



Pre-Professional Health Majors - Education Abroad Advising Guide

[Pre-Professional Health Advising](#)

[Pre-Professional Health Blog](#)

900 Park Ave, Hibbs Hall, First Floor
(804) 827-8648

Education Abroad Liaison:

Sara Loritsch
Director, Pre-Professional Health
Advising
(804) 827-8648
skloritsch@vcu.edu

[VCU Global Education Office – Education Abroad](#)

912 W. Grace Street, 4th floor
(804) 827-7882
abroad@vcu.edu

Why study Pre-Professional Health abroad?

- Invest in your future, earn credits, and add value to your degree
- Become more independent and self-confident
- Gain intercultural communication skills and expand your problem-solving skills
- Stand out to employers and prepare yourself to work in an increasingly diverse world
- Gain new perspective in your field
- Improve your language skills
- Develop a global network of faculty, students, and friends

When is the best time to study abroad and what courses should I take?

Pre-Professional Health majors are eligible the summer after their freshman year to participate on a study abroad programs. Students should work closely with their academic adviser to determine the best time to fit a study abroad experience into their curriculum.

How can I afford to study abroad?

Studying abroad does not have to be expensive! VCU offers a variety of program options to fit most students' budgets and the Education Abroad office assists students with identifying and applying for funding. Consider the following:

- **Use what you already have!** Most financial aid and scholarships that you already receive can be used toward study abroad. Other sources of funding may also help: pre-paid tuition plans, veteran's benefits, etc.
- **Scholarships:** There are VCU scholarships to study abroad as well as nationally competitive scholarships. Begin your search on our site and at StudyAbroadFunding.org and DiversityAbroad.com
- **Program length:** Per day expenses are often less expensive on semester programs than on summer programs and airfare may cost the same regardless of the length of your stay
- **Program type:** Programs with more structure that include group activities or excursions may be more expensive than exchange programs which include tuition, room, and board.
- **Cost of living:** If you're looking to save money on studying abroad, avoid destinations with a high cost of living like capital cities and popular tourist destinations.
- **What's included?** When considering the cost of a program, determine what the program fee includes...and what it doesn't. Some are almost all-inclusive and will cover the cost of a cell phone, insurance, group excursions and welcome/farewell receptions whereas other programs cover only the basics.

Notable Funding Opportunities for Pre-Professional Health Majors

[Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship](#): For US undergraduates with Pell Grants; for programs at least 28 days in length; diversity of student and destination is a priority; scholarships up to \$5,000 available; additional \$3,000 available to study critical need languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Turkish, Indic, Korean, Russian, etc.

[Boren Awards for International Study](#): For US undergraduates to study in areas critical to US interests including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East; scholarships up to \$20,000; preference is given to study less commonly taught languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Swahili.

[Phi Kappa Phi](#): For undergraduates with at least a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75

[Fund for Education Abroad](#): General scholarships up to \$10,000 for US undergraduates planning to spend a minimum of 30 days abroad; Hilary Echo Douglas scholarship for study in Vietnam; Rainbow Scholarship for LGBTQI students

What are my next steps?

1. **Attend a First Advising Session.** These group advising sessions are held Monday-Friday at 12:30 in the Education Abroad office.
2. **Investigate Programs.** Explore [VCU Study Abroad Programs](#) and talk to advisors and past participants for guidance
3. **Inform your academic advisor** of your interest in studying abroad
4. **Explore the approved course database** to view pre-approved courses; talk with your academic advisor for approval on other courses
5. **Explore your funding options.** Speak with a Financial Aid counselor, investigate and apply for scholarships

Featured Education Abroad Programs

The following are a list of programs recommended for students on a Pre-Professional Health advising track. The sections below are organized by program type and include many different program models including group and individual programs, study abroad, service-learning abroad, research abroad, and internship abroad programs. While these are featured programs for Pre-Professional Health majors, students are by no means limited to these opportunities. For all available programs, please visit [VCU Study Abroad Programs](#) or contact an Education Abroad advisor.

GEO Short-Term Programs

VCU faculty members lead groups of VCU students for short-term programs during the summer, spring break and winter intersession. Participants earn VCU credit. New programs are created every year, and most are open to students from any major. See our [website](#) for the most current list of faculty-led programs.

[Direct-Enroll at Sant'Anna Institute](#)

The Global Education Office and the Sant'Anna Institute are pleased to offer VCU students a new summer study abroad program in Sorrento, Italy. The program offers an exceptional opportunity to take classes in a wide range of academic disciplines, all taught in English or Italian, while living in historic Sorrento, Italy. Sant'Anna's academic building overlooks the picturesque Bay of Naples on Italy's Amalfi Coast, allowing to experience the unique culture and customs of southern Italy in a walkable, cosmopolitan setting.

VCU Semester Programs

VCU's relationship with the universities below allows students to study at the institutions for a semester or an academic year while paying standard tuition and fees to VCU. Other expenses – such as room, board, airfare, insurance and spending money – are the responsibility of the student.

[ENGLAND: University of the West of England](#)

The University of the West of England (UWE) is a VCU International Partnership University which allows students to study in Bristol, England for the fall semester or a full year (encouraged in sciences). UWE offers the following courses (among many others):

COURSE	VCU Equivalent
Human Anatomy and Physiology	BIOL 205, PHIS 206
Applied Genetics	BIOL 310
Immunology and Disease	BIOL 455
Drugs and Disease	BIOL 491, BIOZ 491

[AUSTRALIA: Curtin University](#)

Located in Perth, Western Australia, [Curtin University](#) is a large public university that offers a wide variety of courses. Nursing courses are closed to exchange students and courses in Physiology, Occupational Pathology, and Speech Pathology are limited. Some of health sciences courses available are: Integrated Systems Anatomy and Physiology, Foundations of Biomedical Science, Human Structure and Function, Indigenous Cultures and Health, Introduction to Occupational Therapy, and Complementary Medicine for Pharmacists

COURSE	VCU Equivalent
Epidemiology	HPEX 334
Pre and Intro Calc	MATH 151
Calculus	MATH 200
Molecular Genetics	BIOL 491
Anatomy and Neuroscience	BIOL 391 and BIOZ 391
Quantitative Biology	BIOL 200 and BIOZ 391

[International Student Exchange Program \(ISEP\)](#)

Choose from over 300 universities around the world offering summer, semester and year-long programs. Apply to up to 10 institutions on a single application. ISEP offers two types of placements: ISEP-Exchange (program fee based on VCU's in-state tuition, room and board) and ISEP-Direct (program fee based on host university's tuition, room and board). For best chance of exchange placement, apply by August 15 for spring programs and January 15 for fall/full-year programs.

ISEP institutions offering Health Sciences courses taught in **English**:

AUSTRALIA: Charles Sturt University

AUSTRALIA: University of Canberra

CANADA: Brock University

CANADA: Thompson Rivers University

CANADA: University of Regina

KOREA: Keimyung University

NETHERLANDS: Tilburg University

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Bradford

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Central Lancashire

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Chester

UNITED KINGDOM: University of East London

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Essex

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Plymouth

UNITED KINGDOM: University of Roehampton

Affiliate and Alternative Programs

The following programs are sponsored by 1) study abroad organizations/providers, 2) other US institutions, or 3) foreign universities who accept visiting international students. There are many other programs available aside from the ones listed below.

AUSTRALIA: [Griffith University](#) (available through [API](#))

Term: Fall, Spring, or Academic Year **Courses include:**

COSTA RICA: [Vertias University](#) (available through [CEA](#) and [ISA](#))

Term: Fall or Spring **Courses include:** Medical Spanish and Health Sciences (Introduction to Physical Therapy, Holistic Health Approaches, Conflict Resolution and Health Care, and Costa Rican Health Care System and Tropical Medicine

IRELAND: [University College Cork](#) (available through [USAC](#))

Term: Fall, Spring, or Year **Courses include:** Anatomy, Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Mathematics

SOUTH KOREA: [Korea University](#) (available through [ISA](#))

Term: Fall or Spring **Courses include:** Cell Biology, Statistical Mathematics, Genetics, and Molecular Biology

THAILAND: [Mahidol University](#) (available through [CIS](#) and [ISA](#))

Term: Fall or Spring **Courses include:** General Chemistry, Principles of Physics, General Biochemistry, Genetics, Statistics for Biological Science, and Epidemiology

Study abroad courses not currently offered at VCU

Study Abroad Pre-Professional Health Courses	University	Course Code at Host University
The Influence of Biology on Human Behavior	Bond University	BVMT11-109
Medical Biochemistry	Bond University	BMED11-205
Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	Bond University	BMED12-120
Functional Anatomy	Bond University	SPEX11-113
Medical Microbiology	University of Roehampton	BSS020X360S
Human Anatomy/Lab	The Italian International Institute	BIO 320 R
Cardiovascular Physiology and Pharmacology	University of Aberdeen	BM3501
Brain Function and Malfunction/Anatomy	University of Aberdeen	AN4003
Physiology of Human Organ Systems	University of Aberdeen	BI25B2
Behavioral Biology	University of Aberdeen	BI3505
Developmental Neuroscience	University of Aberdeen	PY4302
Introduction to Medical Sciences	University of Aberdeen	SM1001
Global Healthcare	Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca	HS-05
Alternative Medicine	Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca	HS-04
Psychosocial Aspects of Physiotherapy	Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca	HS-02
Functional Anatomy	CQ University Australia	ESSC13007
Foundations of Health Professional Education	CQ University Australia	NHPE20002
Introductory Anatomy and Physiology	CQ University Australia	BIOH11005
Human Anatomy	CQ University Australia	HMSC11005
Molecular Pathophysiology	CQ University Australia	BMSC13007
Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	University of Canberra	10069

Ethics and Law for Health Professionals	University of Canberra	7951
Quality Use of Medicines	University of Canberra	9014
Psychology for Health Professionals	University of Canberra	9830
History of Medicine	University of Tartu	ARTH.02.056
Internal Medicine	University of Tartu	AR00.00.065
Patient-Centeredness in Healthcare	University of Tartu	AROT.00.070
Veterinary Biochemistry	University of Ghana	BCMB 207
Organization of Oral Health Care	University of Oulu	090510A-12
Introduction to Orthodontics	University of Oulu	090601A-11
Foundations of Health Care Education	University of Oulu	351205P
Health Care Systems and Interprofessional Networking	University of Oulu	351206P
Respiratory Medicine	University of Oulu	060703A
Bioanalysis for Nutrition	University of Ulster	BMS101
Medical Cell Biology	University of Ulster	BMS104
Medical Anthropology	Laurentian University	ANTR-3086EG
Indigenous Medicines	Laurentian University	INDG-3286EL
Origins of Sickness and Medicine	Laurentian University	ANTR-4007EL
Ethnomedicine	Laurentian University	ANTR-3087EG
Advanced Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making	La Trobe University	OCT6CRD
Medicinal and Organic Chemistry	La Trobe University	CHE2MOC
Dental Theory	La Trobe University	DEN4DTH
Communication Skills in Healthcare	La Trobe University	PHE3COS
Health Information Ethics and Law	La Trobe University	HIM5IEL
Healthcare Ethics and Law`	La Trobe University	NSG2HEL
Professional Issues	La Trobe University	HIM4PIS

Introduction to Australia's Vet System	La Trobe University	EDU4IVS
Medical and Veterinary Microbiology	La Trobe University	MIC2MMV
Assessment and Outcome Measurement in Paediatric Practice	La Trobe University	OCT6PAO
Cognitive and Perceptual Neurological Rehabilitation	La Trobe University	OCT4IDS
Critical Review in Occupational Therapy	La Trobe University	OCT5CRS
Foundations of Occupational Therapy	La Trobe University	OCT5OTF
Introduction to Pharmacy	La Trobe University	PHA1IP
Anatomy and Physiology for Dentistry and Oral Health	La Trobe University	DOH1APD
Introduction to Biomedicine	James Cook University	BM1001:03
Anatomy and Physiology for Occupational Therapy	James Cook University	BM1031:03
Anatomy and Physiology for Physiotherapy	James Cook University	BM1041:03
Anatomy and Physiology for Dentists	James Cook University	BM1071:03
Chemistry for Dental Sciences	James Cook University	CH1013:03
Medicinal and Biological Chemistry	James Cook University	CH3102:03
Pathophysiology and Therapeutics for Dentistry	James Cook University	DS2005:06
Introduction to Physician Assistant Studies 1&2	James Cook University	MX1010:12
Occupational Therapy Applications	James Cook University	OT2003:03
Health Care for Pharmacists	James Cook University	PC3102:03
Oncology, Haematology and Toxicology for Pharmacists	James Cook University	PC4102:03
Medical Physiology	James Cook University	PP2101:03
Physiotherapy Health Law and Ethics	James Cook University	PS4003:03
Health, Policy and Planning	James Cook University	TM3402:03
Introduction to Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences	James Cook University	PC1004:03
Introduction to Physical Therapy	Veritas University	HHD1020
Conflict Resolution and Healthcare	Veritas University	HHD3070

Intro to Medical Anthropology	University of New England	ANT 215G SGA
Intro to Anatomy and Physiology II	University of New England	BIO 209G
Human Functional Anatomy	University of Notre Dame International	ALPP 34001
Global Medicine	University of Notre Dame International	ANTH 34230
Healing, Medicine, and Culture	University of Notre Dame International	ANTH 34211
Developmental Biology	University of Notre Dame International	BIOS 34342
Medicinal Chemistry	University of Notre Dame International	CHEM 64535
Psychology and Global Health	University of Notre Dame International	PSY 34360
Nutritional Biochemistry	University of Notre Dame International	SC 14176
Global Health Inequalities	University of Notre Dame International	SOC 24410
Sociology of Health and Medicine	University of Notre Dame International	SOC 24999
Pharmacology and Toxicology	University of Roehampton	BSS020N238S
Human Epidemiology and Pathophysiology	University of Roehampton	BSS020X359A