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Individual Study/Research: Abroad

Why include international travel in your individual study?

- To conduct primary research that would not be possible to do on-campus.
- To develop your critical and creative thinking skills as you interact with people from around the world
- To develop intellectually, emotionally, culturally and socially
- Enhance your research by adding a global perspective.

Yeah, but...

• **When should I go?**

Students can propose to do an individual study at any point in their college career. If your individualized study is going to include significant international travel, summer and J-Term are good times to be traveling so that it doesn't conflict with your semester courses.

• **Can I fulfill a requirement?**

You will need to work with your faculty advisor to determine if your individual study will fulfill a graduation requirement.

• **How many credits will I earn?**

Individual studies can earn either two or four credits. You will need to discuss this with your faculty advisor.

• **Can I afford it?**

The price of the off-campus portion of your individual study will vary depending on where and when you travel. As with all individual studies, you will need to pay St. Thomas tuition for the credits you hope to earn.

So...what do I do next?

- To begin working on a proposal, students should download the "Proposal for Individual Study or Research," found on the Registrar's Web site (www.stthomas.edu/registrar). The first page of the form must be completed for all Individual Study requests. The back of the form must be completed only if the proposal includes overnight travel.
- Students must work with an individual faculty member to develop a proposal for an Individual Study, outlining the methods used, goals for the project and what the outcomes will be. The proposal must then be approved by the relevant department chair and the dean of the college.
- If the proposed individual study includes overnight travel – either domestically or internationally – it must also be approved by the International Education Center staff before the proposal can be finalized. **Once you have completed the first page with the signature of a faculty advisor, you should make an appointment with an advisor in the International Education Center.**



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