Education Abroad Programs for Students of Social Work

UK Education Abroad offers a variety of programs that allow you to study Social Work in an international setting. Immerse yourself in another culture, expand your knowledge of Social Work, and explore what the world has to offer with any one of the exciting opportunities available to you!

Why study abroad?

- Experience Social Work first-hand
- Globalize your world view
- Expand your intercultural understanding and problem-solving skills
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Gain new insight into the world and yourself
- Increase your language skills

As a social work major, one of the best ways to increase your knowledge is to immerse yourself in various communities and diverse cultures. There is no substitute for the experience that a semester, year, summer, or winter abroad will give you.

Do I have to speak a foreign language to study abroad?

Absolutely not. There are plenty of programs in English-speaking countries. Furthermore, students can find classes taught in English in practically every country. Of course, there are also plenty of excellent programs for students who prefer to study in a foreign language.

Where can I study abroad?

There are many opportunities to study all over the world! From the metropolitan buzz of London to the tropical landscape of Costa Rica, UK offers a wide array of programs that allow students to study in all parts of the globe.

How can I afford to study abroad?

The Education Abroad office offers scholarships for students interested in studying abroad. These scholarships range from $750-$1,500. Stop by one of the information sessions on scholarships or visit the Education Abroad website for more information.

Additionally, most UK financial aid applies towards the cost of studying abroad! Check with your financial aid advisor for more information.

Finally, please note that there are several education abroad programs that are comparable to the cost of attending UK. So, with a little bit of planning, if you can afford to attend UK, you can afford to study abroad.

What are my next steps?

Attend a First Step Session.

Find out what you can study abroad and where, and ask questions about the application process, financial aid and scholarships, etc. First Step Sessions are held on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4-5p.m. and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-4p.m. in 207 Bradley Hall.

Explore the programs available.

Search online or visit the Education Abroad Resource Center in 315 Bradley Hall.

Talk to an Education Abroad advisor.

Each UK Education Abroad advisor has expertise in specific majors and geographic regions. Check the website and make an appointment with the advisor who is an expert on the programs in which you are interested.

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UK Exchange
These offerings include university-wide or departmental exchanges and select ISEP Exchange programs. Students pay UK tuition and fees and earn transfer credit while abroad.

UK Direct
These offerings include select programs hosted by an institution in which students enroll directly or facilitated through ISEP Direct. Students earn transfer credit.

UK Partners
These offerings include select third-party provider programs and other internship/service-learning based programs, for which students earn transfer credit.

How do I choose the education abroad program that is right for me?
Look through the information in this advising guide for an overview of the programs available to UK students. You can also find more detailed descriptions online. To get started, it is important to consider the type of program you would like to attend, descriptions of which are outlined above. Consider the following important questions.

When can I study abroad?
• You can study abroad for an entire academic year, during the Fall or Spring semesters, Winter Intersession or over the Summer.

Where will I live?
• Most programs provide accommodation for students in residence halls and foreign student dormitories. Some programs, particularly ones that focus on language immersion provide the option of living with a local family.

Will I earn credits while abroad?
• Yes! Earn credit towards your major abroad, or get some electives out of the way. Please check with your Director of Undergraduate Studies to make sure specific courses will count towards your major.

How much does it cost?
• Programs vary in cost depending on the program type, duration, and provider. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with all the costs of the programs you are considering.

UK SPONSORED EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Social Development in Developing Countries: Ghana
Acraw, Ghana
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.7
Terms Offered: Summer

This field-based course in Acrarw, Ghana introduces students to the social development approach through placements in social welfare and community-based programs run by both government and non-governmental (NGOs) agencies. The organizations’ focus areas include outreach for street children, juvenile/probation services, residential facilities for delinquent boys and girls, rehabilitation for physically disabled persons, hospital-related social work, community development programs, women and children’s services, orphanages and HIV/AIDS services. An MSW concentration is required. Famous courses also available.

University of Sussex - Brighton, England
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.7
Terms Offered: Year, Fall


Charles Sturt University—Wagga Wagga, Australia
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.0
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Courses include: Social Inequality, Ethics and Social Work Practice, Community Analysis, Social Work & Human Rights, Social Work Theory & more. Anthropology courses such as Australia’s Indigenous peoples are also available.

University of Central Lancashire—Preston, England
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Terms Offered: Fall, Spring

Courses include: Social Justice in Practice, Human Growth & Development, Law & Safeguarding, Working with Children, Mental Health, and more. Anthropology, history, and Religious Studies courses also available.

UK Exchange

Awards range from $750 - $1,500. Deadlines: October for Fall, Spring programs, and March 1st for Fall and Summer programs.

When should I study abroad?
Most UK students study abroad during their sophomore or junior years. However, there are programs available for freshmen and senior students as well.

Another important decision to make is what time of year to study abroad. Programs are available for the academic year, the Fall and Spring semesters, Winter Intersession, and the Summer sessions. It is also possible to take a spring-embedded course, which is a class taught at UK with an international component during spring break or early summer.

Because many foreign institutions follow different academic calendars, it is important for students to consider the specific dates of the program in far advance. For example, many “fall” semester programs in the Southern Hemisphere may run from July to November and from February to June during the American spring semester.

Similarly, it may be difficult for students to study at some European institutions for the fall semester. Final exams may be scheduled in early January, and many programs do not make allowances for US students. Please be sure you consider this issue in advance.

Many students choose to study abroad during the Summer or Winter sessions. There are two summer sessions available: Summer I and Summer II. Summer I programs typically occur during May and early June, while Summer II programs tend to start late in the summer and end in late July or early August.

UK DIRECT EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Massey University - Auckland
ISEP Direct
Auckland, New Zealand
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.75
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Courses available to UK students include Social and Community Work Practice, Helping Skills in Social Work, Social Work Theory, Into to Field Education, Social Policy, and others. Social Anthropology courses are available, as well as history and religious studies courses.

University of Sunderland (ISEP Direct)
Sunderland, England
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.75
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Courses offered include Understanding Social Control, Equality and Human Rights, Youth & Social Change, Violence & Social Harm, Sociology of Health & Illness, Intimacy & Relationships, and many more.

Bluegrass Down Under:
Griffith University
(Ed. Abroad Network)
Gold Coast, Australia
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Courses available include Law for Social Work, Social Welfare, Ethics and Professional Practice, Intro to Social Theory, and others.

London South Bank University (KEI)
London, England
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 3.0
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Available courses include Contemporary Issues in Aging, Equity and Diversity, Child Welfare, Ethics and Professional Practice, Intro to Social Theory, and others.

Bahcesehir University (KEI)
Istanbul, Turkey
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Available courses include Methodology of Social Services, Sociology of Gender & Family, Social Change & Stratification, Sociology of Crime, and more.

UK SPONSORED EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Social Development in Developing Countries: Ghana
Acraw, Ghana
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.7
Terms Offered: Summer

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Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.7
Terms Offered: Year, Fall


Charles Sturt University—Wagga Wagga, Australia
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
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Terms Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

Courses include: Social Inequality, Ethics and Social Work Practice, Community Analysis, Social Work & Human Rights, Social Work Theory & more. Anthropology courses such as Australia’s Indigenous peoples are also available.

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