

**Key Questions:**  
Study Abroad Worksheet

**Narrowing Down Programs**

- What kind of experience am I looking for? Study abroad is academic – do I want to complete courses and study overseas?

Tip: If you are not looking for an academic experience, the Brown Resource Center, the Swearer Center for Public Service, CareerLAB, and Watson Institute can assist you in finding other international opportunities such as work, volunteer and internship programs.

- Where do I want to go?
- Are there Brown or CASA programs that meet my needs? If not, what are the approved alternative programs that I could consider?

**Program Requirements**

- Is there a language requirement for the country/ies and/or program(s) that I am considering?
- Is there a concentration requirement for the program?
- Is there a GPA requirement?

**Academics**

- What are my academic goals?
- What is the academic focus of the program(s) I am considering?
- Do I want/need to earn concentration credit? Will I be able to receive the concentration credit while abroad?

*Tip: Review department policies and meet with your academic concentration advisor to ensure concentration credit will be accepted from your intended program(s).*

- Will I be able to take regular classes with local students?
- Will I be taught by faculty members at a local university?
- Does the university abroad allow students to take the combination of courses I want to take?
- How many courses do I need to take to get full credit at Brown?

*Tip: Many international academic programs are structured differently; ensure that you are getting the correct number of credits for Brown graduate requirements.*

- How will my work be assessed?

**Culture**

- What are my expectations with regard to cultural integration and assimilation?
- What opportunities do I have to meet local people?

### **Location & Housing**

- Do I want to be in a large city or in a more rural setting?
- Where do students on the program live - dorms, apartments, homestays?
- With whom will I be living - local students, other international students?

### **Calendar**

- What is the best semester for me to study abroad?
- How long do I want I stay abroad?
- What is the academic calendar for the program/country I am considering?

*Tip: Determine whether or not the calendar congruent with Brown's; it may not matter to you, but it will impact your schedule significantly and may require additional planning if there is a significant difference.*

- On which dates does the program begin and end?
- Does the university abroad have semesters?

### **Cost**

- What does the program cost?
- In addition to tuition, what else will I need to pay for?

*Tip: For Brown and CASA programs, there are cost sheets that allow students to estimate the program expenses. Students should consider their individual preferences and spending habits when budgeting.*

**After you have considered these questions, you're almost there - congratulations!  
Now meet with an OIP advisor to discuss your responses and start the application process.**