At Vassar, a global learning experience is considered an integral academic component of the undergraduate degree. The unique opportunity to learn and live abroad will offer access to new classes, the opportunity to gain a new perspective in your field of study, and the chance to develop or master language skills. Students who have returned from abroad report improved self-confidence, problem-solving skills, a worldly outlook, and increased cultural competence. This type of growth is not only personally rewarding, but is also valuable to future employers and graduate schools.

The application period for study abroad begins in the fall of Sophomore year. Students are eligible to go abroad during Junior year or first semester of Senior year. At Vassar, we focus on supporting you in experiencing an entire semester or year abroad.

Start planning for study abroad in your first semester so that you can integrate it into your academic experience. This is important because some study abroad programs have course prerequisites and Vassar may require up to two years of relevant language coursework before you go abroad. Be sure to speak with your pre-major advisor about potential study abroad prerequisites when mapping out your academic plan.

WAIT! There’s more....
Vassar offers a multitude of programs that you can explore via the Vassar Global Learning Portal. Here are some questions to guide you in finding the right program. Why do you want to study abroad and what are your academic needs? Where do you want to study and what type of community would you like to live in? Do you want to explore a different pedagogical system? Do you want to live with a host family or in a dorm? What program structure will work best for you? These are all important factors to consider when selecting a program.

Financial aid, including Vassar scholarships, may be applied toward program costs! Visit our website and the Vassar Fellowships Office website to find out about the many scholarships and fellowships available. We are eager to support you if you decide to apply.

Applying for study abroad is a two-stage process. First you submit a proposal for study abroad through the Vassar Global Learning Portal. This is reviewed by the Committee on Leaves and Privileges. Once approved, you complete a separate application for your chosen program.

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