

## K. SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### YEAR OR TERM ABROAD

In recognition of the value of international study, Yale College encourages students to spend an academic year or a term studying on an approved program abroad. In order to participate in a Year or Term Abroad, students must have secured both approval from Yale Study Abroad and admission from an accredited study abroad program.

A term abroad may be taken only during the second term of the sophomore year, either the first or second term of the junior year, or the first term of their senior year; students may combine any two of these four terms for a year abroad. Students who wish to take a term abroad during the first term of their senior year should consult closely with their DUS(s) and their residential college dean to ensure timely fulfillment of their degree requirements. Students must enroll in Yale courses for the final term of enrollment. Students are not eligible to participate in a Year or Term Abroad when on disciplinary probation or during a leave of absence. Students are limited to a maximum of two terms abroad for Yale graduation credit transfer and financial aid transfer.

Students in any major may apply. Students must be in academic good standing at the start of an approved year or term abroad and be able to return to enrollment at Yale in academic good standing. See section D, Promotion and Good Standing, “Requirements for Academic Good Standing.” Students must have at least a B average at the time of their application. Applicants with a cumulative GPA below 3.0 are asked to submit an additional short essay that addresses their academic performance at Yale and outlines specific strategies for maintaining academic good standing abroad. The transcript should demonstrate progress toward raising the GPA in the terms before the intended year or term abroad. Applicants should ensure that they also meet the GPA requirement of their intended study abroad program(s).

Students seeking to study abroad in a country where the primary language is not English are required to take at least one course studying the language of the host country while abroad.

The credit application for a Year or Term Abroad is available on the Yale Study Abroad website. A complete application includes all of the following: the application for credit, including a statement concerning the proposed course of study; a recommendation form from the student’s director(s) of undergraduate studies; and a recommendation form from the student’s residential college dean. Students on Yale financial aid must also submit a Year or Term Abroad Budget for Financial Aid to the Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid. Approval from Yale Study Abroad is contingent upon the Yale Travel Policy and the student’s acceptance into a program or university abroad. Students must complete additional pre-departure requirements before arrival in the host country.

Application deadlines are listed in the Yale College Calendar with Pertinent Deadlines and on the Yale Study Abroad website.

Applications for programs or universities abroad are available directly from the sponsoring institutions. Information about specific programs and contact information

for past Yale participants are available on the Yale Study Abroad website. Note that application deadlines differ from program to program and usually also differ from the Yale Study Abroad deadline. Students are responsible for meeting the deadlines set by the programs they seek to attend, whether those deadlines fall before or after the Yale Study Abroad deadline.

At a minimum, programs must involve full-time work at the university level and must be undertaken during the host program's regular academic year. Students should note that programs in the Southern Hemisphere are subject to a different academic calendar, one of which may include the months of June, July, and August. Students should choose from the list of designated programs available on the Yale Study Abroad website. Students applying to enroll in programs not on the designated list must meet with a study abroad adviser to discuss the program and submit a petition by the stated deadline. Yale Study Abroad evaluates programs primarily on the quality and structure of their academic offerings as well as the host country's eligibility under the Yale Travel Policy. Study abroad advisers are available to assist students in selecting an appropriate program.

1. **Course credit from a Year or Term Abroad** Students on a year abroad who complete a full program of study for the equivalent of two terms of enrollment at Yale may earn up to nine course credits. Students on a term abroad who complete a full program of study for the equivalent of one term of enrollment at Yale may earn up to four and a half course credits (with the exception of Cambridge or Oxford, for which students may earn five credits). What Yale Study Abroad considers a full program of study varies from program to program due to differences in academic credit systems. Students should consult with a study abroad adviser to ensure that they are enrolled in a full program abroad.
2. **Other course credit from outside Yale** Students receiving credit for a year abroad may not normally apply any other credits from outside Yale toward the 36-course-credit requirement. Because the maximum number of outside credits allowed is nine, students who have previously transferred one or two outside credits are normally eligible only for one term abroad. As an exception, students who wish to take a year abroad, but who are ineligible by virtue of having already transferred in one or two outside credits may, with the support of Yale Study Abroad, petition the Committee on Honors and Academic Standing for exceptional permission to earn a total of ten or eleven outside credits.
3. **Evidence of coursework** The approved study abroad program or university must submit to Yale Study Abroad such evidence of the student's achievement as transcripts or other official academic records.
4. **Grades** No credit will be awarded for a course in which the grade earned was lower than a C- or its equivalent in other grading scales. Nor will credit be awarded for a course taken on a Pass/Fail option, if the student had the choice of taking the course for a letter grade.
5. **Distributional requirements and major requirements** In addition to applying credits earned on a year or term abroad toward the 36-course-credit requirement, students may, with appropriate permissions, apply these course credits toward fulfillment of distributional requirements and some of the requirements of their major programs. Instructions on applying outside courses toward the distributional

requirements are available on the Fulfilling Requirements With Outside Credit page; petitions for using outside courses toward major requirements should be directed to the relevant director of undergraduate studies. Students interested in fulfilling requirements through study abroad coursework should be prepared to provide on their return to Yale copies of all coursework and syllabi.

6. **Academic regulations** Because a year or term abroad counts as the equivalent of two or one terms of enrollment in Yale College, the academic regulations of Yale College pertain to enrollment abroad. Students must earn a sufficient number of credits abroad to remain in academic good standing. Failure to do so will result in academic warning or withdrawal for academic reasons. See section I, Academic Penalties and Restrictions. Withdrawal from an approved program abroad has the same consequences as withdrawal from Yale College.
7. **Canceling a Year or Term Abroad** Students who have received permission to study abroad but later decide not to do so must notify Yale Study Abroad and their residential college dean in writing of their change of plans, and then either enroll as usual in Yale College or apply for a leave of absence before the deadline. See section J, Time Away and Return. In some cases, such students will have to withdraw from Yale College if the deadline for requesting a leave has passed, or if they have already taken four terms of leave, or if the deadline for enrolling in courses in Yale College has passed. Under no circumstances can a Year or Term Abroad be converted retroactively to a leave of absence. Similarly, a leave of absence cannot be converted retroactively to a Year or Term Abroad.
8. **Enrollment in Yale College after a Year or Term Abroad** After returning from a year or term abroad, students must enroll in Yale College for at least one term. Students who have accelerated should speak with their residential college dean about the possible need to decelerate. See section Q, Acceleration Policies.
9. **Financial aid** Students who have been approved to study abroad and who receive financial aid from Yale are eligible for aid while abroad. Information about financial aid support can be found on the Undergraduate Financial Aid website.

## LIMIT ON RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE SEMINARS

Residential College Seminars are limited in number and high in demand. Consequently, students may enroll in no more than four such seminars in total during their Yale College career and no more than one per term. Students who seek an exception to these limits must secure special permission from the Director of the Residential College Seminar program ([jasmina.besirevic@yale.edu](mailto:jasmina.besirevic@yale.edu)). Auditing is not permitted in residential college seminars.

## LIMIT ON FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

First-Year Seminars are limited in number and high in demand. Consequently, a student may enroll in no more than one first-year seminar per term, and no more than two during their first year at Yale College. Exceptions require special permission from the Director of the First-Year Seminar program ([jasmina.besirevic@yale.edu](mailto:jasmina.besirevic@yale.edu)). Auditing is not permitted in first-year seminars.

## COURSES IN YALE SUMMER SESSION

There is no limit on the number of Yale Summer Session courses, on-campus or online or through a Yale Summer Session Program Abroad, that a Yale College student may offer toward the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

All Yale Summer Session courses taken by Yale College students will be entered on the Yale College record, and those taken for a grade will be included in the calculation of the student's eligibility for General Honors and Distinction in the Major. This includes any Yale Summer Session courses taken by Yale College students prior to their first term of enrollment in Yale College. Yale College students who completed Yale Summer Session courses prior to their admission to Yale College may remove those courses from the Yale College record on written request to Yale Summer Session, provided that those courses were not used for promotion and that the request is received by Yale Summer Session by no later than the final day of the student's final term of enrollment. Such requests are final.

Courses outside of a student's major, successfully completed in Yale Summer Session, may be counted toward the requirements of the student's major program with the permission of the student's director of undergraduate studies. Yale Summer Session courses within the student's major may count toward the major. Yale Summer Session courses may also count toward fulfilling distributional requirements.

Yale Summer Session courses selected as Credit/D/Fail count toward the four-course-credit limit on Credit/D/Fail courses for the bachelor's degree. This includes courses taken as Credit/D/Fail by Yale College students prior to their first term of enrollment in Yale College, provided that the student has not removed them from the Yale College record, as above. Marks of CR are included in the calculations for some prizes, for Distinction in the Major, and for election to Phi Beta Kappa as non-A grades, but marks of CR are not included in the calculation for General Honors. Courses taken on a Credit/D/Fail basis may not be counted toward fulfilling distributional requirements for the junior year nor toward satisfaction of the distributional requirements for the bachelor's degree. For details on the Credit/D/Fail option in Yale Summer Session, see the Student Handbook on the Yale Summer Session website.

Attendance at Yale Summer Session does not constitute a term of enrollment in Yale College. Thus a student accelerating by one term by use of acceleration credits may not offer attendance at Yale Summer Session as one of the required seven terms of enrollment in Yale College.

A student accelerating by the early accumulation of thirty-six course credits may count credits earned in Yale Summer Session toward such acceleration. See section Q, Acceleration Policies, "Acceleration by the Early Accumulation of Thirty-Six Course Credits."

There are no auditing privileges in Yale Summer Session.

Students are advised to refer to the Yale Summer Session website for Yale Summer Session's academic regulations, as well as other deadlines, policies, and procedures.

## YALE IN LONDON SUMMER PROGRAM

Courses in the summer program at the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art in London carry full Yale course credit, but enrollment in the Yale in London summer program does not constitute a term of enrollment in Yale College. Thus, a student accelerating by one term by use of acceleration credits may not offer attendance at the summer program at the Paul Mellon Centre in London as one of the required seven terms of enrollment in Yale College.

A student accelerating by the early accumulation of thirty-six course credits may count credits earned in the summer program at the Paul Mellon Centre in London toward such acceleration. See section Q, Acceleration Policies, “Acceleration by the Early Accumulation of Thirty-Six Course Credits.”

## FIELDS & DIRECTED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY

Through the Center for Language Study, students may apply to two special language programs: (1) Directed Independent Language Study (DILS), to study a language not taught in a department at Yale; and (2) the Fields program, for discipline-specific language study at advanced levels. For both programs, the selection process is competitive; students submit an application to the committee, which considers the strength of the applicant’s academic or professional reasons for their proposed course of study. Students are expected to be self-motivated and to spend significant time on their DILS or Fields study. During the program, students meet with an educated native speaker – a language partner – for two hours per week of conversation, while also studying the language on their own. In consultation with their language partner and the program manager, students devise their own plan of study and locate study materials, including conventional textbooks and web-based language materials. Fields students are tested at the end of their program using a nationally recognized oral proficiency examination. In Fields, students are also tested at entrance to confirm advanced proficiency. Both programs are open to undergraduates, graduate students, and professional school students. Language study through DILS and Fields is not eligible for course credit, does not satisfy the Yale College language requirement, does not appear on transcripts, and cannot be applied toward the Advanced Language Certificate. Interested students should apply at [cls.yale.edu/dils](http://cls.yale.edu/dils) and [cls.yale.edu/fields](http://cls.yale.edu/fields).

## AUDITING

Auditors are not permitted in courses taught in Yale College except for persons in one of the categories described below.

Category 1. Students enrolled full time in Yale College or in one of the graduate or professional schools of the University. In this case, students should contact the instructor directly for permission; with approval of the instructor, no form or additional permission is needed.

Category 2. Current members of the Yale faculty and emeritus faculty. In this case, the permission of the instructor is the only requirement; no form or additional permission is needed.

Category 3. Spouses of full-time Yale faculty members, or of emeritus faculty, or of students enrolled full time in the University. In these cases, the permission

of both the instructor and the Director of the Yale College Auditing Program ([academic.affairs@yale.edu](mailto:academic.affairs@yale.edu)) is required.

Category 4. Employees of the University and their spouses, in accordance with applicable personnel policies. In these cases, the permission of the instructor, the employee's supervisor, and the Director of the Yale College Auditing Program ([academic.affairs@yale.edu](mailto:academic.affairs@yale.edu)) is required.

Category 5. Spouses of postdoctoral associates and fellows. In these cases, permission of both the instructor and the Director of the Yale College Auditing Program ([academic.affairs@yale.edu](mailto:academic.affairs@yale.edu)) is required.

Category 6. Yale University alumni and their spouses. In these cases, permission of both the instructor and the Director of the Yale College Auditing Program ([academic.affairs@yale.edu](mailto:academic.affairs@yale.edu)) is required, and an auditing fee will be charged.

Those in Categories 1 and 2 should contact the instructor of the course directly; only those in Categories 3, 4, 5, and 6 must complete an auditing form. The form for Categories 3, 4, and 5 (affiliate auditing) is available at the Yale Affiliate Auditing Program website; the form for Category 6 (alumni) is available at the Yale Alumni Auditing Program website.

No other persons are permitted to audit courses in Yale College, except for alumni eligible for the Alumni Auditing program. The Alumni Auditing program is administered separately from the general auditing program, and different rules may apply.

No auditors are permitted in any Yale Summer Session courses.

Yale NetIDs cannot be assigned to auditors. Alumni auditors pay a fee, which allows access to classroom sessions and to the Canvas class website, but only to course materials that are published to Canvas and available without Yale NetID access. Accordingly, many course resources (e.g., streaming video, library databases, "Zoo" computer labs, etc.) are not available to auditors. Before paying their auditing fee, and in order to make an informed decision about auditing a course, alumni auditors are encouraged to ask instructors whether such NetID-based resources will be used. More information is available at the Yale Alumni Auditing Program website.

All auditors are responsible for any additional course-based fees; those fees are paid directly to the sponsoring school, and not to the Yale College Auditing Program Office. Course fees can be found in the course description via Yale Course Search.

Persons auditing courses with limited laboratory or computer facilities must secure the explicit permission of the instructor to do so, and should understand that regularly enrolled students must at all times have priority in using such facilities. Computer or language laboratory facilities should be employed by auditors only during times when they are not in heavy demand, and in certain courses charges for computer use may be necessary. General access to the campus computing network may not be available to auditors.

It is the usual expectation that an auditor does not take tests or examinations or write papers for a course for evaluation by the instructor. Occasionally, however, an auditor may wish to do such work and may request the instructor to evaluate it. If the

instructor wishes to cooperate with the auditor in this way, the instructor does so on a voluntary basis and not as an obligation.

The University Registrar's Office does not keep a record of courses audited. It is not possible, therefore, for a student's transcript to show that a course has been audited, or for a transcript to be issued that records the auditing of a course.

The Yale College Auditing Program Office oversees only the auditing of undergraduate courses. To audit courses in Yale Graduate or Professional schools, contact those school registrars directly.

Persons interested in auditing an undergraduate course should review the Yale Alumni Auditing Program website or the Yale Affiliate Auditing Program website.