



Direct Enrollment Is This the Choice For You?

What is direct enrollment?

Direct enrollment is one form of study abroad where an individual student enrolls in classes and study at a foreign institution, alongside degree seeking students from the host country. Many of AU Abroad's partner/provider options have a direct enrollment component. This option differs significantly from other study abroad options in several important ways. As far as possible you are treated just like a regular university student in your host country; so every aspect of this experience is an encounter with your host culture.

You may discover that the support services are provided to you by people that are from the host country culture. You may encounter systems that are not organized around providing you with services. Registration and course choices may be handled very differently. Although frequently there are a greater variety of course options through direct enrollment, you may not be able to determine what options you have until you arrive on site.

You may also have a classroom experience that is less interactive, and you may not have an opportunity to develop an individual relationship with your professors. It is possible that you may be expected to study on your own in the library, much more so than you encounter here. You may be assessed by fewer papers or exams than you are used to, and may not learn your grades until you return to the US.

The student who is successful in a direct enrollment program is a student who:

Can develop personal strategies to cope with a fair to high degree of ambiguity

Can embrace the holistic cultural learning of direct enrollment with a positive outlook

Values the knowledge gained from a course equally or more important than the grade achieved.

Does not have a sense of entitlement to a wide array of student services

Embraces teaching styles and ways of learning different from AU

Enjoys working independently

Has a strong sense of adventure and appreciates a challenge

If this does not sound like a good description of you, do not worry! There are plenty of study abroad options at AU that offer you an alternative to direct enrollment. Please consult with an AU Abroad advisor for more information on specific program options

