# Study Abroad FAQ's

## How much does it cost to study abroad?

Costs vary depending on the program you choose and length of stay. Exchanges cost the same as tuition for a semester or year at Towson University (excluding travel and housing).

# Can I use financial aid and scholarships to help pay for study abroad?

YES!! Students may use financial aid and most scholarships during the semester, year or summer and some scholarships are available for the Minimester. Visit our website for more details.

#### Where can I study overseas?

There are study opportunities worldwide.

## What can I study overseas?

Students may select courses in their major, minor, and/or choose to take GenEds/Core Curriculum requirements and electives.

#### Will the classes I take abroad transfer to TU?

YES!! Courses taken through Towson University Study Abroad administered programs (including exchanges) and affiliated programs will be posted to your TU record. You will complete a Study Abroad Course Form before departure to determine how courses will apply to your TU degree.

# Will the grades I earn abroad count in my TU GPA?

Grades for all courses taken abroad will be recorded on the TU transcript but will not be calculated into the TU GPA. (Exceptions: TU faculty-led programs and the TU Dublin & Toronto Internship Summer Program in which the grades will be calculated into the TU GPA).

# Can I study abroad for my last 30 credits at TU?

YES!! A blanket waiver will be given to students to allow them to study abroad during the final 30 credits of their undergraduate degree. However, students must still complete a minimum of 30 credits in residence at TU.

# When can I study abroad?

Students interested in studying abroad for a semester or more are encouraged to go during their junior or senior year but sophomores may also be eligible. You may study abroad in your final year or semester. Anyone can participate on TU short-term faculty-led programs during the summer, Minimester, and Spring Break. Opportunities for graduate students are also available.

#### Where will I live overseas?

Each study abroad program offers students living accommodations which may include dormitory housing, apartments, home stay, hotels, or bed and breakfasts.

# How do I get started?

Review the programs and exchanges through TU Horizons Online and attend an information session. Sessions are held Monday through Friday at 2:00 p.m. in the Study Abroad Office.

# What Type Of Study Abroad Experience Do You Want?

Consider the following questions to help you choose the right study abroad program:

#### Cost:

- What are your real financial limitations?
- Would you be willing to take out an additional loan to finance study abroad?
- Have you saved any additional money or can you do so by taking on an extra job?
- What other costs are covered by the programs fee?
- What is the program refund policy if you decide not to complete the program?

#### Location:

- Do you want to be with locals or among lots of American students?
- Do you want to be in a metropolitan area or off the beaten track?
- Do you want to use or learn a foreign language?
- What kind of climate do you prefer?
- Are specific classes or location more important?

#### **Academics:**

- Do you want/need courses to apply to your major or minor or GenEds/Core Curriculum requirements?
- Do you want to study something completely different as a "break" from your major?
- Are you experienced enough (i.e. 4+ semesters of language study) to take all your courses in another language?
- Do you want to learn a language not taught at TU?
- Are course descriptions and syllabi from the institution available to you?
- Will you take classes with other students from your host country or will your classes include only international students?

#### Lifestyle:

- Do you prefer to be in a group or are you more independent?
- Do you want organized field trips and excursions as part of your program?
- Do you want to live in a dorm/apartment/with a family? (think here about issues of cultural immersion and independence)
- Do you have any dietary restrictions? How strict? Are you adventurous and flexible about food?
- Do you have any disabilities or need any accommodations?

www.towson.edu/studyabroad/