Study Abroad Programs in Psychology

(Revised August 2016)

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
THE UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX, ENGLAND
DIS – STUDY ABROAD IN SCANDINAVIA, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE (PUC), SANTIAGO

The Department of Psychology at Washington University, in conjunction with the College of Arts and Sciences, offers Psychological & Brain Sciences majors the opportunity to study in England at the University of Sussex; in Australia at the University of Queensland; in Denmark through DIS – Study Abroad in Scandinavia; and in Chile at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Psychological & Brain Sciences majors interested in applying to one of the approved study abroad programs will have to have completed at least 9 units of psychology classes (if applying for the fall semester of the junior year) or 12 units of psychology classes (if applying for the spring semester of the junior year), and have both an overall GPA and a psychology GPA of at least 3.0 by the end of the semester in which they are applying. Moreover, Experimental Psychology (Psych 301 or 3011) must be satisfactorily completed before going abroad.

If you are considering one of the study abroad programs, you should start planning early in your college career. Study abroad is undertaken in the junior year, and you will need to choose your course work at Washington University carefully to make sure you take the required courses on time. The application process involves completion of the WU general application requirements (a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation, an approved plan of study, an official transcript, and four photographs), as well as completion of the study abroad institution’s forms and applications. Selection of applicants is done at Washington University, based upon faculty review, with final approval granted by the study abroad institution. For information about the costs, application process, and housing contact the Study Abroad Office, which is located in McMillan Hall, Room 138 (935-5958).

The Psychology Study Abroad Programs are meant to enrich students’ study of psychology as well as their general education. Up to 6 units of the psychology credit earned from the approved psychology study abroad program can be used to satisfy the minimum requirements of the Psychological and Brain Sciences major at Washington University (although all units earned from the program will be transferred).

All of the psychology study abroad programs involve a research assistantship in a psychology laboratory under the guidance of a faculty mentor, or a practicum, or a service activity, in addition to psychology course work and non-psychology classes. The study abroad program at the University of Sussex requires, in addition to the research mentorship, that students enroll in two psychology classes from an approved list of courses, as well as additional, non-psychology elective courses. The program at the University of Queensland requires, in addition to the research mentorship, that the student enroll in two psychology classes and two elective courses outside of psychology, at least one of which must relate directly to Australia, as well as
participation in an occasional brown-bag seminar. The DIS program requires both a core and
practicum course (either clinical psychology core and its practicum, or positive psychology core
and its practicum), an additional psychology class, plus two courses outside of psychology, at
least one of which must relate directly to Scandinavia. The PUC program requires fluency in
Spanish, and the individualized course of study will be developed in consultation with the
student.

N.B. Regarding transfer credit from study abroad:

Students on one of our approved study abroad programs in psychology can have up to 6
units of psychology credit from the abroad program transferred for the requirements of
the major, and these will not be part of the 6-unit rule. Any other psychology credits
from the abroad program in psychology cannot be counted (not even as part of the 6-unit
rule). That is, although our abroad programs typically grant 9 units of psychology credit,
only 6 of these can be counted for the minimum units in the major and will not be part of
our 6-unit rule; any other psychology units are to be transferred as psychology credit but
not for the minimum requirements and not as part of the 6-unit rule. In addition, one core
area may be satisfied by a study-abroad class, but only with the approval of the study-
abroad coordinator and Director of Undergraduate Studies.

If a student goes abroad but not on one of our approved psychology programs, then a
maximum of 3 units can be transferred for the major as part of the 6-unit rule, with
approval of the study-abroad coordinator and Director of Undergraduate Studies, but
these units cannot be used to fulfill any core area.

If the student does go abroad to a university that is one of our approved psychology
programs, but the student is not doing our psychology program there, then 3 units can be
transferred, the course could be used to satisfy a core area, and the units would be part of
the 6-unit rule.

Dr. Joel Myerson coordinates the program at University of Queensland –Australia. Professor
Leonard Green coordinates the programs at Sussex, Chile, and Denmark.

More information coming soon! For questions and details, please contact Dr. Green
(lgreen@wustl.edu) or Dr. Myerson (jmyerson@wustl.edu).