

Institut für Anglistik / Amerikanistik

Information for Students

Compulsory Stay Abroad: Where can I go and what can I do?

Updated March 2015

General Guidelines

The official criteria for the compulsory stay abroad can be found on the departmental website. You can choose to work or study – the basic options are listed below.

Study Abroad

Oldenburg has a number of partner universities in English-speaking countries, including the UK, Ireland, the USA, Australia and South Africa. It is also possible to apply directly to universities in the UK, Ireland and Australia as a visiting student. Sign up for the International Student Office's "Study Abroad" newsletter – <http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/iso/aktuell/iso-newsletter/> for regular updates and announcements about study abroad opportunities.

- For student exchanges to North America, see the ISO website and contact Tina Grummel for further information (tina.grummel@uni-oldenburg.de). For other non-European student exchange programmes contact Roman Behrens (r.behrens@uni-oldenburg.de) for information.
- For student exchanges and direct applications to the UK and Ireland, see the ISO and departmental websites and contact Christa Weers (christa.weers@uni-oldenburg.de) in the ISO for further information.

Working Abroad

Several organized programmes exist for working abroad. These include but are not limited to:

- The Assistant Teacher programme, organized by the *Pädagogischer Austauschdienst (PAD)*. This involves a year (September-July) spent abroad, working as an assistant teacher in an English-speaking country. Travel and accommodation costs are paid, along with a nominal salary. For further information, see the website - <http://www.kmk-pad.org/programme/dtsch-fsa.html>. You can also contact Gesche Heidemann in the Career Service (gesche.heidemann@uni-oldenburg.de) if you want to know more.
- Those who would prefer to work at a university abroad rather than at a school can apply for the *DAAD-Sprachassistenzen* programme. See the website for full details – there are usually a number of places in English-speaking countries available. <https://www.daad.de/ausland/lehren/sprachassistenzen/de/>
- Internships at German International Schools and the Goethe Institut. Most of these organizations accept interns on a regular basis. See the Anglistik/Amerikanistik website for a complete list, and contact Gesche Heidemann in the Career Service (gesche.heidemann@uni-oldenburg.de) for further information.
- Internships with AISEC: <https://aiesec.de/>

It is also possible to organize an internship or job independently or through a commercial agency. The regular newsletter from the Careers Service (<http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/dezernat3/careerservice/links-tipps/newsletter/>) has more information about specific job opportunities, as does the departmental website.

Information for students interested in internships in the United States:

Internships in the U.S. always require a visa (J-Visa), independent of their length or the fact that a salary is not paid. These can only be applied for by university students after their first year of studies or applicants with a non-academic first qualification (Ausbildung). The following programmes provide further details about visa support:

- Deutsch-Amerikanisches Praktikantenprogramm – <http://www.giz.de/de/weltweit/16220.html>
- US Camp Counselors – <http://j1visa.state.gov/programs/camp-counselor>
- US Internships – <http://j1visa.state.gov/programs/intern/>
- US Summer Work-Travel Program – <http://j1visa.state.gov/programs/summer-work-travel/>

Timing and Planning

As a general rule, you need to start planning your stay abroad at least a year in advance. The majority of deadlines are fixed and remain the same from year to year; however, the following list should be taken as a guide only and it is your duty to check for any changes – **the department is not responsible for any missed deadlines!**

STAY ABROAD OPTION	DATE
Study Abroad in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa	Application deadlines are usually in late July for study the following year (February or June).
DAAD-Sprachassistenzen	You need to apply well in advance – deadlines are normally mid-October to begin the following September. (For countries in the southern hemisphere you need to apply at least eighteen months in advance due to the different university calendars.)
Assistant Teacher – USA	The first of November each year
Assistant Teacher – other Anglophone countries	The first of December each year There will be a workshop on how to apply in late October/early November each year as part of the English Language Help Centre. <i>NB: Assistant teacher applications require at least one academic reference as well as a statement of motivation and CV in both English and German. We strongly recommend that you <u>do not</u> leave your application until the last minute!</i>
Study Abroad – US	As a general rule, places are advertised between mid-October and late November for stays in America commencing the following August and later. There will be an information session at the beginning of the winter semester. <i>NB: Applications to study abroad in the US must include the results of a language test – make sure you organize this in plenty of time!</i>
Study Abroad – Erasmus+	The departmental Erasmus places in Britain and Ireland are advertised between early January and mid-February for stays in America commencing the following September and later. There will be an information session early in the new year.
Direct university applications – Scotland; England/Wales; Ireland	The deadlines for direct applications to British and Irish universities range from late March/Easter (Scottish universities) to early June (Ireland). There will usually be an information session in February. <i>NB: Direct applications to study in the UK and Ireland usually need to include at least one academic reference and the results of a language test – make sure you arrange for these in plenty of time!</i>

Funding

There are a variety of ways to pay for a stay abroad. Please see the ISO and Career Service websites for further information! The deadlines for some of the main funding options are as follows:

FUNDING FOR STUDY ABROAD	DATE
PROMOS Scholarships for study outside the EU and at non-partner European universities (http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/iso/wege-ins-ausland/finanzierung-stipendien/promos-stipendien/)	Twice a year (December/January and April/May)
STEP OUT scholarships for studying worldwide (http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/iso/wege-ins-ausland/finanzierung-stipendien/step-out/)	Twice a year (December/January and April/May)
AuslandsBAföG for time-limited study abroad (http://www.bafög.de/de/auslandsfoerderung-384.php) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAFöG office responsible for GB and Ireland – Hannover • South-East Asia, Australia, New Zealand – Marburg • US and Canada – Hamburg • India – Tübingen 	As early as possible (generally three to six months before the period of study is due to start.)

Note that BAFöG will fund a minimum of one semester/two trimesters of study – ten week terms will not be supported. BAFöG will contribute a maximum for €4600 towards tuition fees at overseas universities.

It may be possible to receive AuslandsBAföG even if you are not entitled to it in Germany, particularly if you are travelling further away.

INTERNSHIP FUNDING	DATE
<i>*There will be usually a workshop on how to apply in for jobs in English-speaking countries early in the summer semester as part of the English Language Help Centre.*</i>	
PROMOS Scholarships for internships outside the EU (http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/dezernat3/careerservice/links-tipps/stipendien-fuer-auslandspraktika/promos/)	Six weeks before the internship is due to commence (at the latest!)
Erasmus+ scholarships for European internships (http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/dezernat3/careerservice/links-tipps/stipendien-fuer-auslandspraktika/erasmus-plus/)	Six weeks before the internship is due to commence (at the latest!)
STEP OUT scholarships for internships worldwide (http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/dezernat3/careerservice/links-tipps/stipendien-fuer-auslandspraktika/step-out/)	Six weeks before the internship is due to commence (at the latest!)
AuslandsBAföG for compulsory internships abroad (http://www.bafög.de/de/auslandsfoerderung-384.php) <i>See the table above for further BAFöG information!</i>	As early as possible (generally three to six months before the internship is due to start.)