



A GUIDE TO STUDYING PRE-LAW ABROAD

Embarking on a semester or full year pre-law study abroad program will set the course for great things to come in your career. Learning about government, criminal justice, and various societal institutions in a different culture and from a new viewpoint is bound to enhance your insight of the field of law. Studying abroad will also inevitably prepare you for the many challenges that law can pose down the road, both in and out of the courtroom.

WHY STUDY PRE-LAW ABROAD?

Since pre-law is more of a degree track than a solidified major, you do not have to worry about navigating the deep complexities of a different country's legal system just yet. Instead, you will be rounding off a more complete education of whatever undergraduate focus you are pursuing, be it political science, history, economics, or what have you. Studying pre-law abroad is the perfect way to gain a more holistic knowledge in any of these areas, and it certainly won't look bad on your law school application either.

LOCATIONS

You can study pre-law abroad pretty much anywhere and earn relevant academic credit toward your degree track. Lawyers are needed just about everywhere in our modern world, and so most major universities feature either a pre-law program or at least requisite law courses.

COURSES & PROGRAMS

Pre-law is a degree track that encompasses a wide variety of majors, which are all recognized as suitable for entry to law schools. While specifically designed pre-law study abroad programs are sometimes available at foreign universities, it is much more common that you will simply enroll in courses which are prerequisites toward your major back home. Some of the most common majors that pre-law students choose to pursue in their undergraduate studies include political science, history, psychology, and English. Another route that pre-law students often take for study abroad is studying international law. This is a fairly specialized field in which undergraduate classes may not be offered at every school. Some pre-law study abroad courses are even specifically designed for international law, and may include interactive field trips, such as visiting the United Nations or International Criminal Court.

BENEFITS

Whatever your focus is within the field of pre-law, one of the most beneficial things about studying abroad is that you can gain an entirely new perspective on the subject by learning through a different lens. Lectures can get boring and repetitive at home, so spice things up by adventuring into an new cultural context! Law schools love to see that you have taken your education abroad; it shows that a prospective candidate is flexible, ambitious, and can work well in a cross-cultural environment. These are important skills, which you will need to succeed in the legal profession.

SJU SEMSTER ABROAD PROGRAMS

Please note the list of programs and courses are only listed as a guide and does not guarantee automatic approval of courses counting for SJU academic credit. You will work with both your Academic Advisor and Study Abroad Advisor to determine the program and courses to best meet your needs. All courses **must be approved** by the appropriate SJU Department Chair or Associate Dean prior to studying abroad.

- **Belgium Internship Program**
 - *Sample Courses: Comparative European Politics, Economics of European Integration, History & Development of the EU, European Law*

- **Florence University of the Arts**
 - *Sample Courses: International Development Cooperation, Conflict Management, Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations*

- **Danish Institute for Study Abroad**
 - *Sample Courses: International Refugee Law, Human Trafficking in a Global Context, International Law from a European Perspective*

In addition to courses above for Major/Minor courses, you may also be able to take some of SJU's GEP courses while abroad, including but not limited to: Art/Lit, Social Science, Religious Difference & Philosophical Anthropology.

Can't find a program or university on our approved list that appeals to you? You can always petition to attend another study abroad program of your choosing with more information can be found on our [website](#).

NEXT STEPS

- Meet with the Study Abroad Advisor** | Learn about your options
- Meet with your Academic Advisor** | Discuss course selection
- Apply for a passport** | <http://travel.state.gov/passport>
- Apply to study abroad!** | Applications are due to the CIP office by: March 1st for the Fall semester abroad, and October 1st for the Spring semester abroad

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