



MINNESOTA

Study Abroad Returnee

CONFERENCE

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Get into Graduate School

If you are considering going to graduate school right after graduation, it's important to research options and gather information to help you in the decision-making process. It's never too early to start the research, but during your senior year you will want to shift into gear!

Application Process

Application materials should be obtained at least one year prior to beginning Graduate School. Always check with schools for deadlines, which may vary widely.

Graduate Exams

You will need to find out which graduate admission exam is required for your programs of interest. Use practice tests and guides to study.

Applications and Essays

Most graduate school applications generally include a personal statement. Focus on two goals: Be persuasive & personal! Draw from your study abroad experiences and let them know why you would be a good fit.

Recommendations and Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Ask faculty for recommendations early and have your resume or CV edited by faculty and/or mentors.

Graduate Schools with an International Focus in the U.S.

There are numerous graduate programs in the U.S. that offer degrees in areas with an international focus. You can find valuable information about academic programs by talking with faculty in your field and researching programs through online search engines.

www.princetonreview.com

Search for graduate programs in a range of fields and gain information about entrance exam preparation.

www.usnews.com/sections/rankings

Search by field of interest and view top 10 schools.

Benefits of International Oriented Study at Graduate School in the US

The perspective of intensive study of an academic discipline or conducting research on the country/area/language of interest without leaving the US

Incorporate your study abroad experience into studies

Contribute to internationalization in US education and intercultural links at all levels of society

Combine studies with career exploration

Stay close to support networks of family and friends

Important Factors to Consider

- Future job requirements— is the degree necessary or helpful?
- Foreign language requirement
- Time and finances needed
- Commitment to more independent study and research with minimal supervision
- Financial aid opportunities and conditions

Specialized Graduate Programs with an International Focus

International Partnership for Service Learning (IPSL) – Interdisciplinary Studies Focus on International Development and Service
www.ipsl.org

IPSL partners with Portland State University to provide an interdisciplinary master's degree program, drawing from the fields of global nonprofit management, global educational leadership, and international studies. The degree trains leaders for professional careers with global nonprofits and educational and community development organizations with an international focus.

Monterey Institute of International Studies
www.miis.edu

The Monterey Institute offers professional graduate degrees with an international focus including, but not limited to: business, environment, conflict resolution, human rights, trade, development, language learning, and translation and interpretation.

Middlebury College—Language Schools Graduate Program
www.middlebury.edu/ls/grad_programs/

Full-immersion language studies at the master's level are available in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Mediterranean Studies, Russian, and Spanish. Students who wish to go beyond the M.A. can earn a Doctor of Modern Languages.

Peace Corps— Master's International
www.peacecorps.gov/gradschool

Master's International allows you to incorporate Peace Corps service into a master's degree program at more than 50 colleges and universities.

School for International Training (SIT) Graduate Institute
www.sit.edu/graduate/graduate.htm

SIT offers internationally focused, full-time and low-residency master's degrees, certificates, and professional development programs.



Find a Program Abroad that Fits

Begin your search with one of the standard directories of graduate programs abroad. Also, talk with faculty for good programs in your area of interest.

- www.International.GradSchools.com
- www.gradschoolsabroad.com
- www.degreesabroad-cis.com
- www.degreeabroad.com/
- www.study-in-europe.org
- <http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/>

International Fellowships and Financing

- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship
- Rhodes Scholarship
- Marshall Scholarship
- German Academic Exchange (DAAD)
- International Thesis Research Grant
- Fulbright Scholarship
- US-Ireland Alliance Fellowship

Financing Abroad

- http://www.salliemae.com/international/us_students/
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- www.internationalscholarships.com
- www.iefa.org
- www.finaid.org

