Academics

Education Abroad
Pre-Departure Orientation Video
Study abroad programs = Academic programs

• **Take classes seriously**
  ✓ Contribute to degree completion
  ✓ Serious consequences (F/U grade, GPA, Financial Aid, removal from program)
  ✓ Communicate problems early

• **Follow OU Student Policies**
  ✓ Academic Integrity Code: Honesty and responsibility in scholarship
  ✓ Student Rights and Responsibilities Code
  ✓ See: Student Handbook on **OU Student Life**
Can I earn OU credit for international coursework?

- **YES, for all EA-approved, programs (in EA online catalog)**
  - Ultimate authority: OU Admissions
    - Determines academic level of courses, and quantity of credit hours transferred
    - Can process Lower Division elective credit
  - More specific equivalencies approved by OU Departments
    - Upper Division elective credit - OR - specific course equivalencies (XYZ 1234)

- **If you participate in programs not approved by EA**
  - Contact Admissions for possibility of receiving credit for your experience
  - OU Education Abroad does not assist with non-OU programs
  - OU Education Abroad does not sign off on non-OU program materials
Credit transfer & course equivalencies

• **Involved parties**
  - Student (pro-activeness and responsibility are required)
  - Education Abroad
  - Academic Departments
  - OU Admissions/Academic Records

• **Timeline**
  1. Check *existing course equivalencies* on EA program brochures
  2. Get **pre-approval** → Study abroad course evaluation form (course documentation)
  3. Submit **Credit Agreement Form** (CAF) before departure
  4. Send **Enrollment Verification Form** (EVF) after international program starts
  5. EA receives study abroad transcript → Admissions: Evaluation & posting grades
  6. End of program → to → posted grades: up to 3 months
     - EA will try to move process as fast as possible
Academics of planning a study abroad

- Determine appropriate program type
- Search for international coursework
- Credit transfer & course equations
- Enrollment mechanisms
- Financial Aid
Program types & enrollment

- Reciprocal exchange -> INTL, S/U grades
- Direct enrollment -> EAAP, S/U grades
- OU Faculty-led -> OU credits, A-F grades
- OU in Arezzo -> OU credits, A-F grades
- Featured Provider Programs -> EAAP, S/U or A-F, or mix of both possible
Pre-departure: Course Search

• **Good destination = fitting program type & useful coursework**
  - Lower division electives
  - Upper division electives
  - Major/minor requirement courses
  - Gen Ed requirements

• **Find and discuss courses: EA Adviser, College Academic Adviser**
  - Availability, transfer mechanism, fit into degree plan
  - Inquire about existing course equivalencies
  - Obtain pre-approval
Pre-departure: Course equivalency pre-approval

- **Study abroad course evaluation form**
  - Available on online program application page and EA website
  - Confirms specific course equation or UD elective credit
  - Signed by departmental/faculty adviser
  - Student must provide course documentation
  - Attach to CAF when submitting to EA
  - No pre-approval → try again after program completion
Pre-departure: Credit Agreement Form (CAF)

- Required from ALL students on international programs PRIOR to program start
  - You are not cleared for study abroad if CAF is not submitted
- Deadlines: April 1 (for SU, FA, AY programs), November 1 (for SP)
- Available on online application page + on EA website
- Lists all courses student intends to take abroad + available approved equivalencies
- Serves as basis for INTL/EAAP full-time enrollment, financial aid & credit transfer
- Signatures by: Student, College-level academic adviser, modern language adviser (if you are taking language–learning courses), Admissions
While Abroad: Enrollment Verification Form (EVF)

• Required from ALL students on international programs
  ✓ except for OU courses taught abroad

• Deadline: 2 weeks after international program starts, when course selection is finalized

• Available on online application page + on EA website

• Confirms all courses student actually takes abroad + approved equivalencies

• Serves to adjust INTL/EAAP full-time enrollment, financial aid & initialize credit transfer
  (➔ course documentation **IMPORTANT**!)

• Signatures by: Student, International program coordinator (at host institution/program)
While abroad: Advisement & Enrollment for next semester

- Know name, email, phone number of your College Academic Adviser/Departmental Adviser who is overseeing your academic progress + who can:
  - Lift stops
  - Grant permissions for courses
  - Enroll you in courses for next semester

- Be familiar with oZONE
  - You may have to enroll yourself while abroad

- EA cannot do any of the above but will assist with all processes
Pre- or post-program: General Education requirements

• OU in Arezzo & some Faculty-led programs offer approved Gen Ed coursework
• 3 options for satisfying Gen Ed requirements on Reciprocal Exchanges, or Direct enrollment, or IEO programs:

Gen Ed credit

International course has previously been equated to OU course already on University-wide General Education Approved Course List
• Find list at: www.ou.edu/enrollment

Student obtains pre-approval for equation to OU course on Gen Ed list -- OR – Student receives post-program approval for equation to OU course on Gen Ed list
• SA Course Evaluation Form

Student petitions for Gen Ed approval of un-equated transfer course through Provost’s Advisory Committee for General Education Oversight
• Form available on EA website
• Departmental adviser must support request
• Course documentation must be available
Post-program: Study Abroad Transcript

- Sent to EA directly (sometimes to student) 4-8+ weeks after program ends
  - Often needs to be actively requested from host institution

- Course equations or approval for UD elective credit can now be requested from OU departments by student (if no pre-approval could be obtained) → **KEEP ALL COURSE DOCUMENTATION!**

- All listed courses/credit hours and associated grades (S/U or A-F) will transfer to OU transcript. You cannot drop failed courses.

- Additional credit hours taken abroad (not listed on EVF) will be retroactively added to INTL or EAAP enrollment and student’s Bursar account will be charged accordingly

- Study abroad is completed after all international credit is transferred, counting towards degree, as long as courses were passed (graded with S/U or A-F, but not N)

- EA keeps original transcript (or official copy) on file for 4 years
Tips:

- Be as informed as you can (EA website>Outgoing>Academics)
- Try to establish as much academic certainty as possible (program choice)
- Stay flexible 😊
- Ask questions early → EA Adviser, College Adviser, Department/Faculty Adviser
- Communicate problems EARLY
- Show initiative, be organized, stay on top of things
- Combine your international experience with academic success!

- Bon Voyage