Study Abroad for IS3D

All students, regardless of their major, must follow a protocol while preparing to study abroad. This website is the best place to start: [http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/studyabroad/academicsstepbystep.aspx](http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/studyabroad/academicsstepbystep.aspx)

While the IS3D major does not require students to complete an International Experience (IE), the program strongly encourages all of its students to pursue an IE and to make every effort to complete IE coursework that will satisfy graduation requirements. See the guidelines below.

**Approved General Education Classes**

The university maintains a database of approved GE classes around the world. Students still needing to satisfy GE requirements should use the online database to search for classes: [https://sunspot.sdsu.edu/gestudyabroad/user/homepage.html](https://sunspot.sdsu.edu/gestudyabroad/user/homepage.html)

**Major Prep and Major Classes**

Because IS3D majors can draw from three different content areas, and because the major is so flexible, they have many more opportunities to bring back IE coursework that can be applied to their major than most students. Students looking to apply IE classes to their major prep and/or major requirements should follow the protocol laid out below.

**Step 1:** Research available classes at the university abroad

Research classes online and identify ones that you are interested in taking and are also appropriate for one or more of your three departments.

**Step 2:** Seek advance approval from the department adviser(s)

Take course descriptions to department the adviser(s) well in advance of your experience. Also, be sure to take a customized IS3D IE RAAR form for each department adviser (the form is available on the IS3D website). If the adviser(s) approve the classes, they should indicate their approval on the designated line on the RAAR form.

NOTE: IE courses do not have to be equivalents of SDSU classes; instead, they simply have to cover content that is appropriate for the relevant discipline.

**Step 3:** Seek approval from the IS3D advisers

After obtaining department adviser(s) approval(s), bring the approved RAARs to the IS3D office, along with your Academic Approval Form (AAF) – available at the SDSU Study Abroad Office – for IS3D approval. We will use the RAAR(s) to approve the major area section of your AAF.

NOTE: you should not take the AAF to the department adviser(s).

**Step 4:** After your transcript is posted, attend IS3D advising to complete the process

We will use your degree evaluation to complete and submit the RAAR(s) approved prior to departing.

NOTE: we cannot complete this step until after your transcript shows up in your degree evaluation.

Happy travels!!!