

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES: OFF-CAMPUS OPTIONS

Development is a complex area of inquiry, and can encompass many subject areas that off-campus study programs delve into: political, economic, educational, gender issues, public health, peace & justice studies, human rights, and more. Below are some of the programs approved by CC that have an overt focus on development studies and may be a place to begin your search for the right off-campus program.

INTERNATIONAL SEMESTER PROGRAMS:

SIT Uganda: Development Studies

Based in Kampala, students take four classes: an interdisciplinary Development Studies Seminar, an intensive language course in Luganda, a Practicum Training and Ethics course, in preparation for the final month where students pursue a Development Practicum on a broad spectrum of development projects in Kampala and beyond. Areas for the practicum include public health, politics and grassroots development, or gender and development, and the program includes a homestay.

ISDSI: International Sustainable Development Studies Institute, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Taught in a series of four month-long blocks, this program offers coursework in Agroecology (Sustainable Agriculture), Human Rights & The Environment, the Political Ecology of Forests, as well as Thai language & culture. There is also an option for a Service-Learning Internship with an NGO focusing on sustainable development issues. This program travels, but includes a 5-week homestay.

SIT Mongolia: Geopolitics and The Environment

The program's coursework provides an essential foundation in Mongolian language, history, and culture, from which to springboard into in-depth discussions of Mongolia's most pressing development issues. Key issues of examination include: Mongolia's nomadic and rural society; the country's young market economy; systematizing social support and providing for those in need; and the strengthening of governmental structures and oversight. Coursework is based on SIT's experiential, field-based program model, and includes a homestay.

Augsburg College: Social Change in Central America: Exploring Peace, Justice, and Community Engagement

A comparative program across three countries (Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua), students will take courses in diverse approaches to economic, environmental, and social justice, as well as Spanish and Latin American Liberation Theologies. There are homestays in each country.

Pitzer Nepal Program

Students examine issues of foreign aid and development in Nepal, the role of women, water development, rural development economics, and more as part of the interdisciplinary Nepal Studies course, in addition to learning the Nepali language and completing an independent study. Internships with development-related NGOs are also a possibility. A homestay is an integral part of the program.

HECUA Norway: Scandinavian Urban Studies Term

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. Twenty-five percent of Oslo residents, for example, are not of ethnic Norwegian background. The *Scandinavian Urban Studies Term* (SUST) 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, governance and political party systems, European integration, racial thinking, histories of racialization, international aid politics, sexuality, and environmentalism. Students also intern for four to six hours each week with a local organization, placing them on the front lines of political, social, and cultural debates in contemporary Norway

SEA Semester: Sustainability in Polynesian Island Cultures & Ecosystems

This program looks at the effects of colonization on several Polynesian cultures, from environmental, public health, marine science, and cultural perspectives. Students will see the impact of European colonization, the devastating loss of native populations to disease, the suppression of traditional cultural practices, and the modern Polynesian cultural and political response.

School for Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London (direct enroll, through the IFSA-Butler program)

The Development Studies department at the SOAS is one of the most well-known in the United Kingdom, and one of their most popular courses of study for visiting students to enroll in. The Department's research is centered around Globalization & Neoliberalism, Violence & Conflict, Migration and Mobility, Agrarian Change, and Labor Markets. Both housing and courses are integrated with local students on this program, which focuses on non-Western systems of law and thought.

SIT Bolivia: Multiculturalism, Globalization & Social Change

In addition to studying Spanish and completing an independent study project, students on the SIT Bolivia program will take an interdisciplinary thematic seminar that looks at six areas: historical foundations of social change, Andean and Amazonian cultures and cosmovision, economy and development, the politics of contemporary issues, development practices, and land, environment, development, and indigenous movements.

ACM Botswana: Development in Southern Africa

This ACM program blends a traditional island program (where students study in separate, ACM-faculty led classes alongside other U.S. students) with one integrated course at the University of Botswana. Past courses taken by ACM students at the University of Botswana have included studies of demography, environment, HIV/AIDS, politics in Southern Africa, social structures & problems, and poverty & policy. Course offerings vary year to year. Student will also study the Setswana language and take a rotating course taught by the program director: past classes have included topics such as HIV/AIDS and public health, globalization and development, and youth culture/education. This director's course subject also varies year to year. Students will also complete an independent study. Housing is in University of Botswana undergraduate dormitories.

SIT India: Public Health, Policy Advocacy, and Community

For students interested in public health aspects of development studies, this program in New Delhi offers an opportunity to learn the Hindi language, live in a homestay, and examine: the political economy of health (globalization, the WTO, the IMF, and World Bank), regional and grassroots approaches to improving access to health care, and social determinants of health (poverty, oppression, caste, and hierarchy). Students will spend time at leading local, regional, national, and international institutions, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) India, the Population Foundation of India, and the Centre for Health, Education, Training, and Nutrition Awareness. Students will also spend a week interning with a local organization or individual actively working for public health and positive change in India. **Note:** *Other similarly-structured CC-approved SIT programs in health and development exist in Kenya, Mali, South Africa, and Chile.*

DOMESTIC SEMESTER PROGRAMS:

Washington Semester: Sustainable Development

Students learn about key actors in the global community and study specific issues such as education, inequality, the Sustainable Development Goals, social entrepreneurship and public/private partnerships, conservation and climate change, and will visit well-known organizations such as the World Bank, USAID, and the Smithsonian. They also regularly meet and interact personally with activists working on such topics as: community organizing, homelessness, DC urban change, education in the developing world, wildlife preservation, coral reefs, women's rights, energy policy, and climate change innovation. Students are encouraged to consider enrolling in a travel elective course: Global Human Rights, a three-credit class will travel to Geneva, the Hague, and Brussels in mid-March and will enable you to meet with practitioners with international organizations, NGOs, and the European Union to learn about current human rights issues. Culture and Peacemaking in Eurasia and the Middle East will travel to Turkey and Jordan in mid-March where you can meet with experts involved in peacemaking in the region, as well as visit key cultural and historical sites

HECUA - Inequality in America: Policy, Community, and the Politics of Empowerment

This program, based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, seeks to answer the question: What are some of the root causes of increasing levels of economic, political, social inequality and insecurity and how does this impact all social classes and groups in the United States? Students will take an interdisciplinary course of study at the economy, housing systems, education, welfare, government policies, urban sprawl, regional race and class segregation, and institutional discrimination. This is an experiential program, and students have direct conversations and work with practitioners in government, the private sector, nonprofit social change organizations, academia, labor unions, schools, and other community institutions that in one way or another address some aspect of economic, political, and social inequality and poverty.