

Application Instructions

Any student who wishes to apply credit from study outside the U.S. (study abroad) or study on a U.S.-based Partner Program must obtain OCS approval from Whitman prior to studying away. Whitman does not grant transfer credit retroactively for off-campus studies if OCS approval has not been obtained prior to participation in the OCS program.

Academic Eligibility

The Off-Campus Studies (OCS) Committee encourages applications from students who have a strong academic record, display social and emotional maturity, and who can demonstrate how their off-campus studies are integral to their academic focus at Whitman. At a minimum, students must demonstrate the following:

- **A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.800** or higher at the time of application, unless there are compelling reasons or extenuating circumstances.
- **A minimum major GPA of 2.800** or higher at the time of application, unless there are compelling reasons or extenuating circumstances.
- Applicants must have **completed at least four semesters of full-time college work** (58 credits) prior to when they plan to begin their foreign studies or at least three semesters of full-time college work prior to beginning U.S. Partner Programs.
- Applicants must **show sufficient progress in their major** and demonstrate how their off-campus studies will be an **integral part of their major or minor studies, or their career plans**.
- Applicants must show how they will be able to **complete their Whitman degree on time** if they study off campus including their major requirements, distribution requirements, and the 124 credits necessary to graduate.
- Applicants must demonstrate their **suitability for the particular program** to which they have applied, including completion of program prerequisites and the maturity and flexibility required for the rigors of study in a foreign setting or major U.S. metropolitan area.

Additional Eligibility Requirements

- **Dean of Students Clearance.** Approval for OCS includes review of the student's disciplinary record at Whitman by the Dean of Students' Office. Students who have a disciplinary record may, in some instances, not be granted approval for OCS.
- **Business Office Clearance.** Whitman expects that a student participating on an OCS program will be current with their student account. The college reserves the right to withdraw approval for OCS if a student has a significant outstanding balance on his/her account.
- **Senior Year.** Students applying for OCS during their senior year must demonstrate why it is an appropriate time to study away and submit written support from their major adviser. Please refer to the instructions in the "Personal Essays" section.
- **Two Different Programs** (one fall and one spring). Students wishing to apply to attend two different off-campus programs during one academic year must

demonstrate extremely compelling academic reasons for wishing to attend both programs. Please refer to instructions in the "Personal Essays" section.

Application Review Process

Applications for OCS Approval are reviewed by the Off-Campus Studies staff and, in some cases, also by the Off-Campus Studies (OCS) Committee. The OCS Committee is comprised of faculty members from all three academic divisions, and members from the Registrar, the Provost's Office, and the OCS Office.

In reviewing applications for approval, the OCSC considers a student's suitability, including academic qualifications, for the program they have selected.

Whitman approval for Off-Campus Study is **not** guaranteed and will be based on the criteria listed above in the Eligibility section.

APPLICATION DEADLINES		
Term(s)	Programs	Deadline
<i>Please note that some Off-Campus Studies (OCS) programs have rolling deadlines and an early application is recommended. Consult with your OCS Adviser for further information.</i>		
Fall 2015	Study Abroad Programs Nat'l Theater Institute Sea Semester	February 5, 2015
	Washington Semester The Philadelphia Center	April 9, 2015
Academic Year 2015-2016	Study Abroad Programs	February 5, 2015
Spring 2016	Study Abroad Programs Nat'l Theater Institute Sea Semester	September 10, 2015
	Washington Semester The Philadelphia Center	October 15, 2015
EARLY DEADLINES		
Term(s)	Programs	Deadline
Fall 2015	Associated Kyoto Program (AKP)	December 12, 2014
Spring 2016		
Academic Year 2015-16		
Academic Year 2015-16	Oxford University England	November 14, 2014
Spring 2016		December 12, 2014

Deadline Instructions

- **Late applications will not be accepted.** All application material must be received no later than 4:00 pm of the deadline day. (See page 1 for dates.)
- Note that some Off-Campus Studies (OCS) programs have rolling deadlines and an early application is recommended. Please consult with your OCS Adviser for further information.
- Students who wish to spend the academic year on Off-Campus Studies (either on the same program or attending two distinct programs) **must** apply for both semesters off-campus by Whitman's February deadline.

How to Apply

All students applying for OCS must complete two applications: the Whitman OCS Application and the Program Admission Application for your particular program.

Step 1 - Planning

- Declare your major at least one month before the Whitman OCS deadline and discuss your OCS plans with your Major Adviser (Major Declaration forms are located on the wall outside of the Registrar's Office)
- Interview with an OCS Adviser to discuss your program choices
- Carefully review the application instructions. and *OCS Application Forms* in their entirety.

Step 2 – Program Admission Application

- Submit your Program Application either on-line or with paper application **directly** to your desired program(s) by the Whitman deadline or your program's admission deadline, whichever is **sooner**.

Step 3 – Whitman OCS Application

Collect your Whitman OCS Application materials and submit to OCS, Mem. 205 by the Whitman OCS deadline (see page 1.). A complete Whitman application contains the following items:

- Whitman Personal Data Form**
- Whitman Academic Information**
- Whitman Off-Campus Study Course Approval**
- Whitman Post-OCS Semesters**
- Whitman Agreements & Signatures**
- Whitman Personal Essays**
- Whitman Transcript Release Form**

Letter(s) of Recommendation*

- One letter of recommendation is required for the Whitman OCS Application only if one or more of the following is true.
 - Your cumulative GPA is below a 3.0.
 - Your major GPA and/or previous semester GPA is below a 2.8.
 - You wish to attend two different programs in one year (one in the fall semester and one in the spring semester).
- A **Cover Form for Whitman's OCS Letter of Recommendation** is required and online for you to complete and give to your recommender.

*Program Admission Applications may require one or more letters of recommendation. These are different from the Whitman letter of recommendation requirement and should be submitted directly to the program.

Home Campus Approval

- In order to get accepted to a study abroad or U.S.-based Partner Program, most programs require that you submit a Home Campus Approval form signed by a Whitman OCS Adviser indicating the College's approval of your plan to study off-campus. In some instances this will be an electronic "form" and the student needs only to indicate his/her Whitman OCS adviser on the on-line application. An OCS Adviser can only sign this form after receiving your completed Whitman OCS Application and approving it. **Allow 3 weeks for approval processing.**

PERSONAL DATA FORM

Student Information - Please complete all sections of this application (blue or black ink only). Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

WID#: _____ E-mail: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Permanent Phone #: _____ Country of Citizenship: _____

Passport Information – If your passport is expired or you do not have a passport, please give us this information as soon as possible. Passport #: _____ Expiration Date*: _____

***Note: Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond the date the student plans to return to the U.S. after program ends.**

Major(s): _____

Minor(s): _____

Major Adviser(s): _____

Cumulative GPA*: _____ **Major GPA*:** _____ *If GPA is below 3.0 (cumulative) or below 2.8 (Major) a letter of recommendation is required. See instructions on previous page under **Letter(s) of Recommendation**.

Program Information

Full OCS Program Name: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Semester(s) Off-campus: _____ Fall 2015 _____ Full Year 2015-16 _____ Spring 2016

Parent Information - If your parents live separately, give addresses for both. Indicate an e-mail address for each parent.

Whom should we notify in case of emergency? [] Parent 1 [] Parent 2 [] Other Emergency Contact

Name of Parent #1 _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Tel _____

Business or Cell _____

E-mail _____

Name of Parent #2 _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Tel _____

Business or Cell _____

E-mail _____

Other Emergency Contact:

Name _____

Street _____

City, State Zip _____

Relationship to you _____

Home Tel _____

Business or Cell _____

E-mail _____

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY COURSE APPROVAL

Student Name: _____ WID: _____ Major Adviser(s): _____ Today's Date: _____

Major(s): _____ Full OCS Program Name: _____

STUDENT	List all courses you intend to take during your period off campus, including alternates. To determine the number of credits awarded at Whitman, look under " Credits " on the program information on the OCS website. Ask your major adviser to complete the sections about the transferability of OCS credit below. If appropriate, ask the chair of the department of your intended minor to complete the section about transferability of OCS credit (Note: Minors are declared at the beginning of the senior year through the Registrar.) If you are approved to study off campus, this form will be used by the Whitman Registrar to determine how your credits will apply toward your Whitman degree. There is no guarantee for courses/credit not pre-approved on this form. If your OCS courses change, you must contact OCS to obtain approval.
MAJOR ADVISERS	Please fill in your recommendation for course transfer credit for each OCS course listed below including Alternate Courses. Major Advisers/Departments determine whether or not OCS courses can apply to the Major. Major Advisers may also make Distribution and General Degree Credit recommendations. The Registrar will review recommendations for consistency.
MINOR DEPT CHAIRS	Please indicate Minor Credit approval for relevant courses.
CREDIT LIMITS	At least <u>2/3</u> of Major Credits and <u>3/5</u> of Minor Credits must be earned in residence at Whitman, and some departments are more restrictive. Check the Whitman College Catalog for details.

Fall Semester Spring Semester 20 _____

Student – Fill in Below			Major Adviser(s) Fill in Below	Minor Dept. Chair(s) Fill in Below	Major Adviser(s) and/or OCS Adviser Fill in Below		
OCS Program Dept & Course #: ex: HS 301	OCS Program Course Title: ex: Cities of Delhi	Number of Credits Awarded at Whitman	Major Credit OR Course Equivalency: ex: SPAN 320, lower- level Politics, Biology elective, etc.	Minor Credit: ex: SPAN 320, lower- level Politics, Biology elective, etc.	General Studies Distribution Credit: Specify Area	General Degree Credit (✓)	No Credit (✓)
	Alternate						
	Alternate						

Additional comments from advisers about transferability of credit: _____

Major Adviser Signature - Approving Transfer Credit as Specified Above

Minor Department Signature (only required if minor credit is requested)

2nd Major Adviser Signature - Approving Transfer Credit as Specified Above

Note: Full year OCS students will need to complete two OCS Course Approval Forms.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

POST-OCS SEMESTERS - List all courses you intend to take each semester at Whitman (or elsewhere including summer terms) after completing your off-campus studies. If you plan to enroll at another institution, please list the name of the institution. **Be sure to include in this section major requirements and distribution requirements that are not accounted for during your OCS semester(s).**

Student Name _____

[] FALL [] SPRING [] SUMMER YEAR []			Institution _____		
Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:	Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:

[] FALL [] SPRING [] SUMMER YEAR []			Institution _____		
Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:	Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:

[] FALL [] SPRING [] SUMMER YEAR []			Institution _____		
Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:	Dept. & Course #:	Course Name:	Credits:

MINIMUM TOTAL CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION:

Total credits completed to date (on your Academic Evaluation under "Combined Credits") _____

Total credits from **Courses in the Semester Prior to OCS** + _____

Total credits from **Off-Campus Study Course Approval** page + _____

Total credits from **Post-OCS Semesters** (above) + _____

TOTAL CREDITS ACCOUNTED FOR ON THIS WORKSHEET (must be at least 124) _____

AGREEMENTS & SIGNATURES

For the applicant:

1. I have reviewed the proposed term(s) of off-campus study with my academic adviser and have examined with him/her the implications that such a proposed program has on my completion of Whitman's **requirements for graduation**. The program outlined above meets with the approval of my major adviser(s) and would, if completed as outlined, satisfy all Whitman College requirements for graduation.
2. I understand that the OCS Application review process involves review of my records with the Dean of Students at Whitman College, including **disciplinary record**, and I grant permission to the Dean of Students to release that information to the Off-Campus Studies Office at Whitman and to the specific off-campus studies program(s) to which I am applying.
3. I understand that before enrolling in **off-campus courses** different from those approved on this form that I should contact the OCS Office to confirm whether or not the courses can be applied to my Whitman degree.
4. I understand that Whitman will communicate with me about important matters via my **Whitman e-mail and OCS CLEo account** and it is my responsibility to check it on a regular basis prior to OCS and during OCS.
5. I understand that it is my responsibility to submit a program admission application in a timely manner.

Please check one of the following:

- I have already submitted my program application on _____.
- I am intending to submit my program application by _____.
- My program does NOT require a separate admission application (i.e. DIS program)

Student's Signature

Date signed

For the major adviser(s):

As the above named student's major adviser, I endorse his/her plans to study off campus and affirm that the program outlined above meets my approval and would, if completed as outlined, satisfy all Whitman College requirements for graduation. I understand that if I have questions or concerns about this student's plan that I should contact the OCS Office or Chair of the Off-Campus Studies Committee.

Major Adviser's Signature

Date signed

Second Major Adviser's Signature
(Required for Combination Majors & Double Majors)

Date signed

PERSONAL ESSAYS

Please type your responses on a separate page(s) to the following questions. (Responses to each question should be roughly one half to one full page in length, double spaced.)

1. Please describe the relationship between your proposed off-campus study program and your academic program at Whitman. How does this particular off-campus study program and the courses you will take relate to your major(s), minor(s), and/or career goals? How have you prepared academically for your studies away?
2. We wish to ensure that all students going abroad or studying on a U.S. Partner Program are prepared for the emotional and social challenges of living in a foreign culture or in a major U.S. city. Please describe what aspect(s) of the living conditions or lifestyle in your destination that you expect to find most challenging, and what experiences you may have had to date that you think may help you with those challenges.

If the following questions pertain to you, please answer as directed.

3. **If your g.p.a. is below 3.0**, please tell us about the particular challenges you have faced with academics at Whitman and discuss why you feel you will be successful in your studies off-campus. (Response should be approximately one half to one full page in length.)
4. **If you are applying to an off-campus study program during your senior year**, you must write a brief essay explaining why you are studying off-campus in your last year, why you believe it is an appropriate time to study away, and how you plan to complete exam/thesis requirements in your major. You must also attach a signed **statement from your major adviser** indicating his/her approval for your plans to study off campus in your senior year and indicating whether or not he/she believes you can complete the exam/thesis requirements in your major if you do so.
5. **If your program has an Independent Study/Research component (eg. SIT)**, you must submit a copy of your proposal outlining your plans for the independent project and have it reviewed and signed by your major adviser.
6. **If you are applying to attend two different programs (one fall and one spring)**, please be aware that permission to study in two different off-campus locations during one academic year will be granted by the OCS Committee only in exceptional cases as justified by extremely compelling academic goals. Please explain your reasons for requesting to participate in two distinct programs in one academic year. (Response should be approximately one full page in length.)

TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM

Complete all sections of this form and submit to the OCS office along with your Whitman OCS application.

I give my permission to the Whitman College Registrar's Office to release my transcript to my partner program, or for my records.

I also give permission to Off-Campus Studies at Whitman to access my academic evaluation and unofficial transcript for the purposes of reviewing my OCS Application.

Process Request Now *Process Request once current semester grades are posted*

Student Name: _____ WID#: _____

Major: _____ **(MAJOR MUST BE DECLARED PRIOR TO PROCESSING)**

Full OCS Program Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Method of Delivery *(See reverse side of this page for preferred delivery methods by program.)*

- 1. Unofficial Transcript Upload** - The Whitman Registrar will email the student a copy of an unofficial transcript so that the student can upload it to their partner program online. (no fee)
My email address is: _____
- 2. Official Electronic Transcript** - The student will use eSCRIP-SAFE to send an official electronic transcript to their OCS program. The student may order their transcript through the link below and will receive directions on how to create an account. <https://iwantmytranscript.com/whitman> (\$3.50 fee)
- 3. Mailed Official Transcript** - The Whitman Registrar will mail a copy of an official transcript directly to the student's OCS program at the address provided below by the OCS staff. (no fee)

OCS Program Address: (OCS Staff Complete Only)

PREFERRED DELIVERY METHODS BY PROGRAM

PROGRAM	METHOD	DELIVERY PROCEDURE
AKP	3	Mail Official Transcript
AU Washington Semester	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
BADA	3	Mail Official Transcript
BSM	3	Mail Official Transcript
CIEE	1 and 3	Upload an Unofficial Transcript and Mail Official Transcript
CYA	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
DIS	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
Frontiers Abroad	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
Hebrew University (RIS)	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
IES Abroad	2	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery
IFSA-Butler	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
ICCS Rome	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
Kansai Gaidai	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
Middlebury	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
MSN	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
NTI	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
SACI	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
SEA Semester	3	Mail Official Transcript
SFS	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
SIT	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript
Syracuse University	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
TPC	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
University of East Anglia	1 and 3	Upload an Unofficial Transcript <u>and</u> Mail Official Transcript
University of Otago	1	Upload an Unofficial Transcript
University of St Andrews	2 or 3	Use eSCRIP-SAFE for electronic transcript delivery or Mail Official Transcript