



Undergraduate Global Semester Exchange Program Winter Semester 2018 Frequently Asked Questions

General

- **Where can I study abroad with the full semester exchange program?**

As a U-M undergraduate, you can now study business abroad for a semester at one of 31 partner schools worldwide. An exchange experience will allow you to learn about business from a different perspective, experience another culture, and network with students, faculty, and professionals from around the world.

Here is a current list of global semester exchange partner schools:

Argentina: CEA Buenos Aires Center
China: IES Shanghai Program
China: Tsinghua University School of Economics and Management
Czech Republic: University of Economics, Prague
Czech Republic: CEA Prague
Denmark: Copenhagen Business School
Finland: Aalto Business School
France: HEC Paris
France: ESSEC Business School
Germany: WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management
Hong Kong: Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Iceland: Reykjavik University
Ireland: University College Dublin
Israel: Tel Aviv University
Italy: Bocconi University
Italy: University of Padova
Netherlands: Rotterdam School of Management
Norway: Norwegian School of Economics
Poland: Warsaw School of Economics
Singapore: National University of Singapore
Spain: CEA Barcelona – Business, Design, and Innovation
Spain: ESADE Business School
Spain: ICADE Business School
Spain: IE Business School
Spain: IES Barcelona – Liberal Arts and Business
Spain: University of Navarra
Sweden: Stockholm School of Economics
Switzerland: University of St. Gallen
Thailand: Thammasat Business School
UK: Cass Business School

For more information on the partner schools, please see the [Global Initiatives website](#).

- **When do I apply?**

Applications are [now available on M-Compass](#)! Get started on your application today.

- **May 31st:** Applications due by 11:59pm EST on M-Compass
- **July 17th:** Students are e-mailed decisions

- **July 31st:** Student deadline to accept/decline offer

- **Who is eligible to apply to this exchange program?**

All University of Michigan undergraduates who are in good academic standing are eligible to participate in this experience abroad. All students must review their academic requirements with their Academic Advisor before applying to this program.

- **How competitive will the exchange program application be?**

The Ross Undergraduate Global Semester Exchange Program is, in general, a quite competitive program. Within the application, students may rank up to 10 partner schools. Historically, most students rank their top schools similarly, thus creating competition. Some schools tend to be very, very popular, and some attract only a few students. Global Initiatives encourages students to explore all partner school options and rank as many as they are interested in order to have the best chance of going abroad. All of the schools offer unique and interesting experiences! Additionally, students will want to explore all of their study abroad options (i.e., through CGIS, other UM programs, etc.). It is the goal of Global Initiatives to send as many qualified students abroad as possible.

Applicants can review the presentation slides from the Application Workshops that were held in April on [Canvas](#) to get additional application tips.

- **Will I be able to start my summer internship on time if I participate in a full semester exchange?**

Yes! Some partner schools have academic calendars similar to that of U-M, so starting your internship in June should be no problem. However, some partner schools have academic calendars through the end of May, meaning that you may only have a day or two (or none at all) between the end of the semester and your internship start date. In some cases, students must work with their host institution to arrange remote exams back in the U.S. Global Initiatives will be here to support students in these rare cases.

- **Am I able to participate in a Global Initiatives short-term global course/program as well as the full semester?**

Yes! You can and are encouraged to do both. Just keep in mind that there are separate application processes. The Semester Exchange program application will be available on M-Compass in February and due May 31st. Global Study and Intern, Global Immersion, and Global Practicum applications are typically due late in the fall semester or the beginning of the winter semester. Be sure to attend the appropriate information sessions to learn more about the process.

Academics

- **What is the required *MO 319: Developing Cultural Competency* course in the fall?**

Students who are selected to study abroad in the Undergraduate Global Semester Exchange Program will enroll into Fall B's MO 319: Developing Cultural Competency course. This exciting 1.5 credit course will help students get the most out of their experience abroad by building students' ability to intelligently engage with their host culture. Students will learn how to best reflect on their exchange experiences while abroad - leading to a more successful study abroad term. As part of the exchange program, students attend class with all outgoing exchange students - providing opportunities to network and connect with other exchange students prior to leaving Ross.

If you're interested in applying to the Undergraduate Global Semester Exchange program, be sure to make an appointment with your Academic Advisor to ensure MO 319 fits into your schedule. You will need to have room for 1 credit in Fall B and 0.5 credits in Winter B while you're abroad.

- **How many credits (on average) will I take/earn abroad during the winter semester?**

During the winter semester, you are required take a full course load abroad – so anywhere from 12-18 credits. On average, you'll take the equivalent of 12-15 credits.

- **What types of classes will I take abroad?**

You'll enroll into mostly business elective courses at the partner school. Depending on your interest and partner school course availability, some schools will offer coursework beyond business (i.e., history, politics, etc.). You should work with your Academic Advisor to petition this coursework towards your University of Michigan distribution credits.

- **Do I need to complete any Ross floating core course requirements before going abroad?**
While Ross BBAs don't have to complete all Ross floating core prior to going abroad, we strongly recommend that these students get the majority completed. This will ensure that these students have prerequisites that are required to enroll into certain electives at some of the partner schools.
- **Can I complete Ross floating core course requirements abroad?**
No, Ross BBAs must complete all core on campus by the finish of fall semester of their senior year. These students have three terms to complete it on campus - Winter Sophomore year, Fall Junior year, and Fall Senior year. Students only receive business elective credit for the semester exchange so be sure to work with your academic advisor to ensure you're on track to graduate.
- **Can I complete coursework towards a minor or double major while on exchange?**
Perhaps – it will depend on the exchange school and course offerings. You'll want to work closely with a Global Education Advisor and your Academic Advisors to explore this option. You'll also need to confirm your coursework with your minor/dual advisor in advance.
- **Who will I take classes with while abroad?**
As you'll be directly enrolling into the partner school, you'll take class alongside the local business school students, other international exchange students, or other U.S. students studying abroad.
- **Who will teach the classes I take while abroad and will the quality of the classes be good?**
As an exchange student, you'll be directly enrolling into the partner school and taking class from the local faculty. The partner schools have all been vetted by Ross faculty and are top-notch business schools. Faculty at the partner schools will be on par with Ross faculty. They will have different areas of specialty which will be an excellent opportunity for you to learn about business practices from a different perspective.
- **Are classes in English?**
Yes, English coursework is offered at all of our partner schools.
- **Can I take classes taught in a foreign language while abroad?**
English is offered at all of our partner schools so you don't have to be fluent in another language in order to study abroad. Some of the schools offer a credited language course for visiting exchange students. If you're fluent in the local language, there may be the possibility of enrolling into business classes in that language – it depends on the partner school.

Logistics

- **What tuition do I pay on semester exchange?**
For most partner schools, you will continue to pay UM tuition just like any other semester. For third-party provider program (through CEA, IES, or Tel Aviv University), students pay tuition directly to them.

Be sure to review each school's [Cost Sheet](#) and talk with a Global Education Advisor if you need any clarification.
- **I don't know if I can afford studying abroad. Who can I talk to about funding?**
The University of Michigan has many, many study abroad funding resources, so please be sure to reach out to Global Initiatives for guidance on how to find these. Within the Global Semester Exchange Program application, all applicants have the opportunity to apply for Global Initiatives funding. All applicants are encouraged to apply, as funding is both need-based and merit-based.

Students are encouraged to speak with a Financial Aid Advisor as well. Mike Ross (mpross@umich.edu) is the designated advisor for Ross students.

Students are also encouraged to review the How to Fund Study Abroad presentation slides, which are available on [Canvas](#), for additional funding tips and tricks!

- **I rely on UM financial aid for tuition. Will I still be eligible for this financial aid if I study abroad?**

In most cases, yes! However, each student's financial situation is different, so we highly encourage students to speak with a Financial Aid Advisor before making any decisions. Students can speak with Mike Ross (mpross@umich.edu), the designated advisor for Ross students.

- **Where will I live abroad?**

It depends on the partner school, but many schools offer on-campus housing or shared apartment options. The coordinator at the partner school will be able to assist you with securing housing.

For students studying with a third-party provider program (through CEA, IES, or Tel Aviv University), students must live in program-provided housing.

- **How do I arrange housing for next year if I don't know if I'll be accepted to go abroad?**

Good question – most students are securing a year-long lease with the hopes of subleasing for winter semester. While there's no guarantee, we will have a group of incoming exchange students visiting for winter semester so you can offer the sublease to them (as well as to the entire University of Michigan community).

- **What is a visa?**

A visa is official permission from a country allowing you to visit. It is usually a stamp or sticker in your passport, but is also sometimes a piece of paper or electronic document that states how long you are allowed to stay in that country and in what capacity (tourist, study, etc.).

- **Who is responsible for getting my student visa?**

It is the student's responsibility to obtain the appropriate visa/travel documents. Once you confirm your placement at your host school, you should start looking into the student visa requirements for your host country. You will apply for a visa through the host country's embassy in the United States. Often times, embassies will outline visa application requirements online.

In the Fall, we will put you in touch directly with the home school and they will give additional information to guide you in this process.

- **Where can I get more information?**

Connect with Global Initiatives and attend an information session to learn more.

- Speak with a Global Education Advisor during Global Initiatives drop-in advising hours:
Tuesdays: 10am-noon & Wednesdays: 1-3pm
The Global Initiatives office is located on the 3rd floor of Kresge Hall in K3510
- E-mail ross-globalinitiatives@umich.edu