History Majors

College of Arts and Sciences
Western Illinois University

Understanding Global History...

♦ Academic/Intellectual Benefits
Students develop skills in problem solving and with foreign languages; they gain geographical and historical knowledge; they’re exposed to people who process information differently than they do.

♦ Professional Benefits
Students can make professional contacts, gain a sense of direction for their future career, gain a sense of responsibility in working on a project, & can benefit from the close mentoring of a faculty member. An international experience can significantly, & positively, impact a student’s job prospects.

♦ Personal Benefits
Students gain an appreciation of what we have in the US; they develop confidence, a strengthened sense of personal identity, flexibility and creativity. Students learn to rely on themselves and become more independent.

♦ Inter-cultural Learning
Students increase their interest in other cultures, become less ethnocentric as they become more aware of cultural differences, develop language skills within a cultural context, and become more culturally sensitive and accepting.

History Opportunities Abroad

♦ Major-Related Classes
History majors have the opportunity to take classes such as British Imperialism in Germany; A History of the World in New Zealand; Japan and China: Problems in Historical and Cultural Interaction in Japan; Aborigines and Settlers in Australia; or Mexican and Latin American Civilization and Culture in Mexico. There are many classes to choose from and all must be pre-approved by your department chair.*

♦ Group Programs
Participate in a group program and earn credit while getting to know faculty with a small group of WIU students overseas. Some programs are designed toward specific majors; however, credit can be applied toward a minor, a gen ed requirement or an elective. Go abroad and study the Glory that was Greece or the Grandeur that was Rome; or travel to the Southern US and experience the Southern Civil Rights Movement. History Graduate students can also participate on a WIU exchange with Bilkent University in Turkey. Programs vary widely and change every year—check them out!

♦ General Education Classes
Imagine yourself completing gen ed requirements while studying in the cosmopolitan cities of Sydney, London or Florence. Previous students have received credit for courses such as: Women and Literature, Intro to Film, Intro to Econ, Exploring Religion, Gender and Society, Mass Media and Minorities, and Biological Concepts—to name just a few!

♦ Language Options
Courses taught in English are available throughout the world. Also take advantage of the opportunity to study languages with one of our exchange partners in Spain, Taiwan, Mexico, Japan, France, or Germany. You can also combine intensive language study with other classes like Consolidación de la Civilización Cristiana in Chile.

*Course listing change every semester; course availability cannot be guaranteed.
WHAT TO DO NEXT...

1. Attend an Informational Meeting

Studying abroad requires early planning! Start the study abroad planning process with an Office of Study Abroad informational meeting. Get information on planning for study abroad, program selection, and financial aid and scholarships. Check out the website www.wiu.edu/international to sign up on-line, call the office at 309-298-2504, or stop by Seal Hall 206 for the current schedule.

2. Plan to graduate on time

You can study abroad and stay on track. It is imperative that you consult with your academic advisor early about your study abroad plans. Discuss the coursework and terms that will work for you. Students interested in study abroad should start the planning process at least ONE YEAR in advance.

3. Investigate programs

Begin your program search. Decide on the term you’d like to study abroad and the type of coursework you’d like to cover. Check out the study abroad website (www.wiu.edu/international), speak with former study abroad students, come into the Office of Study Abroad and look through materials, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, talk to your study abroad advisor!!!

4. Apply early

Allow yourself plenty of time to complete a program application, finish your academic planning, and get ready to study abroad. Deadlines for semester programs are: Oct. 1 (Spring semester abroad) & March 1 (Fall & Summer abroad).

Study Abroad is affordable!

Use your financial aid.

All students can apply for scholarships (WIU & national).

Pay WIU tuition and fees on exchange programs.

Western Illinois University
Center for International Studies
Office of Study Abroad

206 Seal Hall (East Wing)
Phone: 309-298-2504
Email: StudyAbroad@wiu.edu
Web: www.wiu.edu/international

Rocky wants YOU to Study Abroad!