Studying Economics Off-Campus

Many opportunities exist for students who are interested in economics to take classes in another part of the world. In addition to blocks taught off-campus by CC professors during the year and in the summer, many options exist on other CC-approved semester and year-long programs around the world. Here are some of the options that you might consider; this list is not exhaustive.

The Economics Department won’t approve courses taken off-campus towards the major or minor if you are not declared yet, so declaring is the first step. Students may request pre-approval via Summit for one course per semester towards the Econ major or minor taken off-campus, and these are generally approved as an upper-division Econ elective. As such, courses taken off-campus must generally have Macroeconomics and Microeconomics as a prerequisite. Students wishing to petition for something more than one class per semester should speak with the department chair early in the academic planning process.

CET Shanghai, China: Chinese Studies and Internship
Shanghai’s energy and entrepreneurial spirit make it an experience that appeals to economic majors due to its structuring, this program is known for its hundreds of internship opportunities including but not limited to: American Consulate General, Council of American States in China, and PepsiCo. As a student in the program, you will complete an internship and an internship course, take electives taught in English, in addition to Chinese language courses. Elective courses offered include International Marketing and International Economics.

DIS – Study Abroad in Scandinavia (Copenhagen or Stockholm)
For a student at DIS, the Global Economics core course is available at both the flagship Copenhagen campus, as well as the new Stockholm location, and explores globalization and its impact on European economics in addition to critically examining and applying leading theories of international trade, capital, finance, and development to case studies throughout the region and beyond. This core course option includes a week-long study tour to either Brussels-Paris or Moscow (DIS Copenhagen) or Frankfurt-Strasbourg (DIS Stockholm), as well as shorter trips to regional locations. In addition to a required Danish Language & Culture course, round out your semester with elective courses in: Behavioral Economics, Corporate Finance, Economics of Gender, Development Economics, Environmental Economics, and more (electives vary in Copenhagen or Stockholm).

London School of Economics (LSE)
The General Course at LSE is a fully integrated year of undergraduate study in one of the most vibrant, diverse and historical cities in the world. General Course students may study any combination of the 250+ undergraduate courses taught at the School, in disciplines such as accounting, economic history, economics, finance, and more. CC students should definitely have taken EC301 before participating in the LSE General Course, and preferably 302 and/or 303 as well. We usually recommend that students affiliate with a department OTHER than Economics at the LSE, because it makes no difference to your transcript but non-Economics faculty tend to have more accessibility and support resources to offer. We also recommend that you sample broadly from all curriculum, not only the Economics content, for breadth. When you are exploring potential courses to take, treat course numbers as though they were 100 higher than they appear—LSE 200-level courses are our 300-level courses; LSE 300-level courses are our 400-level courses. Applications to LSE open in January for the following academic year and admissions are rolling, so students should start a conversation with Economics professor Dan Johnson (the CC faculty advisor for LSE) early in their sophomore year.

IES Granada (Spain)
This program allows students to take a variety of courses in Economics and participate in a credit-bearing internship in areas like Applied Economics, Cultural Management & Tourism, and International Relations. Courses are offered at the IES Center in: Economics of Spain & The European Union, Challenges of Regional Development and the EU Response, as well as the opportunity to directly enroll in Economics courses at the Universidad de Granada. The Granada Intermediate program requires you to have completed the intro-level two block series of Spanish at CC, and the Advanced requires you to be at the Spanish 305 equivalent.

Sciences Po Exchange in Reims, France, with certificate programme
This is a competitive CC exchange program at the prestigious French university where seven of the last eight French presidents have studied. Preference is given to year-long applicants. Students have the opportunity to earn any one of the following certificates in one semester and up to two certificates in one academic year in: Economics and Business, International Affairs and Strategy, European Affairs, or Journalism. The Reims campus is the primary exchange campus on the grounds of an old, beautiful Jesuit college, offering coursework mainly in English, but also in French. On-campus interviews take place in early March for the following academic year, and interested students should begin inquiring early.

ACM Japan Study at Waseda University
Explore Japanese culture, build your language skills, and experience daily life in the bustling, dynamic global capital city of Tokyo. Students take courses (in English) at the School of International Liberal Studies, within the prestigious Waseda University, while also learning Japanese language and culture. Coursework is available in a variety of economics-related areas and the Japanese role in world markets, as well as politics, environmental science, math, psychology, religion, and more. On the program’s Cultural Internship period between semesters, you’ll experience life in another part of Japan for about a month through community engagement, such as assisting in a rural school, apprenticing at a pottery studio, or living in a Buddhist temple. This program has a very early deadline for the following year, and students must apply before the winter break for any portion of the following academic year at Waseda. Students should have taken the introductory 2-block series of Japanese language before participating. Students applying to Waseda are required to work with Professor Joan Ericson in the CC Japanese Department, the faculty advisor.
School for International Training (SIT)
All SIT programs offer experiential, thematic, field-based models of education in an interdisciplinary style, and all SIT semesters include either an independent study month at the end of the semester, or an internship. Depending on what field of Economics you are interested in, you may consider their programs in locations such as:
- SIT Switzerland: Banking, Finance, and Social Responsibility
- IHP/SIT: Social Entrepreneurship – Innovation, Technology, Design, and Social Change (Brazil, India, Uganda, U.S.)
- SIT Brazil: Social Innovation and Community Development
- SIT Uganda: Development Studies
- SIT Nepal: Development and Social Change
- SIT Argentina: Transnationalism and Comparative Development in South America (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay)
- SIT Vietnam: Culture, Development, and Social Change
- SIT Cameroon: Development and Social Change
- SIT India: Sustainable Development and Social Change

Complete program descriptions and syllabi for these programs is available on the SIT website, and you can also search the independent study projects of previous students, to get a sense of what is possible for your own ISP or internship.

HECUA Norway: Globalization, National Identity, and the Politics of Belonging (+ internship)
In less than fifty years, Norway moved from being one of the poorest and most homogenous countries in Europe to one of the richest in the world with a population that is increasingly multicultural. The New Norway program investigates dramatic changes in Northern Europe by critically analyzing the development of the Norwegian welfare state through a wide range of topics such as globalization theories, nation-building and national identity, European integration, and international aid politics. All students complete an internship while on the HECUA Norway semester, in a variety of organizations, such as the American Chamber of Commerce in Norway, which seeks to develop Norwegian-American business relations and support trans-Atlantic business interests in Norway.

HECUA Minneapolis: Inequality in America semester (+ internship)
Situated on the banks of the Mississippi River in the vibrant, artistic, progressive Twin Cities of Minneapolis & St. Paul, this program lets students actively delve into major challenges of our time: poverty, inequality and social change. Taught with a specifically economic-focused lens, this program explores some of the root causes of increasing levels of economic, political, social inequality and insecurity in America, and how this impacts all social classes and groups in the United States. All students will complete a 20-hour per week internship as part of this semester, with more information about previous placement available on HECUA’s website.

Syracuse University in Strasbourg, France
Strasbourg is a unique city to study abroad in, defined by its great European institutions: the Court of Human Rights, the Council of Europe, and the European Parliament. In addition to enhancing your French language proficiency on this semester program, students can take courses in Economic Policies of the European Union (fall) and Economics of Happiness (spring), as well as History, Mathematics, Philosophy, and Political Science courses. A credit-bearing internship is also an option in Strasbourg, and students who possess a high enough level of fluency in French can also directly enroll in a variety of courses at the prestigious Université de Strasbourg.

College Year in Athens (semester or year-long)
Interested in learning about European and Greek Economy following the economic crisis in Greece? The College Year in Athens offers courses such as Crisis and Recovery in Greece and Europe. Co-taught by a political scientist and an economist, this course explores the causes, the present reality and the future implications of the Greek and European crises. By using a variety of analytical tools and perspectives the course offers a comprehensive examination of the ongoing crisis, which has tested the limits of European solidarity and has evolved into one of the greatest challenges to the European integration project and the common currency.

The Global Economics and Business concentration of the Washington Semester Program provides you unparalleled opportunities to gain both conceptual and practical knowledge related to trade, finance, and economic policy. In addition to an internship, all students complete academic seminar-based coursework on areas such as Economic Policy and Global Business, Foreign Aid and the Developing World, Immigration and Labor, Monetary Policy and the Global Financial Architecture, and Fiscal Policy, Debt, and Financial Crises. Previous internships have been at Brookings Institute, White House Council of Economic Advisors, U.S.-China Business Council, Europe-American Business Council, and Merrill Lynch. The Washington Semester is one of the oldest and most-connected semesters in D.C., offering you numerous contacts across this powerful community.

Direct Enroll at world universities through IFSA-Butler
Colorado College works with IFSA-Butler to facilitate direct enroll opportunities for a semester or year for our students at institutions in Argentina and Chile, Australia and New Zealand, and the United Kingdom & Ireland. All of these institutions offer coursework in Economics, depending on language ability (obviously, for the programs in Argentina and Chile). You can browse which campuses are approved by CC on the International Programs website, and then explore course catalogs, specific classes, and admission criteria via the IFSA-Butler website.

If you have questions about participating in one of these programs, please visit the website for CC’s Office of International Programs (www.coloradocollege.edu/international), where you can learn how to apply, a guide to credit transfer processes, and also search the course approval database to see previous approvals from past semesters.