

STUDY ABROAD CHECKLIST FOR VA BENEFIT RECIPIENTS

Step 1 Attend a Study Abroad First Step Meeting to learn about the various study abroad options available.

NOTE: VA benefits cannot be applied to third-party providers. Students using VA benefits to help pay for the cost of study abroad can select from the following program options:

- (1) GVSU faculty-led programs,
- (2) GVSU Exchange Programs*,
- (3) GVSU independent study or GVSU internship credit as long as it is meeting degree requirements.
- (4) faculty-led program run by another US degree-granting institution (school certifying official will be at the host institution – GV student registered as transient or guest),
- (5) direct enrollment in a foreign institution*,

*The overseas host university must be approved by the VA prior to participation. A list of approved universities can be found on the WEAMS Database at:

<http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>

Any institution NOT approved in the WEAMS database must first be approved prior to a student's participation. See link below for host university approval process.

Step 2 Visit the PIC Resource Room to research and select a study abroad program that fits your academic, personal, and professional interests.

Step 3 Meet with Director of Study Abroad & International Partnerships to review study abroad budget and to verify that program is an approved program.

Step 4 Verify benefits with your GVSU VA Certifying Official.

Step 5 Apply for study abroad in the Padnos International Center's OASIS system at:

www.gvsu.edu/oasis

Step 6 Meet with GVSU's School Certifying Official (SCO) to review your plan. Students must provide evidence for how the selected study abroad program will help them meet degree requirements at GVSU.

Additional Resources:

Approval process for foreign universities

http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/foreign_program_approval_information_for_schools.asp