FACULTY OF SCIENCE - SHORT TERM INDEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATE STUDY ABROAD

DESCRIPTION
Independent Study Abroad is an opportunity to study at an international university in the Summer or Winter break periods, and to have that study count towards an undergraduate degree administered by the Faculty of Science in circumstances where the formal University of Sydney Exchange Program does not apply. The maximum credit available is 24 credit points (cps) of undergraduate study of which the equivalent of 6cps can be taken in any one July Winter break period and 12cps in any one December-February Summer break period. This study is treated in a manner similar to Outbound Cross Institutional Study, but the Faculty of Science imposes further requirements for approval.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL
(1) Students must be on track to have completed a minimum of 48cps towards their degree total, of which 24 cps must have been successfully completed at the University of Sydney and undertaken in their current degree.
(2) Students must have achieved at least a credit average (65% or higher) over their academic record at the University of Sydney and should have passed all subjects.
(3) Students must demonstrate that the unit of study content is not taught in any corresponding unit of study at the University of Sydney; or, that they are unable, for good reason, to attend a corresponding unit of study at the University of Sydney.
(4) International students cannot complete this study in their home country.
(5) Units completed while on independent study abroad cannot count towards a major at the University of Sydney.
(6) Units completed while on independent study abroad must fit within student’s degree resolutions.

HOW TO APPLY
(1) To apply for Short Term Independent Study Abroad, students must submit all of the following documents at least 3 months prior to departure:
   (a) an application for Outbound Cross Institutional Study,
   (b) detailed unit of study outline for the relevant study abroad unit, and
   (c) a supporting letter outlining the reason why they intend to undertake study abroad.

ON RETURN: VALIDATION OF CREDIT FOR PRIOR STUDY
If approved, the Faculty of Science will provide a conditional offer of credit. Once students have successfully completed the unit overseas they must then provide a copy of their official transcript from the host institution to the Faculty of Science to receive the pre-approved credit for prior study. Approval for Short Term Independent Study Abroad will not be granted retrospectively.
CAUTIONS

The main distinction between Independent Study Abroad and International Student Exchange is in how students fund the experience. Students must pay fees directly to the institution they are visiting, it is not possible to defer fees via HECS-Help or FEE-Help (although students may still be eligible for OS-Help). Students therefore need to be able to fund their study, travel and accommodation independently. Students must also independently organise their enrolment at their approved host institution. The Faculty of Science will be unable to assist other than to provide pre-approval of credit.

It is also the student’s responsibility to ensure that there are no timetabling conflicts between an international program and their study at the University of Sydney. Special Consideration/Arrangements will not be granted for timetable clashes. Furthermore, in approving such an application, The University of Sydney accepts no liability during a student’s short term study abroad.

NOTES

Faculty of Science - Short Term Independent Undergraduate Study Abroad

Date adopted: 1 May 2015
Date commenced: 18 May 2015
Date amended:
Approved by: Professor Trevor Hambley
Signature:

Related documents

Coursework Policy 2014
Risk Management Policy 2013
Assessment Procedures 2011