Timeline for Junior Year Abroad—Fall or Winter Term

First Year

1) Apply for (or renew) passport
2) Discuss study abroad plans with your academic advisor(s) and faculty mentors
3) Explore M-Compass and complete advising questionnaire
4) Attend Stamps international events: Sep barbecue, Intl Fair, and more
5) Attend UM campus-wide study abroad and international opportunities fairs
6) Read materials on Office of Financial Aid website to learn about transferability of your financial aid package to various kinds of study abroad programs
7) Research and understand the limitations of MET funding for study abroad programs
8) Take advantage of the second semester seminar, Intersections ARTDES 155, to begin exploring ideas for your international experience.

Second Year

1) Because of Sophomore Review, Fall and Winter terms of sophomore year are not available for study abroad, though it is still possible to study abroad during Spring or Summer term.
2) Talk to academic advisor(s) and faculty mentors about specific locations and courses to take abroad
3) Identify a study abroad program that offers those courses. This requires extensive independent research.
4) Use M-Compass to identify UM-sponsored programs
5) Determine program application deadlines; some deadlines may be as much as 12 months before program start date
6) Look for courses on the UM campus that include a study abroad component
7) Enroll in courses about your host country (history, politics, archaeology, geography) to fulfill some of your requirements and prepare for study abroad
8) Research available scholarships through M-Compass and outside UM
9) Apply for travel funding from Stamps; use M-Compass
10) Consider your plans to study abroad when making Ann Arbor housing decisions
11) Get acquainted with visiting Stamps exchange students and international students
12) Request letters of recommendation for study abroad application (if applicable)
13) Research programs and host country throughout second year and summer
14) Be attentive to what pre-requisites may be necessary for a given program.
15) Deadlines for Fall term abroad applications range from Jan-Mar; deadlines for Winter term range from Sep-Oct.
16) Refine your knowledge of transferability of financial aid packages and MET applicability; schedule appointments as needed.
17) Request approval for an individual experience, such as an international internship, by December 1.
18) If there are extenuating circumstances, file a petition to waive the International Experience by December 1.
Third Year

1) Submit M-Compass application for Stamps exchanges by Oct 1 (for following Winter term)

2) Submit M-Compass registration for non-UM study abroad programs by Nov 1 (for following Winter term)

3) Meet with financial aid office and provide proof of additional costs for study abroad program

4) Apply for Stamps travel funding for Winter term by Nov 15; use M-Compass

5) Apply for a visa (if necessary) from host country; this may require a personal visit to the nearest Consulate (usually Chicago)

6) Participate in study abroad program during Fall or Winter term

7) If you were awarded a scholarship, write thank you note for donor (required)

8) Last chance to request approval for an individual experience, such as an international internship, by December 1

9) If there are extenuating circumstances, this is your last chance file a petition to waive the International Experience by Dec 1.

Fourth Year

1) Participate in required Stamps School international activities, such as the International Fair

2) Highlight international experience on resume or graduate school application

3) Volunteer as peer mentor for incoming Stamps exchange students or international students

4) Attend U-M international opportunities fair in October to learn about programs after graduation

Looking ahead to after graduation

1) Applications may be due as soon as September for many kinds of opportunities, especially programs that provide funding.

   a) For example, submit Fulbright fellowship application in September for study beginning the following Sep.

   b) Thinking about Peace Corps? There is an office on the U-M campus within the International Center, located behind the Student Union. Applications are submitted several months before students are deployed to a host country.

   c) Many countries subsidize funding for foreign nationals to teach English in their country. The Japanese Government sponsors a particularly well-known and funded program called JET. Applications are due several months in advance.

2) Want to continue studying abroad after graduation? Attend the required U-M Fulbright fellowship info sessions if you are planning to apply for funding to study abroad the academic year following graduation. This is a fifteen-month application process.