

Independent Study Abroad Checklist

For students who plan to attend a study abroad program that is not approved by RIT.

We recommend you complete the following:

- Meet with your academic advisor:**
Set up a meeting with your academic advisor to inform them that you plan to attend a study abroad program that is not approved by RIT. Credits earned on a study abroad program that is not approved by RIT are considered transfer credit and follow the standard transfer credit process. Your academic advisor can advise you on how complete the transfer credit process.
- Complete mandatory registration for your independent study abroad program on RIT Compass:**
 1. Visit the study abroad website (typically the first result when searching "RIT study abroad" on Google)
 2. Hover over Study Abroad tab and click on the Compass link. Login using your RIT username and password
 3. Click "Search Programs" tab at the top.
 - a. Enter 'RIT' as the Program Provider and "independent" as a keyword.
 - b. Select the result titled Independent Study Abroad by clicking on the title.
 - c. Click the Apply button for the appropriate term near the bottom of the page.
- Meet with a study abroad advisor in the RIT Global office:**
Set up a meeting to discuss potential scholarships available for your study abroad program. Financial aid will not apply to independent study abroad programs. Schedule a meeting by contacting the RIT Global office at 585-475-4466 or global@rit.edu.
- Coordinate Billing & Registration:** Check with your program provider for directions on how to register for classes and submit payment for the program.
- Attend Pre-Departure:** This informs study abroad students about important information that you need to know before you go overseas (i.e. health and safety, culture shock and emergency procedures). You will also have the opportunity to meet other students studying abroad. Final questions about grading and transcripts will be addressed. You will receive the details of the event via email from the RIT Global office.
- Transfer credits to RIT:** Obtain your final transcript and work with your academic advisor and RIT's Registrar's office to ensure that your credits transfer.
- Attend Re-entry Events:** The RIT Global office offers a number of events where you can continue to be a global citizen. Events include workshops on reflecting on your experience and interviewing skills, the Global Learning Symposium and the ROC Your Global Future regional re-entry conference. You will receive the details of these events via email from the RIT Global office.