IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Architecture

STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION & GUIDELINES;
Semester study abroad options include exchange, direct enroll, third-party provider and the signature spring semester in Rome. Students interested in going abroad for an academic year will need to participate on an exchange program in the fall. Spring is the preferred semester for study abroad.

Current exchange offerings include:
IE University- Fall only- 4th year (courses in English) *ECTS
Ecole Paris- Fall, Spring and/or Academic year (courses in French) *ECTS
Roma Tre- Spring only (courses in Italian/English) *ECTS
Tongji University- Spring and Summer internship (courses in English)
TU Delft- Spring and/or Academic year (Master’s courses in English) *ECTS

**The OWL- University of Applied Sciences and Arts- Spring and/or Academic year (courses in English) *ECTS
**The University of Buenos Aires: UBA- Spring, Fall and Academic year (courses taught in Spanish)
**Universidad de Lima- Spring, Fall and Academic year (courses taught in Spanish

• Students pay ISU tuition and fees when participating on an exchange program
• GPA requirements are typically 3.0

Direct enroll offerings include:
• Students pay host institution tuition and fees directly
• GPA requirements will vary

ETH Zurich- Spring *ECTS
ARCHIP Prague- Spring *ECTS
Oslo School of Architecture and Design (AHO)
BRNO Czech Republic

Third-party and/or Study Abroad Center offerings include:
• Students pay a program fee
• GPA requirements will vary

A Semester in Ireland- University of College Cork (UCC) ECTS
Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS)- Copenhagen

Please note that ISU cannot create credits that have not been awarded by another accredited institution - certificate programs, non-credit programs, programs at non-accredited schools, etc. - none of them will have credits that transfer back and therefore no credits will be awarded by ISU even if work is presented to us. Students are responsible to confirm that a program offers academic credits that will transfer back to ISU.

*ECTS is a system of credit equivalency that is used by many, but not all, European schools. The conversion from ECTS to Iowa State credits, as well as a general letter grade conversion, can be found in the tables below. Grades at schools that use ECTS for credits may not all be the same.
**ECTS – ISU CREDITS**

| ECTS | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 7.0 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 8.5 | 9.0 | 9.5 | 10.0 |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ISU  | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6.0 |

**ECTS – ISU Grades**

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<th>ECTS</th>
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<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
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<tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C-</td>
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**I. PRIOR TO DEPARTURE:**

- Acknowledge and assume various risks and responsibilities of studying abroad include, but are not limited to the following:
  - a) Cost(s) and financial feasibility of studying abroad, particularly for a year
  - b) Cannot take Building Sci/Tech courses abroad
  - c) **Transfer credits towards degree requirements are not guaranteed, read the below in full for details**

- The International Programs Director, Jen Hogan, will provide you with information on the appropriate ISU Abroad application (required) for your experience abroad, pre-departure orientation, insurance, cost structures, passports and visas, etc. Adhere to ISU and host university application deadlines and requirements on ISU Abroad

- **Discuss where you plan on studying abroad with your Faculty Mentor. They will be the ones to review you work upon returning to determine transfer eligibility**

- Once admitted, create a preliminary course of study at the selected program/university. You will need course titles, catalog descriptions, and anything else you can learn about available course offerings. Courses should include History/Theory/Culture or Professional Options (any courses over 300-level in ARCH). Usually students need a studio (should transfer back as 6 credits), and then 2-3 electives of about 3 credits each.

- Review your course of study and selection of program/university with your academic advisor, Jeremy Miller. Your advisor will go over your degree audit and should be able to assist you in thinking through courses that will meet your program of study requirements.

- Not to overstate this, but please be advised that the final assessment of credit hours and assignment of courses to your program of study is based upon the **reviews of your work completed during your studies – not your preliminary study plans. THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT PRE-APPROVE STUDY ABROAD CREDITS.**
II. WHILE ABROAD:

1) Obtain and retain a full copy of the syllabus. It must be provided in English.

2) Depending upon the type of course – save all exams & papers, keep copies of your readings; prepare a portfolio of studio progress work & final studio project – original materials would be best; keep a journal! These materials are essential to evaluating course content & equivalencies, and the number of transfer credit hours. Please provide this information by creating a CyBox folder and adding the undergraduate coordinator to the folder as a co-owner – this will allow her to invite other people to the folder if they are needed to review the work.

3) Be sure to inform the school that you will need a transcript or certified documents of course completion and passing grades. If you have participated in a study abroad or international exchange program, request that your host institution send your transcript to the Director of International Programs, Jen Hogan.

III. UPON YOUR RETURN:

1) Follow-up with your Faculty Mentor to discuss review and approval of your work. Other faculty who teach similar courses in Ames will also review what you have submitted to see if the work meets their expectations.

2) Once received by Jen Hogan, the official transcript will be sent to the Office of Admissions. Classes taken at that host university will be reviewed and Admissions performs the Credit Transfer Evaluation (CTE.) Once credits appear on your transcript, then we look at the work to see if it meets our requirements for studio or HTC. For example, if a student took a studio and have 8 ECTS credits from ETH (5 ISU credits), those credits remain unassigned on their transcript until we look at the studio work and apply the credit manually.

3) All credits are reviewed by the transfer/Admissions office and given their "T" credit codes, a generic ARCH credit like ARCH 4T01 for a senior-level design studio, or PHIL 1T01 for an intro philosophy course somewhere. Using these generic codes for the credits, we review the work to apply to a requirement, but we never make a course equivalent, this is a standing policy. In other words, we never say that studio at ETH is equivalent to DsnS 546 or Arch 401, we don't want to do this as it bypasses our review of the work itself.

4) Courses should have a letter grade, if the student intends to transfer credit to ISU. Pass/fail courses generally do not transfer back. The letter grade will appear on the permanent record but will not impact the ISU GPA.

5) HTC credit reminder: Please be advised that the final assessment of credit hours and assignment of courses to your program of study is based upon these faculty reviews of your completed work – not your preliminary study plans.
6) If you worked on a team, please include a written explanation of the team organization in a word document. Describe your role in the project and your primary contributions to its various components.

** If you are considering going abroad in your 5th year, you will need to contact Deborah Hauptmann, deborah@iastate.edu

**Student Services Contact information:**
Jeremy Miller, Room 291, jmiller9@iastate.edu
Jen Hogan, Room 290, jenhogan@iastate.edu