

International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)

Studying abroad, and the process of applying to do so, takes lots of hard work on your part. North Park's study abroad office is here to help you, but nothing can replace doing your own homework on where to go and what to expect once you get there. Below are some steps to help you navigate the selection and application for ISEP, one of our most exciting exchange opportunities.

If you are considering studying abroad with ISEP, go online to www.isep.org and do the following:

1. Click on "Students," then "US Students," then "Search for a Program."
2. You can search by academic subject and/or language of instruction directly from this page. If you want to search by country, click the "Directory" link directly above the search fields.
3. Once you open the link to a particular university, pay close attention to the following:

a. Program Type

- i. **E (Exchange)**—These are programs for which you will pay the same tuition rate that you pay at NPU, with all financial aid applying.
- ii. **D (Direct)**—These are programs for which you will pay the host university's standard tuition, room, and board fees. If there is only a "D" (schools in Australia and New Zealand), this is your only option. If there is an "E" and a "D" placement the school is likely competitive. North Park forwards only a limited number of applications for ISEP Direct Programs and priority is given to sites and fields of study that cannot be accessed through a different program. You must speak to the Director of the International Office before selecting an ISEP Direct option.
- iii. **M**—This is only for students who are not currently in the US.
- iv. **S**—This indicates that the school offers a program during the summer. North Park does not regulate summer study options so you're welcome to investigate this on your own. North Park tuition and financial aid will not apply.

b. Chance of Placement

If placement at the school is listed as competitive or very competitive, and you are determined to study abroad *somewhere*, you must consider additional sites.

c. Academic Notes

This section highlights the academic areas in which the school has particular specialties.

d. Special Academic Conditions or Special Application Instructions

Among other things, this section may list a GPA requirement that is higher than ISEP's general requirement of 2.75.

e. **Language Notes**

This section indicates if classes are offered in English or another language, and what level of proficiency you will need to be accepted at the school.

f. **Program Dates**

Some countries operate on a different academic calendar and studying abroad at certain times may conflict with North Park's academic schedule.

g. **Housing and Meals**

This section will explain the type of housing (dorm, apartment, home-stay, etc.) and the meal arrangements (dining hall, meals with host family, food stipend, etc.) included with this particular program.

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO APPLY

- 1. You will first need to fill out a North Park Study Abroad Application. Applications for Fall *and* Spring programs are due in the preceding January (e.g. Applications for Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 are due in January 2010). See the Director of the International Office for specific deadlines.**
- 2. Make sure you have met with the North Park Study Abroad Advisor to discuss the specifics of your program.**
- 3. Fill out the ISEP application. Click on "Students," then "Apply," then "How to Apply."**
 - a. North Park University *is* a Member Institution of ISEP.**
 - b. You may fill out the application online and print, if you prefer. The application links are located on the left side of the screen.**
 - c. All applications must be sent by the Study Abroad office, not by the student.**
 - d. You must order a transcript from North Park, and any other colleges you have attended. Your first North Park transcript is free.**
 - e. Because North Park has one application deadline for both fall and spring study abroad semesters, the section entitled "Sites Open for Application" may or may not be helpful for you. The Study Abroad Advisor can help determine which sites are open for your desired semester.**
- 4. Talk to the Study Abroad Advisor for explanations of the application fees, if necessary.**