Study abroad is an opportunity to experience life in a different cultural environment while working towards fulfilling your degree requirements. Living abroad can expand your perspective of both domestic and international issues, give you a diverse worldview, improve your cross-cultural communication and problem solving skills, provide you with the opportunity to learn a foreign language, and with countless other benefits for your return to the United States. Most programs require a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and sophomore status before you can travel abroad.

**Why study Abroad as a Criminal Justice Major?**

Many Criminal Justice Majors never consider the opportunity to study abroad, reasoning that it will not fit into their degree plan. Not so! The Criminal Justice degree is flexible enough for you to incorporate a combination of study abroad credits as area core classes or electives! Possibilities and benefits include:

- Learn a language at an accelerated pace! Intensive language programs allow you to acquire 1-2 years of language proficiency in the course of a single semester abroad. Language proficiency can provide an increased chance of being hired in many state and federal criminal justice agencies, and often can open doors to specialist positions and pay raises. Approved language classes also fulfill the requirements for area I core classes.

- America is a culturally diverse country; a patchwork quilt of cultures and ethnicities. Living in another country can give you a perspective that you cannot learn simply from a textbook. Whether working in New York’s Chinatown, with Sudanese refugees here in Boise, or even in a diverse corporate environment, you will benefit from your experience abroad in cross-cultural communication and awareness.

- The Criminal Justice degree at Boise State is very flexible, requiring 35 credits worth of electives. These electives can be filled by any classes you choose to take, and many students choose to double major or take a minor. You can often fulfill the requirements for a language minor (~24 credits) in an academic year abroad! You can also choose to take any classes of interest abroad (i.e. regional cooking, sports activities, cultural classes) knowing that everything will fit into your major plan and nothing will go to waste! In addition to your electives, Area I, II, and III core classes are often offered at many universities.

**Can I afford to study abroad?**

Federal financial aid will apply to study abroad, and in some cases your aid eligibility will increase to cover additional costs! Most academic scholarships apply, and many study abroad-specific scholarships (Such as the Gilman International Scholarship and IFSA grants.) exist as well. Program costs vary by country and program. Visit [http://international.boisestate.edu/files/2010/12/Money-Hunt.pdf](http://international.boisestate.edu/files/2010/12/Money-Hunt.pdf) for more information on financial aid and scholarships.

**Preparation and Next steps**

Visit [http://international.boisestate.edu/education-abroadnse/](http://international.boisestate.edu/education-abroadnse/) for more in-depth information on course and program information, as well as financial aid resources. Decide what your goals abroad are, which countries and programs interest you, and write down any questions you have. Then stop by the International Learning Opportunities Office, located at Technical Services Rm. 114: East of the SUB on the northern side of University Drive. Or call 426-2630 to schedule an appointment with the Study Abroad Coordinator.
Which Programs Feature Criminal Justice specific programs?

There are many locations you can study, both abroad and within the United States! Some programs which feature Criminal Justice specific classes include:

United States (National Student Exchange)

- Alabama State University, (Law enforcement, Juvenile, Corrections)
- California State University (High tech Crime, Forensic Science)
- Florida International University (general)
- Illinois State University (general)
- Kent State ( General)
- New Mexico State University (Forensic science)
- North Carolina Central University (Law enforcement, Juvenile, Corrections)
- Northern Arizona University (courts, corrections, law enforcement)
- Portland State University (criminology, Criminal Behavior)
- Rhode Island College (Investigation of Justice, Justice and Society)
- Texas State University (Law Enforcement, Corrections or General/Criminal Justice)
- University of Alaska (General, Administration)
- University of Georgia (Multidisciplinary)
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Multidisciplinary)
- Western Oregon University (Homeland Security, Community Preparedness)

Education Abroad (University Studies Abroad Consortium)

- Australia, Gold Coast (Criminology, Forensic Science)
- Australia, Melbourne (Criminology)
- England, London (Criminology, Law, Criminology and Media Studies)
- Malta, Msida (Multidisciplinary)
- Oslo, Norway (Law, Criminology, Human Rights)