Study Abroad Application Meeting





All application materials need to be submitted via email



Digital versions of the application, directions, application checklist and reference forms will be available online and will be emailed to you.

Email all materials to the Fellowships Advising & Study Abroad Office: SAapplications@caltech.edu

References writers should email their recommendation forms and letters to: SAreferences@caltech.edu

Applications due January 25, 2026

All applicants must include the following:

- 1. Study Abroad/Away checklist
- 2. Study Abroad Application Form
- 3. Personal essay
- 4. Program fit essay and proposed course list (one for each program applying to)
- 5. Current copy of your CIT transcript. Unofficial transcript is acceptable.
- 6. Two References: forms and official, signed letters of reference.
- 7. Language assessment (EPT Only)

Study Abroad & Away Application Checklist

This checklist is also to guide you when compiling your application items.

Make sure your PDF application document is in this order.

Please, do not check off the boxes in the bottom section. You do need to write the name of your recommendation writers.

Study Abroad & Away Application Checklist	
CHECKIST	Interview Date:
Name of Student:	Interview Time:
Sophomore Junior	
Option:	
Second Option:	
Minor:	
****This application is my own original work. I has assistance in writing or proofreading my essays	S. ****
Signature:	Date:
Program(s):	
Cambridge, Michaelmas - Fall Term Cambridge, Lent - Winter Term Chicago, Fall Term DTU, Fall Term Ecole Polytechnique, Fall Term KU, Fall Term UCL, Fall Term Edinburgh, Fall Term Melbourne, Fall Term First Choice:	
Second Choice:	
Fourth Choice:	
Fifth Choice:	
Put competed application in the order below (Write the nar	me of your recommender, do not check them off):
Study Abroad/Away Checklist (this form, completed by app	olicant)
Program Application	
Proposal (essay, program fit, and proposed courses)	
Recommendation #1 Referee name:	CIT Faculty
Recommendation #2 Referee name: Other, Specify	CIT Faculty Grad TA
(Optional) Recommendation #3 Referee name:	
Transcript (unofficial ok):	
FASA notes: Date Received (FASA will fill o	out):

Caltech Scholars Program Application Form

#2

The application is a writable PDF of application is available on the FASA website.

Download and complete this form. Please name the document with your name.

Itach Cahalara Bragrama	Option(s):
Itech Scholars Programs	Sophomore Junior
pplication Form for Study Abroad & Stud	y Away — —
e by 3pm, January 25	
mit application and proposal to SAapplications@caltech.edu / Submit ase follow these directions:	t references SAreferences@caltech.edu
Il application materials must be submitted as one continuous Passemble your application in the order listed on the Study Abroactle your application document First name.Last name (Sara.Smut your name in the upper right hand corner of every page of the the page number in the lower right hand corner of every page age 4 (or page 5 if applying for EPT). In inimum 3.0 GPA to apply for Study Abroad/Away-check GPA re GPA minimum for each program you are applying to.	ad App. Checklist ith) he <u>proposal.</u> ge of the <u>proposal</u> . Start your proposal equirements below to ensure you meet
Cambridge, Michaelmas (Fall) Term, minimum 3.6 overall GPA to appoint to apply a combridge, Lent (Winter) Terminimum 3.6 overall GPA to apply the cole Polytechnique, Fall Term, minimum 3.0 GPA to apply the Ecole Polytechnique, Fall Term, minimum 3.0 GPA to apply the Edinburgh, Fall Term, minimum 3.0 GPA to apply the Melbourne, Fall Term, minimum 3.0 GPA to apply the University of Chicago Program Fall Term, minimum 3.5 GPA to apply University of Chicago Program Fall Term, minimum 3.3 GPA to apply (Biological as Sci. Suggested 3.9) UCL only accepts ME, CS, Biological Sciences, Be Chemistry (ChemEng can go in Chem), & Earth Sciences. No EE, Maing to any Cambridge &/or UCL Programs, must have another alternation to the combridge of the combridge of the colores.	o apply and Biomedical Sciences min. 3.5, Comp. Biomed, Molecular, Neuroscience(3.7), ath, Applied Math, or Physics. haelmas and Lent, list them separately. If
nd Choice:	
Choice:	
th Choice: Choice: _	
ronouns (optional) :	NicknamePreferred
Iternate email address:	Preferred
altech UID:	
failBox number: Cell Phone:	
amily Residence Address:	
Current Class Year: Sophomore Junior	
Date of Birth: Age during term you will	study abroad:
House Affiliation:	
Citizenship: U.S. Permanent Resident Int'l Studer	nt Country of citizenship:
Do you currently hold a valid passport*? Yes No* Da	te of expiration:
you do not have a valid passport, apply for one ASAP.	1

Name:
Option(s):
Sophomore Junior
g term) (fall term)
year entered Caltech
Transcripts from hould be provided
for each program below. This should be irse list and/or the terminology used ech, you will be in Informatics at gram handouts for more information.
)
Yes No
e) that you participate in on a regular cal pursuits, running, camping, etc.

ent, eling, etc.
niversity

By initialing, I confirm that I understand that I must attend all classes in person at my host university during my term abroad. Travel is permitted during official university vacation weeks. Travel is also allowed for weekend trips or day trips on days on which I have no academic classes or academic commitments, barring any host university residency restrictions. I also understand that if reading weeks occur in any of my subjects, I am to use the time for academic study and not travel unless my classes are canceled and travel will not cause me to fall behind in my academic work. No travel outside of the UK is allowed for Cambridge during the Full Term, the arrival period before the Full Term begins, or during the 9th week at Cambridge after lectures end as this is to be used to complete outstanding work or take examinations if required. Furthermore, I understand that no extensions are given for study abroad and all work must be turned in before I leave my host university. I also understand that due to the disruption of studies it is not possible for students to return to the U.S./home while studying abroad or to depart for employment or graduate/ professional school interviews. Exceptions are made only for a family or medical emergency and must be requested from the director of study abroad.

20. Initial here to agree to the following statement:



Personal Essay Directions:

PERSONAL ESSAY: please provide a brief personal narrative around one page, single-spaced.

Express why you value a term abroad for your academic and personal growth. These should be thoughtful and personal statements and students selected to study abroad will have their statement reviewed by host university faculty.

SECONDARY ESSAY for University of Chicago: In the second essay, you need provide another brief personal narrative (at least 1/2 page single spaced) on the academic and personal value of a term away for you. Remember that students selected to study away will have their statement reviewed by the University of Chicago faculty.

Briefly describe how the program you are applying for fits in with your course of study at Caltech.

- a. You will need to make up a program fit essay and proposed course list for each program you wish to apply for
- b. Please put the program fit essay and proposed course list in the order with your first choice of program being listed first and so on.
- c. Examples of these are in the FASA office library for you to review.
- d. You will need to use the current year's course list at the partner university as next year's class list is not usually available till the summer months.
- e. Due to course availability, students selected to study abroad or study away may need to make changes to their course list during the summer or fall (this process will be reviewed later)



Proposed course list

Course List for UCL

Name - - - 2022

Computation and Neural Systems Option Caltech

Neuroscience UCL UCL Credits: 60 CIT Units: 45

Date: September 24, 2022

1. Course Name and Number: Integrative Systems Neuroscience (NEUR0020)

Level/Normal year taken: FHEQ Level 6/7

Faculty: Faculty of Life Sciences

Department: Division of Biosciences

Term: UCL credits (15): 15

Caltech units: 9

Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.): Option

State CIT equivalent course, if applicable: NB/Bi/CNS 157. Comparative Nervous

Systems

Caltech evaluator: Professor John Allman

2. Course Name and Number: Neurobiology of Decision-making in Animal Model

Systems (BIOS0058)

Level/Normal year taken: FHEQ Level 6 Faculty: Faculty of Life Sciences Department: Division of Biosciences

Term: UCL credits (15): 15

Caltech units: 9

Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.): Option (Advanced Electives)

State CIT equivalent course, if applicable: n/a

Caltech evaluator: Shin Shimojo

3. Course Name and Number: Greek Myth: Its Use and Meaning (CLAS0001)

Level/Normal year taken:

Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department: Term: UCL credits (15): 15

Caltech units: 9

Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.): Misc Hum

State CIT equivalent course, if applicable: Caltech evaluator: Professor Dehn Gilmore 4. Course Name and Number: London before the Great Fire (ARCL0085) Level/Normal year taken: This module is designed for Affiliate/JYA students

Faculty: Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences

Department: Term: UCL credits (15): 15

Caltech units: 9

Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.): Advanced Social Science

State CIT equivalent course, if applicable: Caltech evaluator: Professor Luciano Pomatto

Proposed course list

Cambridge Proposed Course List

Total CIT Units for term abroad: Course by Correspondence/Units:

1. Class/Module title
Tripos
Subject (if in Natural Sciences)
Part
Term (Michelmas or Lent)
Number of lectures
Lecture times, if available
Caltech units
Caltech evaluator
Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.)
State CIT equivalent course, if applicable
Course description (paste in paragraph)

DTU Proposed Course List

Total ECTS (30-37.5 ECTS)
Total CIT Units:
Course by Correspondence/Units:

1. Name and number of course
Faculty and Department
Level/Normal year taken
Semester
(DTU) Block
Teaching period
ECTS (DTU, 5 or 10)
Caltech units
Caltech evaluator
Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.)
State CIT equivalent course, if applicable
Course description (paste in paragraph)

Edinburgh Proposed Course List

Total Edinburgh Credits (60-80 Edin. Credits):
Total CIT Units:
Course by Correspondence/Units:

1. Course Name and Number
College (Science and Engineering or Humanities
and Social Science)
School

Level (SCQF 7, 8, 9, 10)
Semester/Period
Credits (10 or 20)
Caltech units
Caltech evaluator

Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.)
State CIT equivalent course, if applicable
Course description (paste in paragraph)

Ecole Polytechnique Proposed Course List

Total ECTS

Total CIT Units:

Course by Correspondence/Units:

1. Name and number of course
Department
Number of ECTS
Caltech units
Caltech evaluator
Type of Caltech credit (option, general, etc.)
State CIT equivalent course, if applicable

Course description (paste in paragraph)

Transcript

- Unoffical Transcript
- Must have 2025 Fall grades
- Students are advised to clear up any extenstions by your interview date in Febuary
- Please write in your proposal any grade issues reflecting challenges or sturggles.

Reference Form: must must be submitted with reference letter

Caltech Scholars Programs Reference Form

Official Reference Form for Study Abroad/Away Applicants

Caltech

<u>Please return by January 25</u> Send completed reference form and reference letter to

SAreferences@caltech.edu * This section to be completed by student * Name of Applicant: Please check if transfer or 3-2 student: Transfer 3-2 Sophomore Junior Program(s): Check all that apply Cambridge University (Michaelmas - Fall Term) University College London (Fall Term) University of Edinburgh (Fall Term) Cambridge University (Lent - Winter Term) University of Copenhagen (KU) or DTU (Fall Term) University of Melbourne (Fall Term) Ecole Polytechnique (Fall Term) University of Chicago Study Away (Fall Term) This is a CONFIDENTIAL evaluation. I hereby waive my access to this evaluation as per the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Applicant's signature: Information for applicant: Students are required to submit two references. The first reference must be from a Caltech professor, instructor, professor or postdoc research supervisor, or the applicant's academic advisor. All first referees must be in the student's primary STEM option. The second reference can be from a Caltech professor, instructor, academic advisor, grad TA, university-based research supervisor at Caltech or at another university or national laboratory in the student's primary STEM option or a highly related area. Note the focus of the reference is on your academic ability in the classroom and not on research. An optional third reference can be submitted only if this referee can discuss academic attributes not covered by the first or second referee and could come from any individual noted above or from an HSS professor, RA, employer, coaches, etc. Note well that the focus of all letters must be the academic ability of the applicant for study abroad and the applicant's preparation to succeed at their host university. Name of the reference writer: Reference letter # CIT STEM Professor/Instructor/Advisor Other Faculty Letters may be sent to the FASA Office via campus mail, regular mail, or hand delivered by the letter writer. If the reference is delivered by the student, it must be in a sealed envelope with the letter writer's signature on the seal. Open letters delivered by the student will not be accepted. * This section to be completed by reference writer *

Information for recommender: This reference will be helpful in evaluating the applicant's qualifications for participating in one of Caltech's official study abroad programs. Please reference the applicant's academic and personal qualifications as well as character. Students participating in a study abroad program will take courses in or highly related to their Caltech option. Note that this recommendation is not just for internal selection but will also be forwarded to the university abroad if the student is accepted into the Caltech Scholars Program. Please complete all portions of the form as requested and

include a signed letter. Incomplete evaluations cannot be considered. An electronic version of this form is available at http://fasa.ca/tech.edu. Letters may be sent to the FASA Office via campus mail, regular mail, or you may hand deliver it. If the reference is delivered by the student, it must be in a sealed envelope with your signature on the seal.

1.) In addition to this form, please attach a Letter of Recommendation commenting on the

	cademic, for study abroad. This reference will be read by Itech selection committee. Please be sure to sign your letter.
2.) How long have you known the applicant?	In what capacity?
	Itech undergraduates you have taught? Please complete the tes your opinion of the applicant's qualifications. Please compare omparable level of education and research experience.

	Exceptional	Outstanding	Unusual	Good	Above Average	Average or below	Inadequate opportunity to observe
	Top 5%	Next 5%	Next 10%	Next 15%	Next 15%		
Mastery of basic knowledge in student's option							
Familiarity with and ability to use laboratory techniques							
Ability to express self orally and in writing							
Originality and imagination in academic work							
Capacity for conscientious, hard work							
Potential for future growth in science and engineering							
7. Ability to get things done independently							
8. Adaptability to new situations							
9. Reliability							
Impression applicant will make abroad academically and socially							

From my knowledge of this	s applicant, I am willing to give my:
Full Endorsement	Qualified Endorsement
Name (please print)	
Department	
Title /Position	
University (if not Caltech)	
Signature	Date

Please email both pages of this complete form and your sigend reference letter to SAreferences@caltech.edu





First Reference: This reference must be from a member of the professorial faculty at Caltech or from a Caltech or postdoc instructor (not a TA) in the student's option or a closely related field who has taught the student, officially advised the student, or supervised the student's research.

In the case of transfer students or 3/2 students, this letter may also be from a faculty member at their previous university. Professorial faculty includes those with the title of assistant, associate, or full professor.

Second Reference: This letter may be from another professor or instructor from Caltech or any university who has taught the applicant in a class related to their STEM option, who supervised them in their STEM option, or from an advisor in their STEM option. This letter may be from a non-professorial Caltech faculty member, an instructor, faculty/professionals from other universities who have advised the student, taught the student or supervised the applicant's research or work in a field related to their STEM option.

-Also acceptable is a letter from a postdoc who has supervised the student's research or a graduate student who has been a TA or who has helped supervise research that relates to the applicant's STEM option.

-Letters from undergraduate TA's, from employers, or from any HSS faculty will not be accepted as a required letter. If an applicant has a second option under HSS, the required letters must be from someone who has observed the applicant in a STEM capacity.

Optional Third Reference:

Students may submit a third letter ONLY if the third letter can tell the committee about some aspect of your experience that the first two letter writers have no knowledge of, especially academic. This is not required and students with three letters are not viewed more favorably than those with two letters.

A third letter should only be submitted if you feel your two required letters are from people who do not know you as well as the author of the third letter. Letters from your R.A., a Caltech administrator, dean, an employer, or instructor in the humanities or social sciences are acceptable for the third letter. Please do not submit letters from high school teachers or counselors, peers, or family friends.

EVALUATION DU NIVEAU DE FRANÇAIS SELON LE CADRE EUROPEEN COMMUN DE REFERENCE POUR LES LANGUES

Nom(s) Prenom(s)	
Langue(s) maternelle(s)	
Autre(s) langue(s)	

FRANÇAIS / COCHER LA CASE CORRESPONDANT AU NIVEAU

				P.4	20		
	Écouter C O M	A1 Comprend des mots familiers et des expressions très courantes au sujet de son environnement immédiat, si les gens parlent lentement et distinctement.	A2 Comprend des expressions et un vocabulaire très fréquent relatifs à ce qui le concerne de très près. Peut saisir l'essentiel d'annonces et de messages simples et clairs.	B1 Comprend les points essentiels quand un langage clair et standard est utilisé. Comprend l'essentiel de nombreuses émissions de radio ou de télévision sur l'actualité si l'on parle d'une façon relativement lente et distincte.	B2 Comprend des conférences si le sujet est relativement familier. Comprend la plupart des émissions de télévision sur l'actualité.	C1 Comprend un long discours même s'il n'est pas clairement structuré et que les articulations sont seulement implicites. Comprend les films sans trop d'effort.	C2 Comprend sans difficulté le langage oral, que ce soit dans les conditions d direct ou dans les médias et quand or parle vite, à condition d'avoir du temps pour me familiariser avec un accent particulier.
	R						
	N Line D R E	Comprend des noms familiers, des mots ainsi que des phrases très simples.	Lit des textes courts très simples. Ex : les petites publicités, les prospectus, les menus et les horaires et je peux comprendre des lettres personnelles courtes et simples.	Comprend des textes rédigés essentiellement dans une langue courante ou relative à ses études.	Lit des articles et des rapports sur des questions contemporaines dans lesquels les auteurs adoptent un certain point de vue. Comprend un texte littéraire contemporain en prose.	Comprend des textes littéraires longs et complexes et peut en apprécier les différences de style. Comprend des articles spécialisés même lorsqu'ils ne sont pas en relation avec ses études.	Lit sans effort tout type de texte, mêm abstrait ou complexe quant au fond o la forme, par exemple un manuel, un article spécialisé ou littéraire.
//,							
	Prendre part à une conversation P	Communiquer de façon simple, à condition que l'interiocuteur soit disposé à répéter ou à reformuler ses phrases plus lentement et à l'aider à formuler ce qu'il essaie de dire.	Peut communiquer lors de tâches simples et habituelles ne demandant qu'un échange d'information simple et direct sur des sujets et des activités familiers.	Peut faire face à la majorité des situations que l'on peut rencontrer au cours d'un voyage dans une région où la langue est parlée.	Je peux participer activement à une conversation dans des situations familières, présenter et défendre mes opinions.	Peut s'exprimer spontanément et couramment sans trop apparemment devoir chercher mes mots.	Peut participer sans effort à toute conversation ou discussion et est au très à l'aise avec les expressions idiomatiques et les toumures courant
	R L						
angua	E S'exprimer R ossiement en earte	Peut utiliser des expressions et des phrases simples pour décrire son lieu d'habitation et les gens qu'il connaît.	Peut utiliser une série de phrases ou d'expressions pour décrire en termes simples son environnement.	Peut articuler des expressions de manière simple afin de raconter ses expériences.	S'exprime de façon claire et détailée sur une grande gamme de sujets relatifs à ses centres d'intérêt.	Peut présenter des descriptions claires et détaillées sur des sujets complexes.	Peut présenter une description ou un argumentation claire et fluide dans ur style adapté au contexte.
aliguo	IXC						
	C	exemple.	Peut écrire une lettre personnelle très simple.	Peut écrire un texte simple et cohérent sur des sujets familiers ou écrire des lettres personnelles.	Peut écrire des textes clairs et détaillés sur une grande gamme de sujets relatifs à ses intérêts.	Peut s'exprimer dans un texte clair et bien structuré et développer son point de vue.	Peut écrire un texte clair, fluide et stylistiquement adapté aux circonstances. Peut rédiger des lettr rapports ou articles complexes.
ssessi	nei						

Nom du professeur de français et signature

(EPT Comments

Ecole Polytechnique (French) is the only school with a language requirement. Language assessment is given by our Caltech French teacher on campus.



Post-application timeline:

After your application has been submitted you will recevie an email to sign up for your interview time

March

Caltech CEPSA committee convenes to determine study abroad placements

April - May

Nominees apply to schools for admission as an exchange student

Mandatory location-specific orientations, credit transfer, and FA meetings held

Jan 25, 2026

February

All candidates with complete applications interviewed by FASA office

March

All nominees with placement notified and required to either accept or decline nomination

June - August

All students accepted to schools complete financial aid and health insurance requirements

Student roundtrip flight information due to FASA office

BENEFITS OF STUDY ABROAD

- Access unique courses—take classes not offered at Caltech, including humanities, social sciences, and specialized STEM topics
- Engage in global scientific collaboration—research doesn't stop at borders, and neither should you
- Have an unforgettable experience—explore new cultures, travel, and make lifelong memories while studying in an exciting new and historical setting
- Strengthen your application to fellowships, grad school or jobs—study abroad/away can demonstrate initiative, adaptability, and Broader Impacts in STEM

How many programs should I apply for?

If you are applying to Cambridge you must have a second choice.

- University of Cambridge <u>10 positions</u>
 (6 Michaelmas/fall term, 4 Lent/winter term)
- University of Chicago <u>up to 5 positions</u>
- Danish Technical University <u>up to 20 positions</u>
- University of Edinburgh <u>up to 15 positions</u>
- University College London <u>up to 10 positions</u>
- University of Melbourne and École Ploytechnique have <u>no limit</u>

- Cambridge 3.6 overall, 3.7 in option
- University College London 3.3 overall, Bio/Biomed min 3.5, CS min 4.0
- University of Edinburgh 3.0 overall
- Danish Technical University 3.0 overall
- University of Copenhagen 3.0 overall
- University of Melbourne 3.0 overall
- Ecole Polytechnique 3.3 overall
- University of Chicago 3.5 overall

MINIUM REQUIRED GPA

*<u>UCL</u>: While UCL states 3.3 GPA minimum GPA to apply, some subject areas require at least a 3.7 and may have additional prerequisites.

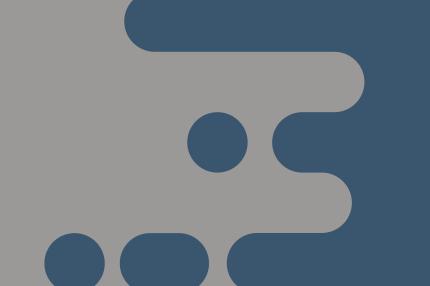
- Computer Science majors require a 3.9 GPA minimum and very strong reference letters, and
- Biological and for Biomedical Sciences majors requires a minimum 3.5 GPA.
- **<u>Cambridge</u>: Strong letters of reference are especially pertinent when applying to Cambridge and faculty references preferred from faculty in your option.
 - 3.6 and up in option classes/tripos classes.
 - Math at Cambridge **3.8**+.
 - Chemistry Part III need 3.8 +. (Chem Part III are master's level classes need background.)



Other key points

- All students studying abroad must be enrolled in 36 credit while abroad and the following term
- Learning/test taking accommodations do not automatically transfer to study abroad universities and services may differ at each location please look into your specific need
- Please review program specific handouts to ensure that you fully understand each programs requirements
- Creating each proposed course list is the most time-consuming part of the application you may need to contact faculty at the study abroad location
- **5** Please follow formatting requirements that are listed in the directions





A meeting will be held in the spring for those who are on financial aid

Students on financial aid in previous years have not had to pay more then their normal Caltech fees

Financial aid has the ability to loan money out for transportation to and from study abroad/away locations

Pleases finish your application for financial aid on time!

Next Meeting

General Course Choice Meeting - November 19th at 12pm



Cambridge Course Choice Meeting - November 20th at 12pm



Please sign up today!

Questions?



