



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW

STUDY ABROAD FAQ SHEET

When can I study abroad?

You must complete your first 30 hours of law school prior to pursuing a study abroad experience.

Where can I study abroad?

You can apply to participate in the programs affiliated with the School of Law:

- Summer Law Program in Madrid, Spain,
- Semester Abroad at University of Bern, Switzerland
- Semester Abroad at University College Cork, Ireland
- Semester Abroad at University Paris-Dauphine, France**
- Semester Abroad at University of Orleans, France**
- Summer research fellowship at Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany**
- Non-Credit, Pro-Bono Summer Program in Southeast Asia (Bridges Across Borders)

***For both French programs and the Ruhr University Bochum program you must be fluent in that country's native language.*

You can also apply to participate in any ABA-approved **summer** law program that is administered by another American law school. A current listing of these programs is maintained on the ABA Web site.

Studying abroad occurs during the summertime, with the exception of the four exchange programs that occur in the fall semester of one's final year in law school. Students cannot study abroad during the academic year.

What are the academic requirements to study abroad?

A student must be in good academic standing at the School of Law, which is defined as having at least a 2.0 grade point average. He/she should meet any language fluency requirements as outlined by the specific study abroad program. In addition, the student must have successfully completed the first 30 hours of law school.

What is the general academic content of study abroad programs?

The majority of courses that are offered have an international law emphasis. This is the case with the programs affiliated with the School of Law as well as other ABA-approved programs. Bar courses are not offered in this forum. Courses will be considered electives. Courses from the SLU Law Madrid Summer program may satisfy the humanities requirement. All courses apply toward the Certificate in International and Comparative Law. Application of courses toward other certificates and the concentrations is done on a case by case basis with the faculty member(s) that oversee these areas.

How are courses graded?

Courses are graded in compliance with the American Bar Association guidelines. Only grades earned through the SLU Law Summer Program in Madrid apply toward a student's grade point average and

impact one's class ranking. Credits earned in the exchange programs and in ABA-approved programs not affiliated with Saint Louis University School of Law are articulated under ABA requirements. These ABA requirements allow the credits and grades to appear on the transcript but do not allow them to apply toward the grade point average (so a student's ranking is not impacted).

How many credits will I earn abroad?

The Summer Law Program in Madrid offers a maximum of six credits. Attendance at Bern, Cork, Dauphine or Orleans must be for no fewer than 12 credits. The semester exchange at Cork transfers in as 12 SLU credits. The Dauphine and Orleans exchanges transfer in as 14 credits. No fewer than 12 credits may be taken in the exchange programs and at no time will more than 14 credits be granted.

What are the cost considerations?

It depends on the program of interest. In general, study abroad programs can range in cost from \$3,000 - \$12,000 depending on the cost of tuition and fees, books, housing, travel and spending money. The costs have to be assessed and discussed on a case by case basis. Please note that this range of expense does not take into consideration the fluctuation in the value of the dollar. Students must purchase international health insurance and an International Student ID Card from Saint Louis University for their study abroad program period.

Can I use financial aid to fund a study abroad program?

The vast majority of students do use financial aid to study abroad. Any study abroad program that is ABA-approved, including programs not sponsored by SLU School of Law will qualify for financial aid through Saint Louis University. Students should see the Financial Aid Coordinator of the School of Law to further discuss their unique circumstances and to explore funding options.

How is the housing arranged when studying abroad?

Housing is secured differently for each study abroad program. It can range from having to make one's own arrangements independently to securing housing as a function of being accepted to the program. Please explore this question on an individual basis. Costs vary greatly for housing, depending on the study abroad site.

Where can I obtain additional information concerning study abroad?

Program descriptions and applications are available on the Web site under the Center for International and Comparative Law and in Student Services for the following programs:

- SLU Madrid Summer Program
- University of Bern, Switzerland Fall Semester
- University College Cork, Ireland Fall Semester
- University Paris-Dauphine, France Fall Semester
- University of Orleans, France Fall Semester
- Summer Research Fellowship at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany
- Non-Credit, Pro-Bono Summer Program in Southeast Asia (Bridges Across Borders)

For more information on non-SLU School of Law Summer Programs Approved by the ABA:

- Review the *Study Abroad Proposal For Summer Programs Not Affiliated with SLU* form located on the Web site under the Center for International and Comparative Law and in Student Services
- Review a listing of ABA-Approved Summer Programs:
<http://www.abanet.org/legaled/studyabroad/foreign.html>

For Additional Assistance

Visit Beth Anderson Jennings, Assistant Director, Center for International and Comparative Law. She may also be reached via telephone (314-977-2792) or e-mail at bander29@slu.edu.