

Study Abroad for Communication and Journalism

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My year abroad open my eyes to the importance of being a global citizen.
Everyday I think about my year abroad, my role in the world, the beauty, the adventures, and my friends. And everyday I'm glad I did it—opened my eyes and saw the world!

--Meredith Dungar, COJO Major

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Why study Communication and Journalism abroad?

- To understand the theory and practice of communication and journalism from an international perspective.
- To expand your cross-cultural communication and problem solving skills through servicelearning, community-based learning, or an internship.
- To enhance your critical thinking skills and gain confidence in yourself personally and professionally.
- To fulfill requirements for the major/minor.
- To fulfill Core or language requirements.
- To appreciate the ability of mass media to communicate globally and locally.

Yeah, but...

Can I take my COJO courses in English?

Yes. Communication and Journalism courses in English are offered worldwide. It is often possible to study COJO in English in a non-English-speaking country and take introductory language at the same time. Or, if you have the appropriate prerequisites, you may take COJO courses in another language.

• Can I afford it?

YES! The cost of studying abroad is within the reach of most UST students. Financial aid applies to semester study abroad, and students not currently receiving financial aid may be eligible for loans. In addition, there are special scholarships for studying abroad.

So...what do I do next?

- Begin planning right away. It is never too early to start planning. Stop by the IEC, sign up for a "First Step" session (go to their website for details, see left), and use their library to begin researching destinations.
- Set some goals. There is not one program best suited for all Communication and Journalism students. You need to determine which one best fits you. Prioritize your goals. Consider your long-term academic, professional, and career goals.
- Think about what you want to learn from (and what you can contribute to) the program, college, and country where you want to be.
- Prepare academically. You may need to take prerequisites or plan for classes upon your return.
- Start a budget.
- To help with the above, talk to:
 - ✓ Your Academic Advisor
 - ✓ Study Abroad Advisor at International Education Center (IEC)

Academic Planning:

- In consultation with your academic or major advisor, create a tentative "4-year" academic schedule ASAP (see sample below).
- You must take COJO111, COJO112 and COJO480 at St. Thomas. As well, upper-level COJO
 Practice and Application courses are best taken at St. Thomas. COJO Theory and Analysis courses are
 good choices for study abroad.
- As part of your application process, you must identify particular courses of interest and get them
 approved *before* you depart. In addition to studying abroad, you should also consider research, servicelearning, internships, volunteer and extracurricular experiences off-campus, just as you do when you
 are on campus.
- Be mindful that you must take at least six of your 11 COJO courses at St. Thomas.
- The COJO major requires one elective course. Taking your elective course abroad would allow you to choose a COJO course distinctive to the country you are studying in, i.e. Spanish media systems or Italian visual culture.

Sample Schedule for a COJO major wishing to study abroad:: First Year Second Year Third Year Fourth Year COJO112 F Study Abroad Practice and **Application** Theory and Analysis COJO Elective J-term(s) abroad S Practice and Study Abroad COJO480 **Application** COJO111 Theory and Research Theory and Analysis Practice and **Application** Theory and Analysis tonly colo courses are listed here but don't forget about your care courses and/or electives abroad!

A Sample of Study Abroad Programs for COJO Majors/Minors

Australia

Macquarie University Bond University Griffith University

<u>Spain</u>

IES: Madrid*

St. Louis University: Madrid

United Kingdom

AIFS: London IES: London

Denmark

DIS

Italy

AIFS: Rome

John Cabot University: Rome Loyola University: Rome

Please consider both short term (summer and J-Term), and long term (semester and year-long) programs.

^{*} Study is in the host language, not English

^{**}This is **not** meant to be a comprehensive list.