

Center for International Programs
Kalamazoo College
FAQs for Study Abroad
2009-2010

When do students participate in study abroad?

Qualified students are eligible to participate in **Short-Term programs** during the **Spring Quarter** of their **sophomore** year and in **Long-Term programs** during their **junior** year. **Extended-Term programs** are only available to declared foreign language majors with endorsement/approval of department. In addition, there is one Short-Term program available during winter quarter for which sophomores and juniors are eligible. First Year students and seniors are not eligible to participate in study abroad. Sophomores receive priority for participation in spring Short-Term programs. With the exception of Kalamazoo International Study Seminars, summer study abroad for credit is not available to Kalamazoo College students.

When is the application deadline?

Winter Short-Term program: 3 October
Spring Short-Term programs: 15 November
Long-Term and Extended-Term programs: 15 January

Who can participate in study abroad?

All qualified students with sophomore or junior standing who are in good academic standing and have a minimum 2.5 GPA at the College at time of application are eligible to apply for participation in study abroad. All students participating in Long- or Extended-Term programs must have junior standing (a minimum of 17 Kalamazoo College units with a grade of D or better). Sophomores are given priority for participation in spring Short-Term programs. First year students and seniors are not eligible. Students on academic probation, or who have a history of significant disciplinary problems, are not eligible to participate. Individual programs often have additional requirements and prerequisites, including grade point minimums, specific course prerequisites, and/or foreign language proficiency. All programs have enrollment limits. Consult the individual Program Descriptions for details.

What credits are students eligible to earn on study abroad?

Study abroad credits count toward graduation and may be used to satisfy Area of Study requirements. The distribution of credit toward the major, minor, or concentration will be determined by the specific academic department. Credit distributions for other requirements are determined by the Registrar. Only those courses from study abroad which are within the "Liberal Arts Tradition" of the College will be accepted for credit. Students must earn the equivalent of a "C" in the local grading system to receive credit for course work completed abroad. Consult the individual Program Descriptions and the College catalogue for additional information.

Is there a difference between a Kalamazoo program and a Non-Kalamazoo program?

Kalamazoo programs (group one on "List of Study Abroad Programs") include a resident director, program excursions, and group arrival pick-up at the beginning of the program. During the pre-departure phase, the CIP works directly with students to assist them in the processing of paperwork, documents, etc. Non-Kalamazoo programs (groups two and three on "List of Study Abroad Programs") are administered by third party institutions. Those institutions typically have staff who are responsible for international students are available for questions and on-site support for students on these programs. Particular program characteristics will vary by program and students are encouraged to research programs prior to the application process. During the pre-departure phase, students admitted to Non-Kalamazoo programs should be prepared to complete and provide documents and work directly with the partner institution. In most cases, students on Non-Kalamazoo programs will be responsible for applying for a student visa. Students on non-Kalamazoo programs should be prepared to work independently to prepare themselves for their program. Note: Some Non-Kalamazoo programs do not allow for the transfer of Kalamazoo based financial aid or scholarships (group three).

Is there a specific Study Abroad program for my major?

Students should consult with an academic advisor in order to determine whether the department requires study abroad participation in a specific program to complete the major requirements. Many study abroad programs offer course work and experiential opportunities related or complementary to majors offered at the College. Students are encouraged to discuss these programs with an academic advisor or CIP staff members.

What will appear on the Kalamazoo College transcript?

Grades from all study abroad courses will appear on the Kalamazoo transcript but are not included in the Kalamazoo grade point average. The transcript will list the title of the course, the appropriate discipline, and a translation of the local grade into the Kalamazoo "A, B, C" grading system.

How much foreign language do students need?

Foreign language requirements vary from program to program. **Short-Term programs** are designed for participants with beginner to low intermediate language credentials and typically require a minimum of French, German, or Spanish 102 and a maximum of 202. For **Long-** and **Extended-Term programs**, consult the individual Program Description for specific requirements. Students who have completed higher level courses (level 202 and higher) generally have greater access to university-integrated long- and extended-term programs and thus have greater choice in courses abroad.

What will the program cost?

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the fees for Kalamazoo College programs are: **Short-Term, \$12,722; Long-Term, \$25,444; and Extended-Term, \$38,166.** Some programs have additional fees, which are indicated on the "List Study Abroad Programs." Fees for non-Kalamazoo programs may be higher. In no instance will participants in non-Kalamazoo programs pay less than the fee assessed participants in Kalamazoo programs. Fees for programs in the 2009-2010 academic year will be published in the spring of 2009.

What is included in the program fee?

The fee includes tuition and fees, food and housing while classes are in session, group round-trip international airfare from the designated point of departure (typically a city on the east or west coast), and some excursions. The fee does not include all predeparture expenses (including immunizations), books, domestic airfare to the point of departure for the group flight, personal spending money, food or housing during vacation periods or after classes have ended, or independent travel. Students who participate in non-Kalamazoo programs may have additional expenses not included in the program fee, including the cost of a student visa. Consult the individual Program Descriptions for details.

Can students use their Kalamazoo financial assistance and/or scholarships on study abroad?

Many of the study abroad programs on the list of programs approved for credit transfer have also been approved for transfer of Kalamazoo financial assistance and/or scholarships. Consult the individual Program Descriptions and contact the College's Office of Financial Aid for details.

Can I use foreign language credits earned on study abroad to satisfy the College's language requirement?

Foreign language credit earned in any of the languages taught in regularly scheduled courses on campus (Chinese, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Kiswahili, Latin, and Spanish) can be used to satisfy the language requirement according to the policies stated in the Kalamazoo College Academic Catalogue. Students who wish to satisfy the language requirement by demonstrating proficiency in a foreign language taught as part of a study abroad program (e.g., Arabic, Hebrew, Thai, Wolof, etc.) must be able to transfer back a minimum of three (3) units in the language in order to meet the Kalamazoo requirement of proficiency at the Intermediate Level (201), which is the equivalent of three (3) units in one language. Students should not expect to transfer back one (1) or two (2) units from study abroad and be able to complete the requirement through the on-campus Neglected Languages Program. In those exceptional cases where a student may feel that s/he has reached the third level of proficiency but cannot present three (3) units, the student must assume the cost for any additional fees for necessary proficiency testing.

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