

First-Generation Students Abroad

The University of San Diego is committed to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and encourages all students to go abroad. This resource is provided to help you think critically about cultural attitudes and perceptions surrounding your social identity in a global context. USD acknowledges that many students relate to multiple identities and welcomes you to use this resource as a tool to explore opportunities abroad.



EDUCATION ABROAD IS POSSIBLE

Participating in an international experience at USD is a chance to seek new opportunities, broaden your perspective, and build global competence. USD offers both short and long-term education abroad programs, ranging from one week to as long as one year. With careful planning, an overseas experience can help you fulfill your degree requirements and core curriculum to keep you on track for graduation. International experiences can also play an important role in your job search after graduation. Employers are increasingly looking for candidates with the ability to communicate across cultures and effectively work with diverse teams—both skills that can be developed abroad.

REFLECTING ON YOUR IDENTITIES

At USD, approximately **80% of undergraduate students will study abroad at least once before graduation**. Leveraging this network of student travelers can be a great resource to help you become more aware of new situations you may experience abroad and give you some ideas about how to navigate your specific identities in another culture.

Remember that opportunities to go abroad are available to students of all identities and you are encouraged to engage in an enriching international experience.

What are the identities that characterize me?

Who do I know that has gone abroad in the region I am interested in studying in?

PREPARATION IS KEY

With careful planning, preparation, and support, you can engage in experiences abroad while maintaining your on-campus and at-home responsibilities. Use the following strategies to plan for your overseas experience:

- **Meet with a study abroad advisor**
The International Center offers advising and support for students interested in international experiences.
- **Take ownership of the process**
Once you have chosen a program, set yourself up for success by planning as much as you can before you depart. Be sure to keep track of application deadlines, funding opportunities, and program requirements.
- **Make a plan**
Research your host country, connect with on-campus resources, and plan how you will stay in touch with your support system while away from home.

Learn about the country abroad, connect with on-campus resources, and plan how you will stay in touch with your support system while away from home.

Additional resources, including funding, on-and off-campus support, and pre-departure materials can be found on The USD International Center website at www.sandiego.edu/international or by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera app.

**This material has been adapted with permission from the University of Michigan's Center for Global and Intercultural Studies*



PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

SECOND YEAR EXPERIENCE (SYE)

- An innovative and comprehensive international experience designed specifically for sophomore students at USD
- Students select from one of several courses offered by USD faculty (taught abroad) for a seamless course transfer

WHO CAN APPLY - Freshmen applicants only

WHEN - The study abroad term is for three weeks in January of their sophomore year



DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM

- Earn two degrees: one from USD and one from a university abroad

WHO CAN APPLY - Freshmen Business majors

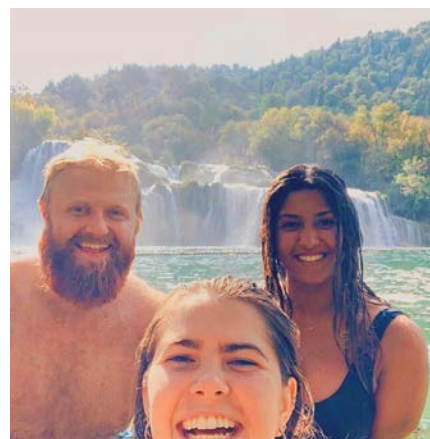
WHEN - Semesters abroad vary per program, but in four years students will likely spend two years abroad and two years at USD

SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS

- USD short-term programs are coordinated by USD faculty, staff, and on-site support for a culture of care on campus or abroad!
- Seamless course credit transfer back to USD

WHO CAN APPLY - Anyone! Some courses may require prerequisites

WHEN - Every summer or intersession (dates vary per program)



USD MADRID CENTER

- The USD Madrid Center is located in the heart of Madrid and allows for a seamless course credit transfer back to USD!
- Students also have the opportunity to participate in a travel seminar to visit several cities around Spain prior to the start of the semester
- Internships available
- Homestay or Residential housing options

WHO CAN APPLY - Students with sophomore standing or higher

WHEN - Every fall or spring semester



For more information on our programs, scan this QR code with your phone camera!