

STUDY ABROAD

The ES major is designed to accommodate student participation in a study abroad opportunity, and many ES majors undertake a study abroad program. Participation in a study abroad program is subject to the approval of the Program, and there are certain obligations that must be fulfilled before approval can be granted.

General obligations that must be met for participation in a study abroad program:

- The three required core courses (ENVR 203, 204 and 205) must be completed by the end of the junior year.
- The four prerequisites for ENVR 417 must be completed by the end of the junior year.
- The student, in consultation with her or his advisor, needs to provide a satisfactory plan for completion of the ES major and general education requirements. This means that the student must be making satisfactory progress toward completion of the major requirements prior to the junior year.

Duration of the study abroad program

- Most study abroad opportunities are for one semester. For a one-semester program, it is not necessary that any of the courses relate to ES major requirements, provided there is evidence of satisfactory progress toward completion of degree requirements.
- Only under rare circumstances can students participate in a full year or two semesters of study abroad. Students must provide a thorough written rationale to justify a full year of study abroad. It is essential that at least one semester of a full-year study abroad opportunity directly tie to the student's ES concentration.
- All majors are required to submit a thesis pre-proposal in March of the junior year, whether or not they are on campus. It is advisable to begin this in the fall term if planning to study abroad in the winter term.

Transfer of credit toward ES major requirements:

- All courses required for the ES core must be taken at Bates.
- Courses can only be transferred in toward the concentration. Students studying abroad can transfer up to two course credits for the ES concentration.
- Transfer credits for the major can only be approved after completion of the study abroad program. Your concentration advisor can often provide a preliminary assessment of the appropriateness of courses prior to your participation in the program, but official approval is given only after review of actual course materials (e.g., syllabus, exams, assignments). After you have completed the course, bring course materials to your concentration advisor for evaluation. Your advisor communicates approval to the program chair.

Requirements for final approval of study abroad:

- Complete the official approval form from the Off-Campus Study Office. Satisfactory completion of this form requires a plan that shows the courses you will take in the remaining semesters at Bates to fulfill major and general education requirements.
- The form must have the signature of your advisor asserting that she or he has reviewed and approved of your study abroad plans and your plans for completing degree requirements. If you are requesting approval for a full year of study abroad, your advisor must sign off on your written rationale for participation in the program.
- Bring the completed and signed form to the program chair for final approval.