

# Cornell ABROAD

# Pre-Med & Public Health

## RECOMMENDED STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS

300 Caldwell Hall / 607.255.6224 / cuabroad@cornell.edu / www.cuabroad.cornell.edu

kag 9/09/09

<b>LOCATION:</b>	UNIVERSITIES AND FIELD-BASED PROGRAMS IN AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE, AND LATIN AMERICA
<b>ELIGIBILITY:</b>	3.0+ CUM GPA MINIMUM; PROGRAMS MAY REQUIRE SCIENCE BACKGROUND
<b>APPLICATION:</b>	STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY BY MAY OF THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR SPRING SEMESTER AND DEC. OF THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR FALL SEMESTER OR YEAR STUDY
<b>2009/10 Costs:</b>	\$4,995 CORNELL INTL. PROGRAM TUITION PLUS INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITY/PROGRAM TUITION + FEES  \$5,410 CORNELL INTL. PROGRAM TUITION FOR DIRECT ENROLLMENT IN THE UK OR ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES; PLUS INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITY TUITION + FEES
<b>Please note:</b>	<i>2008/09 study abroad tuition and associated charges are set pending approval by the Board of Trustees; Cornell University reserves the right to change tuition and other charges.</i>
<b>WALK-IN ADVISING:</b>	MON-FRI 1:30PM-3:00PM 300 CALDWELL HALL
<b>FACEBOOK:</b>	CORNELL ABROAD FAN PAGE
<b>WEBSITE:</b>	<a href="http://WWW.CUABROAD.CORNELL.EDU">WWW.CUABROAD.CORNELL.EDU</a>

### IN THIS FLYER

Only study abroad programs with specific health-related options are discussed below. **Pre-Med students need not pursue health-related issues while abroad.** Premeds who study abroad may opt for language-oriented programs or pursue another area of interest. Please refer to our region, country or subject flyers for more information on these options. There is also a special flyer focusing on Biology & Environmental studies.

- I. Direct Enrollment University Options
- II. Specialized Programs  
inc. Field-based & Internship Programs
- III. Summer Programs
- IV. Study Abroad & HCEC
- V. Timeline Options for Pre-Meds

### PLANNING FOR STUDY ABROAD

Judy Jensvold, jmj5, Health Careers Advisor at Cornell Career Services, suggests that study abroad is neither an automatic benefit nor detriment for students planning to enter medical schools. As with a number of challenging experiences, a stimulating abroad experience that is related to your academic or professional interests can be quite valuable in the context of interviews and medical school applications.

Health-related options include taking **university courses** with local students abroad ("Direct Enrollment"), conducting an **independent study** on a field-based program, participating in a **service-learning** program, doing an **internship** for academic credit, or engaging in **comparative international study**. *Note: study in multiple countries and internships are not approved by Arts & Sciences.*

It is important to bear in mind that delivery of medical services is regulated, so internships cannot allow students to provide direct medical care. Please note that while it is possible to gain hands-on experience, it is challenging to arrange to conduct research when abroad.

If possible, complete the science course prerequisites for medical school (introductory biology, introductory chemistry, organic chemistry, and introductory physics) before going abroad. These courses should be taken at U.S. institutions to ensure you have covered topics you will encounter on the MCAT and/or have the appropriate prerequisite course(s) for any upper division courses you plan to take. [www.career.cornell.edu/HealthCareer](http://www.career.cornell.edu/HealthCareer)

### GLOBAL HEALTH MINOR

The Cornell University Global Health Program has created a new minor in Global Health. The minor is intended to complement any academic major offered at the University, providing students with basic knowledge about global health as well as the necessary skills and experience to begin to build their own unique career pathway in global health. The minor is open to all undergraduate students in all colleges.

The Global Health Minor is designed around three specific objectives: to learn more about the problems of global health in a classroom setting; to experience the issues in global health first-hand in a field-setting; and to see the full career pathway to work in global health.

Students are required to take Intro to Global Health (NS 206), one course from a set of approved courses, two electives, **an approved overseas experience of eight weeks or more in a resource-poor setting**, and a "capstone" seminar.

[www.human.cornell.edu/che/DNS/globalhealth](http://www.human.cornell.edu/che/DNS/globalhealth)

Jeanne Moseley, jmm298, Program Coordinator

## DIRECT ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

Some universities offer courses that you might not encounter in the U.S. until you hit medical school.

### AUSTRALIA

#### University of Melbourne

- ◆ **Location:** There are 38,000 students on this campus-based university near the center of cosmopolitan Melbourne.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Sciences is the leading program in Australia. Study abroad students can take classes in Medicine and Society; Medicine, Health, and Illness; Aboriginal Health; Physiotherapy; Health promotion; Health, nursing and society.

#### University of Queensland

- ◆ **Location:** The main campus is located fifteen minutes from the Brisbane central business district, Australia's third largest and fastest growing city with 1.5 million residents.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** "UQ" offers a strong program in biomedical sciences drawing upon their Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences in the disciplines of physiology, developmental biology, pharmacology, gross anatomy and toxicology. UQ is a member of the Group of Eight research universities in Australia and has one of the leading biomedical teaching and research groups in the country. The university has 33,000 students with 4,700 international students.

### GHANA

#### University of Ghana

- ◆ **Location:** The Legon campus, just outside Accra, is the oldest and largest Ghanaian university. Enroll via CIEE.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** Students take all courses at the university, unless they choose an Internship or Independent Study option. Students can pursue Community Health and/or Development Studies in addition to Humanities & Sci Sci.

### SOUTH AFRICA

#### University of Cape Town (UCT)

- ◆ **Programs:** Students can take all their courses at UCT through CIEE or InterStudy. CIEE also offers a **service-learning program**. IES offers a program with a core course, a course on **Health & Community Development** that involves fieldwork, and two UCT electives. See CU Abroad.
- ◆ **Location:** UCT is South Africa's oldest University, and one of the leading teaching and research institutions. It is located in the beautiful Cape Peninsula.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** There are six faculties within the University, one of which is health sciences. This faculty is internationally recognized for its medical programs. The undergraduate programs involve significant time at local hospitals and clinics in Cape Town. The University actively seeks a balanced student population to accurately reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of South Africa.

#### University of Natal in Durban:

- ◆ **Location:** The city of Durban is recognized for its golden beaches, unique jazz, cultural richness, and perfect weather. Out of 26,000 students, there are 1,500 international students in this multi-disciplinary university. See CUAbroad.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** The University is recognized for its research activities and advanced information technology.

### UNITED KINGDOM

#### King's College Pre-Med Programme:

- ◆ **Location:** Students on this competitive academic and professionally-oriented program take classes from King's College at one or more of King's three campuses in central London. King's undergraduate population is around 12,400 students.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** King's College offers a program that integrates a "clinical rotation" where students "shadow" doctors in a course specifically for pre-med students, "Practice of Medicine," while also taking regular classes in biomedical studies. King's has a strong academic reputation, an active students' union, and a notable library. The program is competitive. King's College also offers excellent direct enrollment opportunities in science and non-science courses.
- ◆ **Eligibility:** Students applying to Kings must have a 3.3 GPA or higher. Students applying to the pre-med program typically have above a 3.5 GPA.

#### University College London (UCL):

- ◆ **Location:** There are 19,400 students enrolled at UCL's central downtown (Bloomsbury) campus, including an exceptionally large number of visiting American students.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** UCL offers strong programs in Anatomy and Developmental Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biology and Genetics, Immunology and Molecular Pathology, Pharmacology, and Physiology and a program in *International Health and Medical Education* that encompasses the political, economic, social and cultural factors affecting health and healthcare worldwide. This competitive program primarily fills with full year abroad students.
- ◆ **Eligibility:** Students applying to UCL must have a 3.3 GPA or higher. Students applying to the IHME program typically have above a 3.5 GPA.

#### University of Sussex:

- ◆ **Location:** The University is based on a lush 200-acre campus four miles from the English-channel resort town of Brighton which is a 45-minute train ride from London.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** The U. of Sussex has strong programs in biochemistry, biology, human sciences, neuroscience, and molecular genetics and medicine. Sussex also offers "Sussex in September" where students can take a full-semester course for a 15-credit fall. One course option is always designed for pre-med students.

### Queen Mary College, University of London:

- ◆ **Location:** Located in the “East End,” Queen Mary has the only residential campus in London. One of London’s oldest areas and originally home to the “cockney” working class, the East End now has a diverse population with open air markets, museums, pubs, and ethnic restaurants. Queen Mary is a short ride on the tube from popular downtown tourist destinations.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** Queen Mary offers a number of biomedical courses through the Biology Department.

### **SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS (INC. FIELD-BASED & INTERNSHIP)**

*Note: Internship programs offer internships for academic credit. Internships are guaranteed, customized, project-based, and academically directed.*

### Arcadia University

Arcadia University offers internship programs in **London** and **Sydney**. Arrangements for Arcadia internships are made in advance so students can intern for nearly the entire semester (or summer) abroad while taking classes to enhance the internship experience. Internships in medical research facilities are possible.

[www.arcadia.edu/abroad](http://www.arcadia.edu/abroad)

### Boston University (BU)

#### **BU Science Programs with Pre-Med core courses:**

BU offers a science program for **first semester sophomores & beyond** in Dresden, **Germany** and in Grenoble, **France**. Students in chemistry, biology, biochemistry/ molecular biology and pre-med tracks can work toward their degrees while studying abroad. Science courses (Organic Chemistry I, Cell Biology, Basic Statistics & Probability) are taught in English by BU-affiliated faculty. In Germany, guided field trips to German research institutions, industries, and technical museums included. No previous study of German or French necessary. *\*Note, the MCAT-related course (“Orgo”) appears on the transcript in an acceptable format for application to medical school.*

#### **BU Internship Programs**

BU offers the widest range of study abroad internships for students pursuing health careers. Typically, students take two courses during an intensive period and then begin an 8-week internship (4 days/week) while taking one course. BU offers Health and Human Service internships in **Dublin, Geneva, London, Madrid, and Sydney**. BU also provides summer study abroad internship programs.  
[www.bu.edu/abroad](http://www.bu.edu/abroad)

### Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)

CIEE runs many study abroad programs around the world. The **Community Public Health Program** in Khon Kaen, **Thailand** is designed to provide students with a broad overview of public health management and community public health issues in Thailand and Southeast Asia. Students apply theoretical frameworks covered in the classroom to competently carry out community health assessments, develop and implement a public health project, and assess its impact.  
[www.ciee.org/study](http://www.ciee.org/study)

### Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS):

- ◆ **Location:** Copenhagen, the capital city, was founded in 1167. The largest of the Scandinavian capitals, this thriving metropolis is the center of Danish politics and culture. The open airy atmosphere of Copenhagen is characterized by several large parks, lakes, canals, and the seacoast, as well as significant achievements in architecture and design.
- ◆ **Academic Curriculum:** DIS runs three health-oriented study abroad programs in English.
  - The **Biotechnology & Biomedicine** program offers a core course in Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development. Denmark is known for its biotech development.
  - The **Medical Practice and Policy** program is run in conjunction with the National University and Copenhagen University Hospitals. The program features a clinical approach to human health and disease with some courses taught by senior doctors at hospitals.
  - The **Public Health** track focuses on Scandinavia’s distinctive health care policy approach. Electives can focus on policy, HIV/AIDS, Aging, Nutrition, or epidemic disease in European history.

[www.dis.dk](http://www.dis.dk)

### King’s Pre-Med Programme

Listed under “Direct Enrollment”.

### Institute for the International Education of Students (IES)

At its **Santiago, Chile** site, IES offers a *Clinical Internship* along with a course in *Comparative Health Care Policy* and an Advanced Spanish course for Health Practitioners. Designed for students interested in health-related professions who have the equivalent of 4 or more college semesters of Spanish. IES offers other program courses, all in Spanish, and the opportunity to take classes at the Universidad de Chile and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile. A shortened version of this program is available in summer.

IES’s program in **Cape Town, South Africa**, offers a course on Health and Community Development that has a field component. Students take half of their courses at the University of Cape Town, one core course on South Africa, and an elective with a field component from the IES Center.

[www.iesabroad.org](http://www.iesabroad.org)

### International Honors Program (IHP)

IHP offers two comparative international study programs on **Health and Community**, *spring semester only*. On the first program, students start in Geneva, Switzerland and then spend 4-5 weeks each in India, China, and South Africa looking at globalization and health care issues. On the second, students can compare US health care beginning in Washington DC, and then move on to South Africa, Viet Nam and Brazil for 4-5 weeks each.

[www.ihp.edu](http://www.ihp.edu)

## International Partnership for Service-Learning (IPSL)

The Partnership for Service Learning has a strong reputation as a non-profit educational organization which designs and coordinates academic studies with volunteer service. **IPSL** runs programs with healthcare service placements in Guayaquil, **Ecuador**; Kolkata, **India**; Siena, **Italy**; and Kingston, **Jamaica**, and Chiang Mai, Thailand. Students do not administer direct medical care, but they are directly involved with patients for intake and support. Returned IPSL students speak highly about their integration into the community and have powerful experiences to reflect upon in their medical school applications and interviews.

[www.ipsl.org](http://www.ipsl.org)

## Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID)

The MSID curriculum explores the theoretical and practical implications of international development and intercultural issues in **Ecuador**, **Kenya**, **Senegal**, and **India**. Field experience is an integral part of all courses. All MSID programs include an internship at a local, national or international organization addressing development-related issues, including health. Through classes, field trips, internships, and research, MSID strives to establish a continual dialogue linking experience with theory and critical analysis.

Advanced language skills are required in Ecuador and Senegal.

<http://www.umabroad.umn.edu>

## Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)

The Organization for Tropical Studies in Costa Rica has launched a **Global Health** program. Students study Tropical Medicine and Public Health, Ethnobiology, and take Intermediate or Advanced Spanish with an introduction to technical and colloquial medical terminology. Students also complete a research practicum.

[www.ots.duke.edu](http://www.ots.duke.edu)

## School for International Training (SIT)

SIT offers several public health programs during the semester and a summer program in China on Public Health and Traditional Chinese Medicine. All SIT programs include language study, offer rural and urban homestays, and focus on a main topic of study culminating in a 4-week independent study.

[www.sit.edu](http://www.sit.edu)

In **Brazil**, students on the **Public Health, Race & Human Rights** program investigate looming health care issues in the most populous Latin American nation and the site of the world's largest African diaspora community. The program base of Salvador, the largest city in the Brazilian northeast, offers numerous opportunities for interaction with physicians, nurses, government health officials, African Brazilian traditional spiritual healers and herbalists.

The **Public Health, Traditional Medicine, & Community Empowerment** program in Arica, **Chile**, focuses on the Chilean Public Health model and traditional medicine within the Aymara and Mapuche communities. Four semesters of Spanish (or equivalent) required.

In Nairobi, **Kenya** the **Health & Community Development** program approaches public health from a development studies framework utilizing both local and international organizations.

Students on the **Health, Gender and Community Empowerment** program examine development initiatives through the interplay of gender dynamics and health in **Mali**, a forerunner among African nations in the priority it places on gender and family matters.

In Port Elizabeth, **South Africa**, students on the **Community Health & Social Policy** program examine the interplay of health care policy, education, and practice, while focusing on the relationship between traditional healing and Western medicine, prenatal care, access to healthcare, and public health education. There are also topics focused on sociological consequences of HIV/AIDS, sustainable development, and health education and care campaigns.

In Geneva, **Switzerland**, students on the **Global Health & Development Policy** program study current questions and policies relating to these topics in the world's capital for international organizations dedicated to public health, social justice, and sustainable development.

The **Development Studies** program in **Uganda** also facilitates placement with local and international health organizations.

## **SUMMER PROGRAMS**

Cornell Abroad has resources that students can consult for summer study in our library. Cornell Abroad does not administer summer programs and no financial aid is available. Students should check with their college for appropriate paperwork prior to summer study to assure ease in credit transfer after their return. Note: Students from the College of Arts & Sciences do not have language requirements for summer programs. See the *CUA* *Summer Flyer*.

In general, foreign universities do not run programs in the summer, but internship, service-learning, and independent study providers do.

**BU: Internship Programs**, Dublin, London, Madrid, Sydney

**CIEE: Community Health**, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**CIEE: Community Health**, Gabarone, Botswana

**CIEE: Community Health**, Santiago, Dominican Republic

**DIS: HIV/AIDS in Western Europe**, Copenhagen

**DIS: Medical Practice & Policy**

**DIS: Nursing in Northern Europe**

**DIS: Psychology & Child Development**

**IES: Health Studies Program**, Santiago, Chile

**IPSL: Community Health Program**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

**SIT: Public Health & Traditional Chinese Medicine**, Yunnan Province

**SIT: Traditional Medicine and Health Care Systems**, Madagascar

**SFS: Public and Environmental Health** with the Maasai in Kenya.

Note: The Center for Cross-Cultural Studies (CCCS) in Seville is now offering a course in "**Advanced Spanish for the Health Professional**." Similar programs may also exist in other places.

## STUDY ABROAD & HCEC

Students apply to medical school more than one year before they plan to matriculate. About two-thirds of our students apply in the summer between their junior and senior year; one-third apply the summer after their senior year. Study abroad is an option in all colleges, but this might result in taking a year off between graduation and medical school. This later time may be particularly suitable for students who are not on campus their junior year, who want to improve their academic or experiential credentials, or who believe that a year between Cornell and professional school will benefit their personal and professional goals. Study away students should consult with their college's premed advisor to determine timing of their medical school application, given their major and these other factors.

The Health Careers Evaluation Committee (HCEC) prepares the letter of evaluation most medical/dental schools request of applicants. Candidates are urged to register with the HCEC early in the spring semester of the year they plan to begin the application process.

### Course Credit, the Medical School Application & Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) is used to apply to most American medical schools. All grades recorded in a foreign grading system (used by a French or Spanish university, for example) will not be recorded in your AMCAS GPA; these foreign grades will be recorded within your accumulated Pass/Fail semester hours. AMCAS is available online in April/May and accepts applications beginning in June. It is best to apply early in the summer.

For complete details on the AMCAS policies contact AMCAS directly at 202/828-0600 or [amcas@aamc.org](mailto:amcas@aamc.org).

See the MCAT website for foreign test centers, testing date options and online registration. <http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat>.

### Non-Study Away HCEC Timeline

Nov. (early)	HCEC Orientation
Jan./Feb.	HCEC Registration-Step I
Mar. (early)	HCEC Registration-Step II
Mar. (mid)	Deadline for letters of recommendation
April-May	Interview with the HCEC

**Note:** It is possible to send the HCEC all student information electronically. Please request permission from the HCEC Assistant Director before doing so.

### HCEC Procedure for Students Away Fall Semester

- Access the *HCEC Orientation* (available by mid-November), [www.career.cornell.edu/HealthCareers/HCEC](http://www.career.cornell.edu/HealthCareers/HCEC)
- Review materials on the HCEC website & read *Cornell Health Careers Guide for Applicants*.
- Follow the remaining schedule detailed on the usual HCEC timeline.

### HCEC Procedure for Students Away Spring Semester & Entire Academic Year

- If on campus, attend HCEC Orientation OR watch the *HCEC Orientation* video available online.
- Review the HCEC website materials.
- Register with HCEC, preferably before leaving Cornell or by postal mail in January. Forms can be downloaded (pdf) from Undergraduate Procedures.
- Stay in touch with the HCEC via e-mail. Give the HCEC your address/e-mail where you can be reached at your study-away location, as well as a permanent address.
- Once registered, use the HCEC online file check to determine if materials submitted to your file have been received and when your file is complete.
- Obtain name of your interviewer from HCEC when your file is complete. An interviewer will be reserved for you, provided your file is complete by the first Monday in July.
- Schedule an appointment for the interview directly with your interviewer before the last day in July. The interview will be in Ithaca or via Internet video-conferencing. The interview or videoconference will be at the convenience of the interviewer.
- Adhere to the remainder of the HCEC timeline. Once registered, use the online HCEC File Check status to determine if materials submitted to your file have been received and when your file is complete.

### Contact Information

Judy Jensvold, Health Careers Advisor  
Address: 103 Barnes Hall  
Walk-in hours: 3:00-4:00 pm, Monday-Thursday and 2:00-4:00 pm, Fridays  
E-mail: [jmj5@cornell.edu](mailto:jmj5@cornell.edu)  
Phone: 607/255-0542 (4:00-4:30 pm most afternoons)  
Fax: 607/255-7946

Janet Snoyer, Health Careers Evaluation Committee  
Address: 203 Barnes Hall  
E-mail: [js100@cornell.edu](mailto:js100@cornell.edu)  
Phone: 607/255-5045  
Fax: 607/255-3060

## PRE-MED\* STUDY AWAY RECOMMENDED TIMELINE

	<b>OPTION 1</b> Study Away During Junior Fall (No Gap Year)	<b>OPTION 2</b> Study Away During Junior Spring (No Gap Year)	<b>OPTION 3</b> Study Away (Take a Gap Year)
<b>Sophomore</b>	Try to complete the science course prerequisites (introductory biology, introductory chemistry, organic chemistry, and introductory physics) before going abroad. You may opt to take the MCAT after soph year if pre-reqs are complete.		
<b>Junior Fall</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">ABROAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Access the HCEC Orientation Video (available by mid-Nov)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend HCEC Orientation in November or watch the HCEC Orientation Audio on the web</li> <li>● Register with HCEC</li> <li>● Give HCEC study abroad address/ check e-mail</li> </ul>	<p>ABROAD <i>and/or</i></p>
<b>Junior Spring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Register with HCEC in Jan/ early Feb</li> <li>● Follow the regular Timeline</li> <li>● Take MCAT</li> </ul>	<p>ABROAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use online HCEC file check</li> <li>● Take MCAT abroad (optional timing)</li> </ul>	<p>ABROAD <i>and/or</i></p>
<b>Junior Summer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Apply to medical Schools</li> <li>● Take MCAT (if not yet taken)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Obtain name of interviewer (must complete HCEC file by the first Monday in July)</li> <li>● Schedule HCEC interview by the last day in July</li> <li>● Apply to Medical Schools</li> <li>● Take MCAT (if not yet taken)</li> </ul>	
<b>Senior Year</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interview at Medical Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interview at Medical Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Follow the non-study away timeline</li> <li>● Complete prerequisites</li> <li>● Take MCAT (optional timing)</li> </ul>
<b>Senior Summer</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Apply to Medical Schools</li> <li>● Take MCAT (if not yet taken)</li> </ul>
<b>Post Grad Year</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend Medical School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend Medical School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interview at Medical Schools</li> </ul>

**Note:** MCAT is offered 20+ times a year, in January and from March to September. Scores are available in approximately 4 weeks.

\* This timeline is also appropriate for Pre-Dents, but the DAT is available year round.

**Cornell ABROAD**