

Provider Options and Transfer of Credit

There are several study abroad providers that students may decide to enroll with and several considerations that should be taken for each.

UCF or other Florida Public Institution

For purposes of credit transfer and academic quality it is always advisable to explore options either at UCF or another Florida Public Institution. Since we all use common course numbering, taking a course through a FSU program for example and having the credit transfer back as the exact same course is as simple as attending as a transient student. It should be noted that not all institutions offer the same level of course work (ie: colleges may not offer 3000 level course work).

Out-of-State U.S. accredited Institution

Going outside of Florida to another U.S. accredited institution includes the step of having the course work evaluated by the UCF faculty who would teach the course work here via the transient process. Each course needs to be evaluated; usually using a syllabus and course description, each course would be assigned a UCF equivalency or listed as elective hours and the transient form needs to be approved by the College and Registrar. As with all out-of-state transient students, this cannot currently be done online and the student must seek the appropriate signatures around campus depending on the course work planned.

Study Abroad Vendor (non-ucf)

Not all private programs are created equal and it is important to ask questions regarding where transcripts will be issued from (if at all), what support the student will have abroad and if possible, reaching out to past attendees of the program (not just accepting the “testimony” listed on the company’s website). As far as course work is concerned; some companies have agreements with U.S. institutions whereas the student’s transcript from abroad will be processed by an accredited U.S. institution and then reissued on a U.S. transcript. While this is one of the safer bets a student has regarding transfer of credit, this usually comes at an additional cost and the student will have to go through the “out-of-state transient process”. Syllabi should be collected from the vendor and course work should be listed on the transient form as it will appear on the U.S. transcript.

At other times the transcript is issued directly from an institution abroad. In this case the transcript must be evaluated by a UCF approved transcript evaluation company at the student’s expense and then evaluated for equivalencies here at UCF. The student will not know how (or if) UCF will accept the credit until after the program has been completed, the transcripts have been evaluated and UCF reviews them...and of course the student has paid for the program.