Take part in this unique global experience!

FIRST YEAR ABROAD
FALL 2018 • SPRING 2019 • SUMMER 2019
Congratulations on your acceptance to FSU, and welcome to the Seminole family! At Florida State, you will be presented with many globally focused opportunities, including studying abroad with International Programs.

In fact, you may even want to consider spending your entire freshman year abroad by taking part in our unique First Year Abroad (FYA) program.

As an FYA student, you’ll find the program offers rewards in the form of invaluable global experience, lasting friendships with peers, faculty, and staff, and a year of self-exploration within a robust new culture. Our small classes, exciting cultural and educational excursions, and exceptional student support help guide your personal and academic journey. Students who choose the FYA program return home more independent, open-minded, and globally aware—a huge asset for both their college and professional careers.

This brochure contains additional information about this extraordinary freshman year opportunity. We are committed to enhancing your journey at Florida State through studying abroad with us!

Sincerely,

Dr. James E. Pitts, Director

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The First Year Abroad (FYA) program allows students to complete the first twelve months of their Florida State careers studying abroad with International Programs.

Each student has the choice of going abroad to any of our four study centers located in London, England; Florence, Italy; Panama City, Republic of Panama; and Valencia, Spain. FYA students can opt to change their location for the summer term, spending it at another study center. (Visa restrictions may apply.) Following this first year, students continue to earn their Florida State degree in Tallahassee.

**BENEFITS & REWARDS**

- FYA is designed for seamless continuation toward graduation
- Students take up to 49 credit hours over 12 months
- Classes are taught in English except for foreign language courses
- Living among native speakers immeasurably aids Italian or Spanish skills for students choosing to study in Italy, Panama, or Spain
- Classes satisfy requirements of the Liberal Studies program, many minors, and first-year prerequisites for most majors
- A Florida State academic advisor helps ensure students follow the mapping for their majors
- Participating in FYA fulfills the summer residency required of most students
- Bright Futures and Florida Prepaid can be applied

We can answer all of your questions regarding this exciting freshman year opportunity! Contact our dedicated team of First Year Abroad coordinators at ip-freshmen@fsu.edu or by phone at 1 (800) 374-8581.

Florida residents have a chance to earn a $1,500 discount for Spring and Summer—a total of $3,000 if earned both semesters! Details on the inside back cover.
The International Programs experience is outstanding for several reasons.

Classes are small—providing a lot of one-on-one interaction with faculty. Our study centers are in the epicenter of the best cities in the world—allowing our locations to serve as our textbooks. Faculty are there because they love to teach. You can’t beat this combination for providing a superb international study experience. FSU does many things well, and our study abroad program is second to none.

Mark Zeigler
Communications Professor
Florida State Distinguished Teacher Award recipient

WHAT SETS US APART

OUR LOCATIONS
Each area’s resources—historical sites, art galleries, libraries, museums, local artisans, government officials, and business professionals—are fully integrated into our courses.

OUR STUDY CENTERS
Our four study centers offer residential and academic resources including classrooms, libraries, computer labs, and comfortable living accommodations. Each is exquisite and unique—reflecting the culture of the location—and led by directors who live in the country, know their students, and are supported by staff members whose top priority is to provide a nurturing and safe learning atmosphere.

OUR FACULTY
Our faculty members have a passion for their subjects as well as for international cities, their cultures, and undergraduate teaching. International Programs faculty are globally conscious, energetic, and inspiring intellectuals.

OUR CLASSES
Small classes and personal attention create an intimate liberal arts college atmosphere. More one-on-one instruction provides the opportunity to grow and mature. Students find the rewards of our programs include greater confidence, independence, and self-awareness.

OUR WELL-BEING AND SECURITY
We strive to ensure a safe, secure environment with immediate response support available at all times. Additionally, study center directors maintain continuous contact with our Tallahassee office, local authorities, and United States officials (at home and abroad).
FSU London is located in a row of 17th-century buildings, and is a comprehensive educational and living facility. The exceptional faculty at this center include instructors who live in the London area and enjoy sharing their knowledge and love of their country, as well as faculty from our Tallahassee campus who look forward to joining our students in England each year.

Students choosing to study in London are based in the heart of the Bloomsbury district, one block from the British Museum and minutes from the theatre district, the National Gallery, and countless other landmarks and events in this world capital. Short walks and easy access to city buses and the London Underground enable students to safely explore this fascinating city as well as enjoy off-site lectures and program-organized trips.

Students live in shared flats that feature fully equipped kitchens, furnished living areas, wi-fi and cable, and great views of the bustling Great Russell Street. Just below the flats, students have 24-hour secure access to the library, computer labs, laundry facilities, student lounge, classrooms, and administrative offices through the corridor that links the buildings. This set-up allows students the flexibility to make quick work of class assignments whenever they like, as well as have easy access to the student lounge for movie night or an after-dinner screening of college football.

There’s nothing like being able to use the city you live in as your classroom every day. The professors really want you to learn as much as you possibly can about London, and they go out of their way to make sure it can be incorporated into their lessons. You don’t want to pass up an opportunity like this one.

Mackenzie Isom
FYA London
Florence, Italy

FSU Florence is one of the few U.S. study abroad programs located in the heart of this remarkable city. Housed in the 15th-century Alessandri Palace, the Florence Study Center is a short stroll from the marbled Duomo, the Ponte Vecchio, and the world-renowned Uffizi Gallery.

Surrounded by these centuries-old historic sites, the study center classrooms, library, computer lab, and student lounge are equipped with modern comforts and technology. Students and faculty also use the study center as a gathering place for both academic and social activities. In addition to Florida State faculty who travel from the main campus to teach in Florence, students are instructed by knowledgeable faculty who live in the area, have been teaching with FSU for many years, and are always enthusiastic about teaching our students. In addition to class times, students have many opportunities to interact with faculty and staff during program-coordinated trips and while enjoying authentic Italian food at organized group dinners.

Students are housed in a traditional Florentine apartment building within walking distance of the study center. A popular area in the housing facility is a large courtyard with a communal lounge, which provides a great spot for sharing food, fun, and conversation.

The city of Florence is a work of art, and I am blessed to have been a resident for so long. One of the best things about the FYA program: you are not a tourist, because you live in the city! You know the people, the secret shortcuts home, and every single cobblestone on the road to class.

Connor Barniskis
FYA Florence
FSU Panama provides all the facilities and services of a small college. Located in the City of Knowledge, it is right in the heart of an international hub for education, research, and innovation. Students enjoy full facilities including the largest English-language library in Panama, computer and science labs, classrooms equipped with modern technology, a recreation room, and a café. Additionally, students have access to the Kiwanis sports complex, which has a swimming pool, gymnasium, and athletic field, as well as tennis, basketball, football, and soccer facilities.

Student housing is located within a 30-minute walk to the main campus building. Shuttles are available during weekdays and run on a schedule. A selection of small restaurants and a convenience store make it easy for students to purchase household items, grab a bite to eat, or enjoy a leisurely meal with other students and City of Knowledge residents. Due to the beautiful Panama weather, outdoor sports are extremely popular, as are cookouts, open-air music, and the special “Night of the Arts” events, when both faculty and students exhibit and perform their works of art.

From exploring the bustling Panama City, to whitewater rafting down a river in the rainforest, and relaxing on an island in the Caribbean–there is never a dull moment in Panama. My experience helped me discover passions I never knew I had, left me with lifelong friends, and helped me become more confident. I would recommend the FYA program to anyone.

Lauren Stuart
FYA Panama City
VALENCIA, SPAIN

FSU Valencia is housed in two historic buildings in the center of the city, just behind the landmark Serrano Towers. The Valencia Study Center contains part of the original Roman city wall, as well as a portion of a thousand-year-old Arabic wall, and several 14th-century tanning tanks. Accommodations in these historic buildings complement the beauty of the past while still featuring the latest technology, including a computer lab, library, and wi-fi throughout the common areas, classrooms, and apartments. Students live in shared rooms in fully equipped apartments complete with kitchens, lounge space, and televisions.

In addition to being taught by FSU faculty who travel to teach at this center, students are also taught by English-speaking instructors who live in the Valencia area and are passionate about sharing their knowledge of their country and its culture with our students.

The local neighborhood provides a host of opportunities for sightseeing, shopping, and traditional Spanish dining while interacting with members of the community on a daily basis. It is also home to the annual springtime Fallas celebration. Students and staff enjoy taking part in preparing the festival floats, cooking authentic food, and participating in this truly unique cultural immersion. Here, students enjoy the robust culture of an ancient city, the modernity of the new City of the Arts and Sciences, and the Mediterranean beaches—as well as the academic resources and cultural attractions of Spain’s third-largest city.

From day one, I was immersed in a new culture and learned to love it and everything it had to offer. This program helped me grow, not only as a student, but as a more culturally rounded explorer of the world. Not a day goes by that I don’t think about my return to the beautiful city of Valencia.

Stacey Hanson
FYA Valencia
PROGRAM FEES

Program fees are divided into seven payments. After the confirmation deposit is paid, two payments are due prior to the start of each semester. For your convenience, each location’s program is offered at the following set price. This includes the optional summer location change.

$39,995

PROGRAM FEE COVERAGE

– Up to 49 credit hours through classroom instruction, labs, tours, lectures, and field trips
– Housing
– International health insurance
– International Student ID card
– Study center social activities
– Cultural excursions
– Full-time administrative and academic support
– 24/7 emergency support
– Some meals (Florence, London, Valencia)
– Visas (Italy, Republic of Panama, Spain)
– IPRe-Depart, FYA-specific summer orientation in Tallahassee
– T-shirt

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is applicable toward program fees, and our financial aid coordinator can assist you. Participants may also apply Florida Prepaid and Bright Futures toward program fees. Visit our website and navigate to the Money Matters tab for more information.

ADMISSION & OPPORTUNITIES

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must be accepted to Florida State University (fall and summer admits only) as degree-seeking first time in college students. Upon admittance, students must apply to the FYA program. Please know that students admitted by Florida State University for the summer term must attend summer classes in Tallahassee prior to starting the First Year Abroad program. No exceptions to this admissions requirement will be granted.

SAVINGS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER

After earning at least 14 credits in an overseas semester, with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, Florida residents receive a $1,500 discount toward the next semester. (A savings of $3,000 if earned for both Spring and Summer.)

MORE OPPORTUNITIES

After successful completion of the FYA program, students have the opportunity to be recognized under Florida State University’s Global Citizenship Certificate and become a member of the Garnet & Gold Scholar Society. For more information, visit cge.fsu.edu/globalcitizen and garnetandgoldscholar.fsu.edu.

Students interested in Florida State’s British Studies, Iberian Studies, or Italian Studies minors can earn over half their required credits abroad and then finish the minor on the main campus. Each minor requires 15 credits, 9 of which must be completed at the corresponding study center.