory," at Bogazici University, Turkey; and "Group, Rings and Fields," at University of Kent, UK. Find further information on these and many more math classes listed in the UCEAP course catalog: <https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/service/coursecatalog/Coursecatalog.aspx>

Among non-BSA programs, **Budapest Semesters in Mathematics** has been very popular with our students:

<http://www.budapestsemesters.com/>

(For non-BSA programs, see instructions:

http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/sites/studyabroad.berkeley.edu/files/Independent_Study_Abroad_Guide.pdf

Be sure to consult with your major advisor as well.)

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I RETURN?

Bring back course materials such as syllabi, reading lists and exams, as these will help when petitioning for major or GE credit.