

Smeal Study Abroad Course Planning Worksheet

Name: _____ Semester Abroad: _____

Major/Minor(s): _____

STEP 1: My Study abroad program choices

[See programs approved for the International Business Minor](#)

Program Name	Total Credits	IB minor (Y/N)	Internship (Y/N)

STEP 2: My Smeal degree requirements for abroad

Refer to Degree Planning & Progress → *What If Report* or *Academic Requirements* in LionPath

Requirement	Credits	Notes
IL		
US		
Integrative		
GN		
GA		
GH		
GS		
GHW		
Exploration		
Electives		
IB Minor		
Other (minor, etc.)		

CAUTIONS: As a reminder, the following course types abroad may NOT be used toward Smeal major/minor requirements, not even as elective credit. They do still count towards overall GPA.

1. Smeal business major courses cannot be taken abroad.
2. Duplicate courses. Take care not to repeat courses taken at Penn State.
3. No language courses lower than or equivalent to the level already achieved on Penn State Record.
4. Internship course credit is permissible but does not count towards Smeal major/minor.

NOTE: If you are planning a non-Smeal concurrent major/minor, you must work with that department to determine how your courses abroad might meet their requirements.

General Education Descriptions

For a full description of general education requirements:

<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/domains/>

Many Programs Offer:

- **International Cultures (IL)**
- **Integrative Studies (Inter-domain)**
In Smeal, a course taken abroad that satisfies both IL and a (GN, GA, GS, or GH) can be used for Inter-domain credit.
- **Arts (GA)**
*Content areas that typically fall in this domain include: **Art History, Architecture, Music, Photography, some Film courses, and other studio art courses.***
- **Humanities (GH)**
*Content areas that typically fall in this domain include: **Literature, History, Philosophy, Religion, Cultural Studies and some Film.***
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS)**
*Content areas that typically fall in this domain include: **Economics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Anthropology.***
- **Exploration**
 GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain or 15th unit level foreign language

Limited Options Abroad:

- **Natural Sciences (GN) – Not commonly found on study abroad programs**
*Content areas that typically fall in this domain include: **Physics, Biology, Geology, and Earth Sciences.***
- **Health and Wellness (GHW)**
*Content areas that typically fall in this domain include: **Health and Nutrition***
 You may NOT take sport or physical activity courses abroad (i.e., sailing, bowling, yoga, etc.).
- **US Cultures (US)**

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STEP 3: Finding courses abroad & Matching them to my degree requirements

Your Penn State LionsAbroad application will ask you for a preliminary course plan. Go to the [Penn State Program page](#) for the programs you're considering. Click on *Host Program Website* to find the courses offered. Make note of classes that might satisfy your requirements & any courses required for the program (required language, internship, etc.)

Program: _____		
Notes	Course Title	Academic Requirement

SACA: Study Abroad Course Pre-Approval


After committing to your program and before you schedule your classes with your host institution, you will have access to SACA online. This tool will allow you to confirm how your courses will count in Smeal towards gen ed requirements and get them pre-approved by a Smeal adviser. All students must submit SACA before departure for final course approval.

STEP 4: Make a semester-by-semester plan

Make an appointment with your Smeal or DUS Academic Adviser to create a semester-by-semester course plan including Study Abroad. Your adviser can help review how study abroad fits into your graduation plan. It may be helpful to refer to the recommended semester-by-semester plan for your major: <https://ugstudents.smeal.psu.edu/academics-advising/degree-requirements/majors>

Semester by Semester Plan Complete? Check box <input type="checkbox"/>
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STEP 5: Apply & Next Steps

You've now taken your first step towards studying abroad!  Applications are required through LionsAbroad for approval by Penn State. Additional forms and materials will also need to be submitted to your host institution (IES, CIEE, local university, etc.). In the semester prior to departure, we will continue to work with you on your IB Minor Plan and SACA Course Approvals. Use this checklist to see what's next: <https://ugstudents.smeal.psu.edu/international-programs/study-abroad/preparing-to-go-checklists>

My Application Deadline: _____
