

Internationally Based Educational Experiences

The University of Detroit Mercy recognizes that given the increasingly global nature of business, science, art, and politics, students benefit from immersion in international cultures. An opportunity to experience an internationally based educational experience heightens a student's understanding of the world. The following policy has been established to maintain the academic integrity in University of Detroit Mercy (UDM).

Please note that all Internationally Based Educational Experiences will be subject to Program Review at the time the host department is under review. Facilitators of Internationally Based Educational Programs must 1) maintain the accuracy and content of the International Programs website in collaboration with appropriate personnel as well as keep the Office of Academic Affairs, International Student Office and Language and Cultural Training Office aware of any changes in the program, eg. modification, elimination, etc.

The following are definitions provided to assist in identifying the type of program that is being proposed:

International Experience Definitions

Home School: The school where the student is enrolled in a degree/certificate program.

Host School: The school where the student is taking part of his or her program requirements through either a consortium or contractual agreement.

Study Abroad: Per federal regulations a study abroad program must be a part of a written contractual or consortium agreement between two or more schools. To be eligible for aid as a study abroad program there must be an agreement between the home school (UDM) and the host school (foreign school) and credits are charged and earned. Eligible for aid if enrolled at least half time if the credits are applicable to their degree, may be paid at UDM or at the other school. If charged at UDM, the budget will be increased to include travel and other expenses.

Exchange Program: Part of a written contractual agreement between two schools where UDM send students to a foreign university for one term, and the other institution sends students to UDM another term. UDM students are always charged here at UDM and students receive Financial Aid here. Students from the foreign university are not eligible for aid at UDM. Students are eligible for aid if enrolled at UDM at least half time. The budget can be increased for travel and other expenses.

Foreign Site Learning-Short Trip: Part of a class taken at UDM: A home school sends faculty and students to a foreign site for a short period of time (usually no more than 10 days) as a required part of a class taken at UDM. Actual credits are earned at UDM, but the trip must be a requirement to pass the course. The trip can take place during the term of the course or directly after the term ends. The foreign site is NOT considered an additional location of UDM. Students are eligible for aid if enrolled in the course that requires the trip and at UDM at least half time. The budget can be increased for travel and other expenses.

Foreign Site Learning -Full Term Trip: Credits earned abroad: A home school sends faculty and students to a foreign site for a longer period of time and credits are earned abroad. The foreign site is considered an additional location of UDM and must be approved by the Department of Education. Students are eligible for aid if enrolled at UDM at least half time. The budget can be increased for travel and other expenses.

Foreign Trip: A trip sponsored by UDM that does **not** earn any credits and is **not** required for course at UDM. Students are not eligible for aid for this type of experience. If they are enrolled at least half time in other courses they can get aid for those courses and use any refund (if applicable) to cover study abroad costs. The budget will not be increased for trip costs.

Academic Standards

All UDM Study Abroad programs are expected to conform to the standards herein.

UDM Students enrolled in an International Educational Program

1. Undergraduate students must have earned the minimum cumulative grade point average required by each academic program at the time of application to the program. Graduate students must have earned a 3.0 at the time of application to the program.
2. Demonstrated bilingual proficiency may be a prerequisite for some programs.
3. Students must maintain appropriate academic standards to remain enrolled in the program and allowed to progress.

Programs and Coursework:

1. All coursework associated with a UDM internationally based educational program must be offered by faculty associated with an academic unit at their respective institution of higher education.
2. All internationally based educational programs shall be subject to the normal Program Review process.
3. The UDM grade point average (GPA) scale applies to internationally based educational programs and courses for which UDM grants credit.
4. Courses that enroll both undergraduate and graduate students must have separate course requirements for awarding the graduate credit
5. If graduate credit is to be awarded, students must have an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education.