Internships and service-learning are increasingly popular forms of study abroad at Cornell, reflecting interest in the global economy, international careers, and community service. Internships can help you find out whether a particular type of work is your long-term goal. Service-learning provides a way of engaging with and giving back to the community. Both are forms of experiential education.

Credit-bearing internships are always combined with academic coursework that should help you apply what you are learning in the work placement. Academic internships usually have a project focus with an analytic component that serves as the basis of evaluation and grading by program faculty.

Internship programs vary greatly in structure and format. Some universities offer structured internship experiences in place of or in addition to other coursework. Several study abroad programs, such as those offered through Arcadia, Boston University or IES, provide internship programs designed specifically for study abroad students. Even among these, there can be a great difference. In some cases, (for example, at most BU Internship programs), the coursework is “front-loaded” allowing for a shorter but more intense internship period (4-day/week placement) during the last 8-weeks. With such a program it is impossible to take courses with local students. With Arcadia or IES, students receive their placement earlier and have a longer time at their 3-day/week placement, but must arrange their work and academic schedules around each other. In some cases, such scheduling allows students to take a class at a local university.

Some things to consider: larger programs may offer a wider array of courses, but are not necessarily better (or worse) at providing a range of high quality placements. For any program, keep in mind that placements at internationally-known firms may look good on a résumé, but may not give the same quality experience as a placement where students are given a high level of responsibility.

Service-learning is typically coordinated with a local university so that the service element is integrated into the academic curriculum enabling the students to reflect on their experience while meeting the needs of the community. Service-learning programs are built upon four core principles: engagement in the community; reflection that links the service experience with course content; reciprocity such that each participant or entity functions as both teacher and learner; and public dissemination.

Many universities and study abroad programs that do not offer formal academic internship programs can arrange non-credit internships or volunteer service. Volunteer service without a structured reflective component is not service-learning, but is valuable in its own right.

§ Internship and Service-Learning programs in non-English speaking countries may require the equivalent of 4 semesters of a language at the college level.

Note: Students in the College of Arts & Sciences are encouraged to volunteer or intern on their own time for the cultural experience, but cannot receive academic credit for internship-related courses. Internship programs designed for American students are not approved. A&S students should discuss field study programs including service-learning, as well as language, and area studies requirements with Dean Wasyliw, Study Abroad Advisor, 55 Goldwin Smith Hall or with Cornell Abroad.
## Descriptions of Major Program Providers

### Arcadia University - Center for Education Abroad
Arcadia offers internships for credit that last for almost the entire semester and in some instances can be combined with courses at a local university. Internships are guaranteed and are arranged to meet the needs of the individual student. Arcadia programs tend to be smaller so you may be part of a group of fewer Americans. Arcadia also provides summer study abroad internship programs for credit.

[www.arcadia.edu/abroad](http://www.arcadia.edu/abroad)

### Boston University International Programs (BU)
BU is the largest provider of study abroad internships. All BU internships are guaranteed, customized, project-based, and academically directed. Each BU Internship Program offers a range of internships opportunities including business options, though some sites have additional emphases. BU also provides summer study abroad internship programs for credit.

[www.bu.edu/abroad](http://www.bu.edu/abroad)

### Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)
CIEE was launched immediately after World War II and has been a leader in study abroad ever since. They offer a wide range of programs around the world and are well-respected for their academics and student services. They are emerging leaders in service learning and have begun to offer internships for credit at selected sites.

[www.ciee.edu](http://www.ciee.edu)

### International Partnership for Service-Learning (IPSL)
The International Partnership for Service-Learning is the leader in the field when it comes to the theory and practice of service learning. They have a strong reputation as a non-profit educational organization which designs and coordinates academic studies with volunteer service. Returned IPSL students speak highly about their integration into the community.

[www.ipsl.org](http://www.ipsl.org)

### Institute for International Education of Students (IES)
IES is a major non-profit provider of study abroad programs that is well recognized for the quality of their academic programs and student services. Many IES programs offer internships for credit. IES facilitates placement in an internship and offers a related course for credit that students take alongside their regular IES or university courses.

[www.iesabroad.org](http://www.iesabroad.org)

### Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID)
The MSID curriculum explores the theoretical and practical implications of international development and intercultural issues. Field experience is an integral part of all courses. Through classes, field trips, internships, and research, MSID strives to establish a continual dialogue linking experience with theory and critical analysis.

[http://www.umabroad.umn.edu](http://www.umabroad.umn.edu)

### School for Field Studies (SFS)
SFS has field stations in five countries where study abroad students conduct directed field research that contributes to a multi-year research plan designed with the local community and local authorities. Students live at the field station except during excursions and a short homestay designed to deepen the experience of the culture and to build the relationship with the community. Considerable community service incorporated in the program structure.

[www.fieldstudies.org](http://www.fieldstudies.org)

### University of Minnesota Study & Internship Programs
The University of Minnesota, in cooperation with CAPA, offers internships in London and Sydney along with courses taught by local faculty for American students. Internships last the duration of the semester. Housing in apartments. Homestay option available. Summer internships for credit also available.

[http://www.umabroad.umn.edu](http://www.umabroad.umn.edu)

## Summer Programs

Cornell Abroad has resources that students can consult for summer study in our library. Cornell Abroad does not administer summer programs, and no financial aid is available. Students should check with their college for appropriate paperwork prior to summer study to assure ease in credit transfer after their return. See the CUAbroad Summer Flyer. Note: students from the College of Arts & Sciences do not have language requirements for summer programs.

In general, foreign universities do not run programs in the summer, but a wide variety of programs exist, including internship and service learning opportunities exist. Each of the program providers listed in this flyer offer summer opportunities for academic credit. Consult the Cornell Abroad library for work abroad and volunteer abroad options.