Go Abroad in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences

Conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitats is an international concern. As human impacts on ecosystems increase, more and more species are declining around the world. Scientists are learning about the interdependence of all natural resources and how human activities in one part of the world can have far reaching effects. Undergraduates majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences (FWS) are strongly supported in pursuing and completing international experiences. We work closely with each student to explore the best experiential and financial “fit”, and to maximize the learning and credit value of the experience. There is an international experience that will work for every FWS student.

International experiences can help you…
Learn more about global ecosystems and the species they support. Some of the potential benefits of going abroad include:

- Gain experience with different ecosystems, fish and wildlife communities and endangered species
- Understand human impacts and connectivity to global environmental issues
- Learn about international perspectives in biodiversity conservation
- Gain science-based professional skills in fish and wildlife monitoring, management and recovery
- Improve your language skills
- Expand your cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills
- Globalize your world view, prepare for work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace, and increase sensitivity to environmental issues.
What types of international experiences are available?

The four general international opportunities for FWS students at OSU include:

- IE3 Global Internships: FWS students can participate in internships around the world in such areas as wildlife conservation, agriculture, endangered species recovery, habitat restoration and ecology, marine biology, fisheries management, environmental policy and many others. Students generally do international internships in their junior and senior years although a few have been sophomores. Most financial aid and scholarships can be used to pay for these internships. Students can earn up to 12 credits per term at OSU while doing an international internship.

- Study abroad: FWS majors can study abroad in an intensive field-based program or at a variety of international English-speaking schools where they can focus on their baccalaureate core and FWS major requirements and interests. Students can also elect to study abroad for intensive terms to work on a foreign language. Students who achieve a high enough proficiency in another language can choose to study FWS in several other languages around the world.

- International Degree: Students planning to study a foreign language while in FWS may want to consider the prestigious OSU International Degree. The International Degree (ID) is a unique undergraduate major obtainable only as a second degree. In addition to the FWS major requirements, the ID candidate must: (1) take an additional 32 credits; (2) demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language equal to the completion of the fourth year; (3) spend a minimum of one ten-week term abroad on an approved program (international internships, study abroad, or independent research projects can count for this), and (4) complete a senior thesis. The ID affords a student the opportunity to develop a global perspective within the context of their FWS major by completing a research project, and International Degree students can also get special funding for their research abroad. In recent years, FWS students working on an International Degree studied wolf recovery in the French Alps and bird use of isolated wetlands in Oaxaca, Mexico. For information, contact the International Degree Head Advisor at InternationalDegree@oregonstate.edu.

- Departmental Opportunities: These are organized academic programs typically at a university in other countries and are organized by the College of FWS and most time including credit towards major specific courses.

Can I afford an international experience?

Yes! If going abroad is a priority, there is generally a way to make it affordable. Early planning for international experiences helps students make cost-effective program decisions, and it also helps them prepare their finances through savings, scholarships, and financial aid. There is a great deal of variation in costs between programs, and students should carefully consider all of their options before making a decision. Students can apply financial aid and scholarships to approved international programs and, in some cases, financial aid eligibility will increase to cover additional expenses.

When comparing the cost of programs abroad, be sure to look at the estimated costs of attending OSU for living and tuition. These annual costs can be comparable or not much more when you go abroad, and the difference can be made up with scholarships or financial aid. The latest estimates for attending OSU can be found at http://oregonstate.edu/admin/finaid/COA.html.

“Spending time at Mazumbai showed me a unique view of Tanzania not normally seen by outsiders. In a country known for sprawling savannahs, this rare glimpse into a tropical forest and its people is what studying abroad is all about.”

Dylan McDowell, Tanzania

Students who choose to go abroad may also be eligible for additional scholarships:

- Students who participate in international programs approved by OSU can apply for scholarships through the Office of International Education and Outreach ($500-$1,000). Students who meet certain criteria such as studying specific languages or being from a small town in Oregon can apply for additional scholarships through the Office of International Education and Outreach.

- All FWS students can apply to the OSU Research Office for URISC (Undergraduate Research, Innovation, Scholarship, & Creativity) grants to support their undergraduate research abroad ($1,000 for 1 term; $1,800 for 2 terms; and $2,300 for the full academic year). See the URISC Website http://oregonstate.edu/research/incentive/urisc.htm for details.

- International Degree students in FWS can seek additional funding through the Office of International Education and Outreach ($1,000-$2,000) for their experience abroad. More information about these scholarships can be found at http://oregonstate.edu/international/internationaldegree/scholarships.html.

- All FWS students can apply for numerous national awards that offer bigger scholarships ($3,000-$20,000). These scholarships are competitive and often have early deadlines so planning ahead is essential. Contact the Office of International Degree and Education Abroad for more information.
How will going abroad count toward my major? Will it take me longer to graduate if I go abroad?

The FWS curriculum is extremely flexible. Students in FWS can easily spend a quarter or more abroad and finish their undergraduate degree on schedule. Some students in FWS have even done a quarter or more of study abroad and an international internship and graduated on schedule.

Students must complete 180 credits and all of their degree requirements to graduate from OSU. The Baccalaureate Core can generally be completed in 33 credits, the FWS Core in 96-106 credits and the FWS Specialization in at least 24 credits. Students can apply all of the study abroad or internship credits they earn towards their FWS degree for their first time abroad.

International Experiences can count toward graduation in the following ways:

- Students who do an **international internship** can meet their Intensive Internship requirements (FW 410 for 3-6 credits).
- Students who **study abroad** can take courses that will count for one or more parts of their degree program including the FWS core, FWS Specialization, and Baccalaureate Core.

When should I do an international experience?

- Students who wish to study abroad may go their sophomore year or later. Students who plan to do an international internship may go abroad in their sophomore year but most go in their junior or senior year. Students doing an IE3 Internship must go in their Junior or Senior year.
- Students who plan to go abroad for one **semester** should go at a time when they will miss only one OSU quarter (often during our Summer and Fall Terms). By doing this, students end up with two quarters and one semester which keeps them on track.

How do I select an education abroad program?

Consider your academic interests and professional goals. You will need to work with the FWS Head Advisor, your FWS faculty advisors, and the staff in the Office of International Education and Outreach to help you identify the program that is right for you. Some important considerations include:

- **Start planning now.** Begin to plan at least six months in advance of going abroad. Give yourself time to research programs and talk to advisers and students who have gone abroad to the site(s) you are interested in. It is never too early to start planning.
- **Set goals.** There are many good study abroad programs and international internships -- the best one for you depends on what you want. If you plan to study abroad, one important consideration is whether you want to study a language or focus on science courses.
- **Prioritize your goals.** Consider your long-term academic and professional goals, as well as your on-campus degree requirements.
- **Prepare academically.** You may need to take language or other prerequisite courses for your chosen program. You should also talk to your academic advisor about the timing of when you take sequences or single-term courses related to progress in your major.
What are my steps to prepare to go abroad?

**IE3 Global Internships first steps**

1. View the online First Steps presentation: [http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/](http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/)

2. Research internships
   - Check the list of IE3 Global Internship positions at the back of this brochure.
   - Research the IE3 Global Internships website: ie3global.ous.edu/. Use the descriptions to find out more about the internship site –type and size of organization, position requirements, length and timing, etc.
   - Come up with a list of several internship options that look good to you.

3. Complete the pre-advising sheet by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and bring to your Next Steps meeting.

4. Meet with an education abroad advisor in the Office of International Programs located at University Plaza Suite 130, to discuss questions, applications and other information about each program.

5. Talk to academic advisors in your department
   - Make a plan for the timing of your internship, based on your program requirements and availability of FWS courses. Talk your plan over with your academic advisor.

6. Application
   - Take note of application deadlines. Deadlines for IE3 Global Internships are generally two terms prior to departure. Application deadlines can be found at: ie3global.ous.edu. Applications typically include recommendation forms, essays, a current resume and college transcripts. Plan to start your application one month before it is due.

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**Study abroad first steps**

1. View the online First Steps presentation to learn the basics of education abroad: types of programs, credits, scholarships and financial aid. [http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/](http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/dce/idea/fs/)

2. Check the list of study abroad options in this document, research programs you are interested in at the International Programs website: oregonstate.edu/international/ and/or come to University Plaza for any questions to be answered by ambassadors.

3. Complete the pre-advising sheet by following the instructions provided in the First Steps presentation and bring to your Next Steps meeting.

4. After you’ve attended a Next Steps meeting, schedule an appointment with an advisor in the International Programs Office by calling 541-737-3006. The advisor can answer your questions regarding further site specific information, financial aid and scholarships, and the application process.

5. Talk with your Academic Advisor:
   - Use your FWS curriculum checklist to identify the courses that remain in your degree and what you should take next. Look over the courses at the school you plan to attend for ideas of what you could take.

6. Application
   - Take note of application deadlines. Each program has a specific application deadline. Deadlines are typically six months before the start of the program. Application deadlines can be found on each program webpage. Applications typically include recommendation forms, essays, and college transcripts. Plan to start your application one month before it is due.
   - To apply for your program, follow the application link listed on the program page on the OSU study abroad website. Follow the instructions outlined on the Mandatory Application Checklist for your chosen study abroad program in order to ensure that you complete all parts of the application.

7. Final Course Selection
   - Research specific courses that would be offered at the foreign university during your time abroad. Find out what an average course load is for students at the foreign university.
   - Fill out an Academic Planning form found at: [http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/academic/planning_form](http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/academic/planning_form) and make an appointment with your Academic Advisor to discuss what you have come up with. For your discussion, you will need to:
     - Finalize your course plan before you leave and keep in contact with your Academic Advisor if you have any questions while abroad.

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"Trust me, it's paradise. This is where the hungry come to feed. For mine is a generation that circles the globe and searches for something we haven't tried before. So never refuse an invitation, never resist the unfamiliar, never fail to be polite and never outstay the welcome. Just keep your mind open and suck in the experience. And if it hurts, you know what? It's probably worth it."

-Iris Godfrey, IE3 Elephant Nature Foundation, Thailand

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Go Abroad in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences
International Opportunities for FWS Majors

TYPES OF OPPORTUNITIES:

DEPARTMENTAL

CHILE

UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION

Students take four classes taught by OSU professors. The first three are in English, the fourth in Spanish. Located in Chillan, the central valley region of Chile and one hour from the ocean and volcanic mountains. Language Requirement: one year of college Spanish or three years of high school Spanish. Available: winter term. Contact: Dan Edge, daniel.edge@oregonstate.edu

AUSTRALIA

PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS AUSTRALIA: INDIVIDUALIZED PLACEMENTS - VICTORIA AND NEW SOUTH WALES: Explore your career down under through individualized placements primarily in the Sydney and Melbourne areas of Australia in almost any field! Other cities may be available depending on your career interest. Language: English Available: Fall, Winter, and Spring terms Duration: 10-12 or 13-26 weeks

CHILE

CODEF - COMITE NACIONAL PRO DEFENSA Y FLORA Y CONCEPCION: CODEFF is a citizen-centered NGO which works to conserve nature and the environment in Chile and to promote sustainable development. Interns work on tasks such as campaigns, projects, presentations, and research. Option to work with a project that receives injured animals. Language Requirement: 3rd year Spanish. Available: calendar year. Duration: 4-6 months

COOK ISLANDS

THE ESTHER HONEY FOUNDATION, INC. - EHF ANIMAL CLINIC, RAROTONGA: Gain valuable experience working for a busy veterinary clinic in the Cook Islands! The purpose of EHF is to improve the health conditions of domestic animals in the Cook Islands (South Pacific) by providing a veterinarian and technicians for the islands. Language Requirement: English. Available: spring or fall term. Duration: minimum 6 months

COSTA RICA

ORGANIZATION FOR TROPICAL STUDIES: LAS CRUCES BIOLOGICAL RESERVE AND WILSON BOTANICAL GARDEN - SAN VITO, COTO BRUS: Las Cruces Biological Station manages land for resource conservation, research and education. The station protects a watershed, native vegetation, and works to contain areas of livestock and agricultural development. Interns participate in station research projects and educational activities. Language Requirement: 2nd year Spanish. Available: academic year. Duration: 10-12 weeks minimum

ECUADOR (including the Galapagos Islands)

EQUILIBRIO AZUL - PUERTO LOPEZ: Interns work on a number of coastal projects and fisheries based in Puerto Lopez, Ecuador as well as the nearby Machalilla National Park, a coastal forest and marine park in the southern part of the province of Manabi. Projects may include: taking daily fish haul data and price and sales information from local subsistence fishermen, especially for shark and rays; take data on sea turtle nesting locations, conditions and numbers. Language Requirement: beginning to intermediate Spanish. Available: academic year. Duration: 10-12 weeks minimum

GABON

GABON BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION – GAMBA: Contribute to the Smithsonian Institution's biodiversity research, conservation and educational efforts in an area with high biodiversity, and the largest oil exploration and development in Gabon. The interns work on research and education projects studying the very high biodiversity of this stunning region. Language Requirement: 2nd year French. Available: academic year. Duration: 3 months

INDIA

ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY & THE ENVIRONMENT (ATREE) – BANGALORE: Bangalore based internship to assist in development with research and education on sustainability and environmental issues. Master's degree students are considered for research support, while interested undergraduates may assist with promoting communication materials and websites support for programming needs. Language Requirement: English. The regional language is Kannada. Available: calendar year. Duration: 3-6 months

NAMIBIA

CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND (CCF) – OTJIWANGO: Assist in education programming, animal care, research and non-profit administration at this preeminent research and conservation center in rural Namibia. Work to preserve the habitat and future of the cheetah in the Kalahari bush. Interns will participate in a variety of tasks and operations of the program. Language Requirement: English. German can come in handy with the abundance of German visitors. Available: academic year. Duration: 10 weeks

NEW ZEALAND

THE NEW ZEALAND DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION - MULTIPLE LOCATIONS: Gain experience working in conservation learning and implementing progressive conservation management practices in New Zealand. The types of conservation projects vary from year to year and may include the following: mainland island projects, native bird recovery programs, freshwater surveys and wetland restoration, plant surveys and weed control, lizard surveys and predator control, marine reserve research, and bat surveys. Language Requirement: English. Available: during US winter, October-March available. Duration: 10 weeks minimum

IE3 GLOBAL INTERNSHIPS

Visit http://ie3global.ous.edu/


**PANAMA**
**Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute - Panama**

City and other: The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) is a premier international research center. STRI conducts scientific research and explorations of natural history at 7 different terrestrial and marine field stations equipped with modern laboratories and dormitory facilities. Interns will help support researchers in ecology, anthropology, palentontology, evolutionary biology, molecular phylogenetics, biogeography, animal behavior, soil sciences, physiology of tropical plants or animals, neurobiology, and paleoecology research. English required. Spanish helpful for daily living. Language Requirement: beginning Spanish. Available: academic year. Duration: 10 weeks minimum

**SCOTLAND**
**Scottish Seabird Centre - North Berwick**

The Scottish Seabird Center is a charity dedicated to inspiring people to appreciate and care for wildlife and the environment. All proceeds are reinvested in the work of the charity and the Center relies on the help of all its volunteers, members and sponsors to survive. The award-winning Center is a Visit Scotland five star attraction and is committed to providing a high quality service, while benefiting our local environment, wildlife and community. The Seabird Center is set in a stunning location overlooking the islands of the Firth of Forth and the white sandy beaches of North Berwick. Opportunities exist in teaching/educational programs, the Discovery Center, and Center events and exhibits. Language Requirement: English. Other European languages helpful. Available: spring, summer. Duration: 3-6 months

**SOUTH AFRICA**
**Table Mountain Conservation and Marine Research - Cape Town**

Placements in a variety of divisions of the Table Mountain National Park, a unique Cape Town ecosystem. Internships are tailored to the applicant's interests and experience. Opportunities exist in both land and marine conservation and in research, education and monitoring. Language Requirement: English. Available: calendar year. Duration: 10-12 weeks

**THAILAND**
**Elephant Nature Foundation - Chiang Mai**

Elephant Nature Foundation increases awareness about the endangered Asian elephant, educates locals on the humane treatment of their elephants, and provides sanctuary for rescued elephants at their nature park. Gain valuable project management experience by assisting with promotional work, travelling to villages to help educate, and helping to manage eco-tourism groups, conservation events and planning. Be a part of an inspirational effort to save endangered elephants and their habitat in Thailand! Language Requirement: English is the working language but Thai and some local languages are spoken as well. The more you are willing to learn, the better! Available: academic year. Duration: 3-6 months

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**AUSTRALIA**
**Deakin campuses in Burwood, Melbourne; Geelong; Warrnambool**

Students can pick to study in a metropolitan area or a smaller community. Students can study fisheries & wildlife or marine biology among other subjects. Available: Fall (July-November), winter-spring (February-June), or year-long. Language Requirement: English. Contact: International Programs

**James Cook University, Townsville & Cairns**

James Cook has long been respected as a world leader in several biology-related fields, especially marine science and tropical environment studies. Located in Townsville near Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef. Available: Fall (July-November), winter-spring (February-June), or year-long. Language Requirement: English. Contact: International Programs

**Macquarie University, Sydney**

Study biology coursework, as well as health and behavioral sciences. Macquarie is located among rolling hills just twelve miles north of warm and sunny Sydney. Macquarie is a large, comprehensive university with 30,000 students. Available: Fall (July-November), winter-spring (February-June), or year-long. What: Study biology coursework, as well as health and behavioral sciences. Language Requirement: English. Contact: International Programs

**COSTA RICA**
**Sustainable Development Studies**

Students will examine management schemes, identify the benefits of protected areas, and determine which systems offer the best option for economic development, the maintenance of cultural norms, and the preservation of biodiversity. Available: Fall, winter-spring. Language Requirement: one college level Spanish course. Contact: International Programs. (SFS)

**Tropical Ecology and Conservation**

Study the amazing biodiversity of the Monteverde Cloud Forest through classes and independent research. Available: Fall, winter-spring. Language Requirement: English. Contact: International Programs. (CIEE)

**ECUADOR**
**Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Cumbaya**

Nested high in the Andes Mountains, Quito is the center of Ecuador’s political and cultural activity. The University is a dynamic institution and has garnered a reputation for academic quality, innovation, and a diverse curriculum. Coursework is available for intensive Spanish study, as well as enrollment in biology coursework, health sciences, ecology, and microbiology with other Ecuadorians. Available: Fall, winter-spring, or year-long. Language Requirement: 2 years of Spanish. Contact: International Programs

**Universidad San Francisco de Quito-GAIAS Institute**

In the Galapagos Islands, you will take courses in the natural and social sciences taught in English. Language Requirement: English. Contact: International Programs

**ENGLAND**
**University of Wales, Bangor**

Study biology and marine biology at the University of Wales which has 8000 students in 18 different academic departments. Bangor has a unique and stunning location being located between the Snowdonia Mountain range and the Irish Sea. Located on the North West Coast of Wales, this quaint little city of 12,000 residents contains an excellent university for the study of marine science. Available: Year-long. Language Requirement: None. Contact: International Programs
KENYA/TANZANIA

Comparative Wildlife Management Studies
(SFS)

PACIFIC OR ATLANTIC

S.E.A. Semester
Study marine science and oceanography and then learn to sail while conducting research in the Atlantic or Pacific. Available: Fall, winter, winter-spring. Language: English. Contact: International Programs

Semester at Sea
Semester at Sea is a pioneer and leader in global, comparative education—a form of international study that focuses on surveying the world’s peoples, patterns, cultures, and traditions. Global, comparative education is the element that distinguishes Semester at Sea from other study abroad programs. Operating a traveling shipboard campus allows diverse learning communities to live and learn in close quarters as they travel the world, and SAS provides opportunities for intensive engagement, reflection, interaction, and exchange that simply aren’t available with other programs. Available: Fall, spring-winter, summer. Language: English. Contact: International Programs

NEW ZEALAND

University of Otago, Dunedin
Study biology at New Zealand’s oldest university. Dunedin, the second-largest city in the South Island, stretches gracefully across steep hills that sweep down to the head of the long inlet that forms Otago Harbor. It is a true university town with the university being the city’s main feature. Available: Fall (July-November), winter-spring (February-June), or year-long. Language requirement: English. Contact: International Programs

These are just a few of your options. If you prefer to do an intensive language program or work on baccalaureate core and elective credit for a term, there are many other OSU sponsored programs. Visit the OSU Study Abroad Website for a complete list of international opportunities http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad.