

Study Abroad for Vets & Cadets

WHY STUDY ABROAD?

Studying abroad is about more than just travel. By participating in international education, U.S. Military Veterans and ROTC Cadets have a lot to gain academically, professionally, and personally. Taking classes on an international campus allows students to earn credit toward their TTU degrees while meeting renowned faculty across disciplines. For students interested in less traditional experiences, internships, field-specific research, and service-learning programs offer opportunities for vets and cadets to experience the world in new ways outside of military service. Continue building your already impressive résumé with more examples of adaptability, critical thinking skills, and the desire to build relationships within an increasingly global society.

WHO DOES IT?

Students who wish to increase their marketability post-graduation participate in study abroad. As a Veteran or Cadet, you already bring unique assets to international education such as:

- Leadership experience (often under pressure)
- Independence and maturity
- Proven work ethic
- Previous international experience

Any TTU student with a 2.5 GPA can participate, and Vets in particular are a diverse, well-funded population of study abroad students.

- 62% first generation students
- 85% non-traditional ages (24+)
- 73% men
- Most popular degrees: Pre-health, Engineering, Business, Public Service

HOW WILL I PAY?

Students eligible for *Federal Educational Benefits* may contact the TTU MVP department to access this federal funding. Students must be enrolled in courses that apply to their degree (can be major/minor courses or courses that complete core requirements), the study abroad program must have TTU approval and the program at the 'host' school must be approved by the VA. The amount of funding depends on whether study abroad is required by a student's department.

- If study abroad is *required* (e.g., TTU Engineering), eligible tuition and fees are paid regardless of program choice.
- If study abroad is *not* required, eligible tuition and fees are paid, but student pays administrative fees, airfare, etc. (note: federal stipends can offset these costs). VA determines ultimate approval of benefit payments to students.

Students eligible for the *State of Texas' Hazlewood Act* may use this benefit for study abroad courses registered through TTU. Students must be enrolled in courses that apply to their degree. Tuition and fees exempted by Hazlewood are waived (no money is exchanged). Hazlewood will not cover the student services fee, deposits, travel, meals, incidentals or any fees added to tuition for study abroad. It will not exempt exchange programs or affiliated programs.

Cadets have access to unique international programs such as *Project Global Officer*, which is designed by the U.S. Department of Defense. Project GO provides support and scholarships to ROTC students for critical languages study abroad. Project GO programs provide funding for:

- Tuition and fees
- Room and board
- Travel to and from program site
- Textbooks and materials
- Health insurance
- Visa application fees
- Gym membership

The *Cultural Understanding & Language Proficiency (CULP) Program* is another option designed for Army Cadets and connects students with opportunities to intentionally advance cultural awareness and intensify the development of foreign language skills.

WHEN SHOULD I GO?

Veterans are welcome to study abroad at any point during their TTU career after completing a minimum of 2 semesters on campus. Transfer students may study abroad after completing 1 semester on campus.

Cadets should study abroad as GMCs during the summer term after 2 semesters on campus (between freshman and sophomore year). Only Cadets whose academic department requires study abroad (e.g., TTU Engineering) have permission to participate in semester-long programs.

NEXT STEPS?

1. Research program(s) of interest to you by visiting www.studyabroad.ttu.edu
2. Start an online application and watch the Study Abroad 101 video
3. Schedule an appointment with a Study Abroad Advisor

QUESTIONS?

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