

WANG CENTER FOR GLOBAL AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGED EDUCATION

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# STUDY AWAY STUDENT GUIDE



*(photo by John Froschauer, Oslo, Norway)*

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WANG CENTER FOR GLOBAL AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGED EDUCATION  
PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

## CULTURE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION

Join the many PLU students who study away at least once during their undergraduate education, seeking to broaden their horizons while advancing in their chosen field of study. Choose from a broad selection of semester, year, short-term or summer programs and independent research.

## STUDY AWAY VS. STUDY ABROAD

At PLU we use the term study away rather than study abroad because we are committed to providing students with learning opportunities both **globally and locally**. The overarching goal of PLU's global education programs is to increase understanding of the growing interconnectedness of our world and the dynamic relationship that exists among our local communities, our state and nation, and the world.

## FUNDING

Students on Gateway and Featured semester programs pay PLU tuition, room and board and student fees, and financial aid and scholarships apply. Each J-Term study away course has a set program fee, averaging around \$4,500. Check out the J-Term program brochures to see what's included and keep in mind that these program fees are an out-of-pocket, additional expense for students. Plan ahead and start saving now!

## PELL GRANT RECIPIENT SCHOLARSHIP

Students who receive a Pell Grant can be eligible to apply for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program. This is a competitive scholarship funded by the US Department of State, with average awards of around \$4,000 for semester and \$2,500 for short term. Learn more at [plu.edu/studyaway/gilman](http://plu.edu/studyaway/gilman).

## PLU GLOBAL SCHOLAR AWARD

The Global Scholar Award helps students with documented financial need make study away possible on Gateway semester or J-Term programs. For PLU Gateway study away programs, students may receive up to \$1,000 to be used for expenses not included in the program fee. For PLU J-Term faculty-led study away programs, students may receive up to a 20% reduction of the published program fee, not to exceed \$1,000. While not eligible for the Global Scholar Award, students on Featured/Approved programs often have access to scholarships offered by the program provider or host university.



(photo by Leah Foster-Koth, Tromsø, Norway)



*(photo by Libby Woods, Córdoba, Spain)*

## **INCLUSIVITY**

The Wang Center for Global and Community Engaged Education seeks to bring diverse individuals together to learn from one another in off-campus global and local settings and through programming focused on pressing world issues. In addition to strategic and ethical outreach, we aim to provide guidance, support, and resources to foster an inclusive environment for PLU students, faculty and staff members of all backgrounds and identities to reach that goal.

## **INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS**

Internships are available in select locations around the globe, providing students the chance to apply their on-campus curriculum in an international professional setting.

## **WANG CENTER RESEARCH GRANTS**

Each year, the Global Education Committee awards grants to qualified students, faculty, and student-faculty research teams. Students who have already had a significant amount of cross-cultural experience are encouraged to apply for funding to conduct an independent international research project. The Wang Center Research Grant program encourages new global initiatives, internationalizes the curriculum and fosters student involvement in academic research.

## **CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



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## SEMESTER PROGRAMS

Semester programs are located all over the globe and provide a wide range of academic experiences, including internships, service learning, research, language immersion, study tours and cultural exploration. Students will fulfill Major, Minor, GenEd and IHON requirements to stay on track to graduate and will earn PLU credit.

## PLU GATEWAY PROGRAMS

PLU Gateway Programs are aligned with PLU's mission, developed by PLU faculty, and administered by the Wang Center.

### **Chengdu, China (Fall or Full-Year)**

Focus on Chinese language, culture, business, history, development and minority cultures. May include study tours to Tibetan region, Beijing and Xi'an. No previous Chinese language study required.

### **IHON-Oxford, England (Fall or Spring)**

PLU International Honors Program in Oxford, England. Earn IHON credits and study a self-arranged topic with an Oxford professor in individualized tutorials.

### **Oaxaca, Mexico (Fall)**

Spanish language immersion with a focus on culture, development, social change and natural sciences. Includes study tours to Mexico City and rural communities. Four or five semesters of college-level Spanish required; internship available.

### **Windhoek, Namibia (Spring)**

An ideal location for cultural immersion. Education and natural & social science students enroll in coursework at the University of Namibia. Research, internship and practicum options available. English-speaking country.

### **Oslo, Norway (Fall)**

Focus on Norway's approach to conflict mediation, peace building, relationships with developing nations and the role of the media, religion and government institutions in Norwegian society. No previous Norwegian language study is required.

### **Bø or Vestfold, Norway (Varies; Fall, Spring or Full-Year)**

Focus on business, biology, ecology, kinesiology, nordic studies and sustainability. Norwegian language classes are available at all levels, other coursework is taught in English. No previous Norwegian language study is required.

### **St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago (Spring)**

Learn about the integrative value of the arts in a richly diverse society, the economic and environmental challenges of development, and the commitment to the dignity of all peoples. Students from all disciplines are welcome; English-speaking nation; internship available.

## PLU FEATURED PROGRAMS

PLU Featured Programs are aligned with PLU's mission, faculty-approved and offered in partnership with organizations and institutions throughout the world. Financial aid and scholarships remain uninterrupted for participation in one Featured Program.

## APPROVED PROGRAMS

Approved programs are offered by provider organizations that PLU partners with and are intended for students who are unable to find an academically suitable Gateway or Featured program. Students participating in an Approved program will receive adjusted financial aid based on the cost of the program.

## NEXT STEPS

Learn more about Gateway, Featured and Approved study away programs and search for the right program for you based on your Major/Minor at [plu.edu/explore](http://plu.edu/explore). Make sure to schedule a meeting with the Study Away Advisor at [plu.edu/studyaway/advising](http://plu.edu/studyaway/advising)



*(photo by Dr. Antonios Fimitsis, Athens, Greece)*

## SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS

Short-term programs provide an opportunity for off-campus study lasting eight weeks or less during J-Term, Spring Break or Summer.

## J-TERM PLU FACULTY-LED PROGRAMS

J-Term study away courses are intensive academic experiences that are initiated, organized, and carried out by members of the PLU faculty. Program offerings change each year, so stay tuned to learn which programs will be offered for J-Term 2023 in January 2022!

## SPRING BREAK / SUMMER

For spring break or summer programs, please see the Wang Center website.

# STUDY AWAY PLANNING

The Wang Center supports students throughout the study away process. Here is an overview of what to expect. Click the headings below to learn more about each part of the process.

## EXPLORE

Students have many program options! Start at [plu.edu/studyaway/explore](http://plu.edu/studyaway/explore) to search for program options by academic discipline (Major/Minor) and program length, and then schedule a study away advising appointment at [plu.edu/studyaway/advising](http://plu.edu/studyaway/advising)

## EVALUATE

While you explore program options, go to [plu.edu/studyaway/explore](http://plu.edu/studyaway/explore) to learn about what you should consider when choosing which program to apply for, such as academic focus, personal and professional goals, duration, lifestyle, health and wellness needs, identities, location, and cost. In addition to talking with the Study Away Advisor, students can help determine the best fit by consulting:

- Academic Advisors
- Student Financial Services Specialist
- Family
- Support Team, which could include the Office of Accessibility and Accommodation, health and/or mental health professionals

## APPLY

Submit well-prepared, professional and complete applications through the Wang Center's online system on or before the deadline. Learn about the application process at [plu.edu/studyaway/apply](http://plu.edu/studyaway/apply).

### Application Deadlines:

- Fall, Spring, Full-Year and Summer programs – March 15
- J-Term 2023 programs – April 15
- Spring Break – see Wang Center website
- PLU Global Scholar Award – same deadline as the study away program applied for

Semester applications open in November during International Education Week. J-Term applications open at the beginning of spring term.

## PREPARE

All study away students are required to participate in Wang Center and program-specific pre-departure meetings and other online preparation. These pre-departure meetings cover basic health and safety, logistics and essential cultural and personal preparation.

## SOJOURN

Students challenge their perspective of the world and themselves by maximizing immersion in host communities. While away, the Wang Center provides ongoing support to students and is available in the case of an emergency.

## REFLECT

Upon return, the Wang Center hosts Study Away Alum Events and encourages students to submit entries to the annual Photo and Video Contest as a way to share their stories. Study Away Alums are invited to apply for the Wang Center Global Ambassador leadership role.



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v. July 2021