

FAQs about studying abroad

Q: Will I be able to go for a summer programme?

A: Yes, but bear in mind that sometimes host universities do not accurately list the prerequisites for their courses. As such, you may think that they would allow you to take Module X, but in reality, they may not. Consult the Programme Coordinator; he or she will be able to tell you which courses typically require what prerequisites.

Q: What are the typical prerequisites for electives offered in other universities?

A: Below is a list of typical prerequisites of a selected number of electives courses in psychology. Universities sometimes have additional prerequisites, or are willing to waive prerequisites; in addition, prerequisites sometimes differ between summer terms and regular semesters. SRM I and II would be useful courses to take before going abroad, even if these two courses may not be explicitly stated as prerequisites. If in doubt, check with the host university.

Course	Typical prerequisites	Course	Typical prerequisites
Health Psychology	Clin, Soc	Psychological Assessment	Clin
Personality Psychology	Soc	Gender Psychology	Bio, Soc
Trauma Psychology	Clin	(Cross-) Cultural Psychology	Soc
Counseling Psychology	Clin	Forensic Psychology	Clin
Industrial-Organisational	Soc	Social neuroscience	Soc, Cog, Bio
Social cognition	Soc	Cognitive neuroscience	Cog, Bio
Sensation and Perception	Cog	Affective neuroscience	Soc, Cog, Bio
Neuroscience	Bio	Psychology of Consciousness	Cog, Bio
Learning and conditioning	Cog, Bio	Psychology of Religion	Soc
Evolutionary Psychology	Cog, Bio, Soc	Psychology of Language	Dev, Cog
Stereotypes and Prejudice	Soc, Cog	Structural equation modeling	SRM I and II
Emotions	Soc, Cog, Bio	Multivariate statistics	SRM I and II
Addictions	Bio, Clin	Meta-analysis	SRM I and II

Psycho-pharmacology	Bio, Clin	Psychometrics	SRM I and II
Group Dynamics	Soc	Educational Psychology	Dev, Cog, Soc
Infant/Toddler/Adolescent development	Dev	Psychology of Music	Bio, Cog
Moral Psychology	Soc	Psychology of motivation	Soc
Judgment and Decision Making	Cog	Animal behaviour	Bio, Cog
History and Systems of Psychology	All Core Domains	Attention, memory, and psychophysics	Cog
Interpersonal relationships	Soc	Community Psychology	Soc, sometimes Clin
Neuropsychology	Clin, Bio, Cog	Positive Psychology	Soc
Developmental disabilities	Dev, Cog, Bio	Psychology of Reading	Dev, Cog
Psychology of Food	Bio, Cog, Soc	Environmental Psychology	Soc

Note: Bio: Biological Psychology; Cog: Cognitive Psychology; Dev: Developmental Psychology; Clin: Clinical Psychology; Soc: Social Psychology

Q: Will I be able to go for a semester abroad programme?

A: Yes. But bear in mind that you need to take SRM I (or equivalent) in monsoon and SRM II (or equivalent) in spring, whichever university you are going. If you fail to take those courses, your graduation will be delayed by a full year. In addition, it is important that you clear your Core Domains early on, whichever university you are going. Furthermore, many electives offered in other universities will require Core Domain courses and/or SRM I/II (or equivalent).

Q: How many credits would be transferred for each course?

A: Ashoka University matches the number of transfer credits with the number of contact hours, subjected to OAA's regulations for the maximum number of credits allowed to be transferred throughout a student's candidature. A typical course at Ashoka is 4 credits (13 weeks x 3 hrs = 39 contact hours). Hence if the course you are taking at University X is 30 contact hours, only 3 credits will be transferred.

Q: What should I do if only 3 credits are transferred?

A: You are 1 credit short. All psychology courses are 4-credit courses. You should take another 4-credit course to make up for the shortfall.

Q: Will I be guaranteed that I will be allowed to take certain courses by my host university?

A: Talk to their International Office. Bear in mind that they have to prioritise their own undergraduates before they consider your choices.

Q: Ashoka is a partner university of University X that I have chosen. Surely I will have priority, right?

A: If University X is reputable, it probably has p number of partner universities, who may each send q number of students to University X. Hence the total number of students trying to take a particular course is pq . It is unlikely that Ashoka has special priority over these p number of partner universities.

Q: Should I take only psychology courses abroad?

A: In principle, you can take non-psychology courses abroad and apply for these courses to be transferred. Courses in anthropology, sociology, management, marketing, math, etc., often provides fringe benefits towards your understanding of psychology. However, the Psychology Dept cannot decide on whether these non-psychology courses are transferrable or not. To transfer credits attained from these courses, seek out the relevant departments.

Q: Should I apply to universities that have strong affiliations to a particular religious faith?

A: If you do not relate to that particular religion, consider whether you will be comfortable in that university where religious values are likely to intermixed with educational content. Furthermore, you may be uncomfortable with some practices (e.g., starting each class with a prayer) if you do not relate to that particular religion.

Q: What kind of courses should I take?

A: If you have completed your Core Domains, take courses that broaden your horizons, especially those that Ashoka does not offer, and/or courses that align with your long-term goals. For example, if you are interested in being a stand-up comedian, take *Psychology of Humor*.

Q: Will I lose out if I don't go abroad?

A: No.

Q: Will I gain anything if I do go abroad?

A: It depends. Students who go abroad with a "tourist" mindset often don't benefit much academically; students who go abroad with a "learning" mindset often benefit from their experiences.