

How We Work With New Students

The Center for International Programs (CIP) at WCU is the home for education abroad. Education abroad (EA) changes lives, and the work of the Center for International Programs is guided by our commitment to promoting access to international education opportunities for our diverse population of students.

Fast Facts

- 1) WCU currently sends more than 500 students per year on international programs.
- 2) WCU education abroad programs can be as short as one week (alternative spring break programs), 2-12 weeks during winter or summer breaks, a full semester, or as long as a full academic year.
- 3) At WCU, education abroad programs can be traditional study abroad program (earning academic course credit for classes taken abroad), a volunteer/service-learning program abroad, an international internship, research or musical performances abroad, or student teaching placement internationally.
- 4) WCU's education abroad offerings change every year depending on which WCU professors would like to lead programs internationally that year.
- 5) Students with any major or any minor can study abroad. Students do not have to know a foreign language or be studying a language in order to participate in an education abroad program.

Key Takeaways

Encourage your student to at least research the opportunities available to them. While not all students will decide that study abroad is the right fit for them, at least researching the opportunities early will help them be aware of what is available to them during their time at WCU.

- When should my student start planning their education abroad?
 - It is never too early to start planning an international experience! Although many WCU students want to wait until later in their college career to participate in international programs, students have the most success when they start the planning process early.
- Can financial aid be used on an education abroad program?
 - There are many financial aid resources available for funding education abroad opportunities at WCU. In addition to regular financial aid (loans, grants, scholarships, etc.), there are many education abroad-specific scholarships, grants, and awards available to WCU students.
- How can my student learn more about international program opportunities?
 - We offer study abroad information sessions every day of the week during the fall and spring semesters. These are general sessions to learn the basics about how study abroad works and serve as a foundation of information prior to meeting with a study abroad advisor to discuss specific program options. Students can register for an information session by calling the CIP office.

Who to Know

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