



HOW DO I CHOOSE A STUDY AWAY PROGRAM?

1. WHEN SHOULD I GO

<input type="checkbox"/>	Consider timing. Most students study away during their junior year (either a semester or a full academic year). <i>Students wishing to go at another time will need to petition CAS and the Director of International Education and Study Away.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you want to go for a full year or just a semester? Some students go on two separate programs, but need to be familiar with visa and immigration regulations before pursuing that. For language students, a full year of immersion is ideal.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Are there certain classes you need to take at Williams that you need to be on campus for? If so that may help you determine the semester that is best to study away.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consider the academic calendar abroad. Some programs overlap with the U.S. summer calendar, especially in the southern hemisphere.

2. WHERE SHOULD I GO

<input type="checkbox"/>	Location can be one of the most important factors in deciding on a program. Research places, cultures, and regions of interest.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you want a city/urban setting or something more rural?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you prefer an English speaking country? If not what language skills do you have? What do you want to gain?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review evaluations of programs and talk with other Williams students who have studied away to get some insight.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask the office for a list of students and where they studied so you can get in touch with them for more information.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meet with the Director of International Education and Study Away and/or a Global Ambassador to discuss.

3. WHAT KIND OF PROGRAM SHOULD I CHOOSE

<input type="checkbox"/>	What are you looking for – Language immersion? Rigorous academics? Field experience? Independent research?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you want to live in apartments or a dorm? Do you want to live in a homestay or with a local family? What are the benefits?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you want to be at a university or in a study center with other U.S. based students? Large or small university?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you want to take courses towards your major? If so, make sure to pay close attention to the courses offered and consult with your major department for approval.

4. THINKING IT OUT

<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember - the right choice for your roommate or best friend may not be the right program for you! Consider your personal goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Why do you want to go abroad? What are you looking to 'get' out of the experience?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is study away even right for you? Do you like traveling to unfamiliar places and confronting unforeseen challenges? Will you enjoy learning about a new culture? Will you have the support you need when away from campus or your support network? Will you have access to resources you need to thrive?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't look at study away as just a way to travel, look at it as a way to expand your education and world view; live in an environment much different from your own; seek to live in and immerse yourself fully.
<input type="checkbox"/>	What is your budget? If cost is a factor, consider some less expensive locations. This is not just about the program cost but the day to day expenses to consider. Our online resources and past student evaluations can help.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attend the Study Away Fair, Information Sessions, and talk to the Office or a Global Ambassador to help you make the best decision for YOU.