Study Abroad and Field Studies (Undergraduate)
Programs, Courses and University Regulations
2022-2023
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This publication provides guidance to prospects, applicants, students, faculty and staff.

1. McGill University reserves the right to make changes to the information contained in this online publication - including correcting errors, altering fees, schedules of admission, and credit requirements, and revising or cancelling particular courses or programs - without prior notice.

2. In the interpretation of academic regulations, the Senate is the final authority.

3. Students are responsible for informing themselves of the University's procedures, policies and regulations, and the specific requirements associated with the degree, diploma, or certificate sought.

4. All students registered at McGill University are considered to have agreed to act in accordance with the University procedures, policies and regulations.

5. Although advice is readily available on request, the responsibility of selecting the appropriate courses for graduation must ultimately rest with the student.

6. Not all courses are offered every year and changes can be made after publication. Always check the Minerva Class Schedule link at [https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched](https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched) for the most up-to-date information on whether a course is offered.

7. The academic publication year begins at the start of the Fall semester and extends through to the end of the Winter semester of any given year. Students who begin study at any point within this period are governed by the regulations in the publication which came into effect at the start of the Fall semester.

8. Notwithstanding any other provision of the publication, it is expressly understood by all students that McGill University accepts no responsibility to provide any course of instruction, program or class, residential or other services including the normal range of academic, residential and/or other services in circumstances of utility interruptions, fire, flood, strikes, work stoppages, labour disputes, war, insurrection, the operation of law or acts of God or any other cause (whether similar or dissimilar to those enumerated) which reasonably prevent their provision.

**Note:** Throughout this publication, "you" refers to students newly admitted, readmitted or returning to McGill.
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1 Opportunities for Field Study and Study Abroad

Besides the many academic resources McGill offers on campus, there are also unparalleled opportunities to enrich your educational experience through exchange programs, internships, field study programs, and McGill courses taught off-campus and abroad. The following sections provide information regarding opportunities in the following categories:

- section 2: Field Study Semesters and Off-Campus Courses – participate in programs and courses offered by McGill University in local, regional, and international settings as a complement to classroom learning.
- section 3: Internships and Co-op Programs – participate in partnerships offered through McGill to gain valuable on-the-job knowledge in your field.
- section 4: Exchange Programs – study at one of McGill’s partner universities while earning credit at McGill, and paying McGill tuition.
- section 5: Independent Study Away – Independently study away at another university while earning credit at McGill. Tuition is paid directly to the host university.

2 Field Study Semesters and Off-Campus Courses

McGill offers you a chance to put theory into practice through local, regional, and international field study semesters and individual courses. Field studies provide practical experience and a chance to integrate and apply knowledge gained in the classroom. In many cases, field courses can be counted toward major program requirements. You should see your adviser for details.

Field Study Semesters are packages of McGill courses aimed at upper-year students that focus on the physical and social aspects of the environment. They are offered in various regions around the world in the Summer, Fall, or Winter terms. Currently, Field Study Semesters are offered in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania; see section 2.1.1: Africa Field Study Semester), the Canadian Arctic (Axel Heiberg Island; see section 2.1.2: Arctic Field Study Semester), Barbados (see section 2.1.3: Barbados Field Semester and section 2.1.4: Barbados Interdisciplinary Tropical Studies Field Semester), and Panama (see section 2.1.5: Panama Field Study Semester). Enrolment is limited, and application deadlines and costs vary, so you should consult the relevant sections of this publication for details. If you are interested in participating, you should begin planning your courses before the Field Study semester, as some of the field courses may require prerequisites.

Students participating in any one of the field study semesters, i.e., the Africa Field Study Semester (AFSS), the Arctic Field Study Semester (MAFS), the Barbados Field Study Semester (BFSS), the Barbados Interdisciplinary Tropical Studies (BITS) Field Study Semester, or the Panama Field Study Semester (PFSS), may complete the 18-credit Minor in Field Studies. See section 2.1: Field Study Minor for details.

Off-campus McGill courses are also offered to you and sometimes require separate departmental application. The courses are typically offered during the summer months and can be offered in places as varied as Italy, Mexico, or Brazil and in disciplines in Arts, Engineering (including Architecture), Science, Law, or Management. See section 2.3: Off-Campus Courses.

2.1 Field Study Minor

General Information:
Email: ifso.science@mcgill.ca
Burnside Hall, Room 720

Field Study Minor Adviser (Faculty of Science):
Ryan Bouma
Email: ryan.bouma@mcgill.ca
Faculty of Science, Dawson Hall, Room 405

For more information and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).

2.1.1 Africa Field Study Semester

Website: mcgill.ca/africa

The Africa Field Study Semester comprises 15 credits of field study courses. Two courses (6 credits) in the natural and social sciences provide interdisciplinary academic context for field study. The other 9 credits are taken from the complementary courses list. One final complementary course (3 credits) is taken on campus to complete the Minor program requirements.

Visit the Africa website, or refer to Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits), for the latest program updates.
Offered: Winter term
Location: East Africa
Enrolment Limit: 38 students

Fees: In addition to the regular McGill fees, students will be required to pay the additional costs associated with delivering the courses in the field. These costs include airfare, local travel, all food and accommodation, special admission fees for parks and museums, as well as other field costs. Fee details for the upcoming semester are available at mcgill.ca/africa/program-fees.

Students can apply for a Mobility Award. See for details.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2022 for January 2023 (Winter term of the 2022-2023 academic year). Depending on space, there will be a second intake with a deadline date of November 1, 2022.

Application Details: Students must submit:

- the online application (available at mcgill.ca/africa/application);
- a copy of their transcript;
- a letter of intent;
- one reference letter; and
- a CV

to the Internship and Field Studies Office in the Faculty of Science:

Internships & Field Studies Office
Burnside Hall, Room 720
Telephone: 514-398-1063; 514-398-8365
Email: ifso.science@mcgill.ca
Website: mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/internships-field

Prerequisites: The Africa Field Study Semester is intended for students in their final two years. A CGPA of 3.00 and higher is recommended.

Students from other universities are eligible to apply to the Africa Field Study Semester and must also meet the criteria for admission to McGill as a Visiting Student. Please see the Africa website for details.

For more information and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).

2.1.2 Arctic Field Study Semester

Website: mcgill.ca/arctic

The McGill Arctic Field Study Semester comprises 15 credits of field study courses. Two courses (6 credits) provide the background to complete an independent research project. The other 9 credits are taken from Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, Earth & Planetary Sciences, and Geography. One final complementary course (3 credits) is taken on campus to complete the Minor program requirements.

Visit the Arctic website or refer to Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits) for the latest program updates.

Offered: Summer term
Location: Central Axel Heiberg Island in the Canadian High Arctic
Enrolment Limit: 10 students

Fees: In addition to the regular McGill fees, students will be required to pay the additional costs associated with delivering the courses in the field. These costs include airfare, local travel, all food and accommodation, special admission fees for parks and museums, as well as other field costs. Fee details for the upcoming semester are available at mcgill.ca/arctic/program-fees.

Students can apply for a Mobility Bursary from the Government of Quebec; see mcgill.ca/studentaid/special-funding for details.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2022 for Summer 2022. The courses will be listed under "Fall 2022".

Application Details: Students must submit:

- the online application form (available at mcgill.ca/arctic/apply-now);
- a letter of intent;
- one reference letter;
- a CV; and
- a copy of their transcript.

to the Internship and Field Studies Office in the Faculty of Science:
Prerequisites: The Arctic Field Study Semester is intended for students in their final two years. A CGPA of 3.00 and higher is recommended.
For more information and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).

2.1.3 Barbados Field Semester

Website: mcgill.ca/bfss

Offered: Fall term

Location: Bellairs Research Institute in Barbados

Enrolment Limit: 25 students

Fees: In addition to the regular McGill fees, students will be required to pay the additional costs associated with delivering the courses in the field. These costs include accommodation and most food, as well as other field costs; they do not include airfare. Fee details for the upcoming semester are available at mcgill.ca/bfss.

Students enrolled in the Barbados Field Study Semester (BFSS) program may be eligible for a Mobility Bursary for Exchanges: see mcgill.ca/studentaid/special-funding/mobility-exchanges for details.

Application Deadline: The deadline is in late March each year for admission to the following Fall semester.

Application Details: Students must submit:

• a letter of intent;
• a CV; and
• a copy of their transcript

by email to ifso.science@mcgill.ca. Further details are available at mcgill.ca/bfss.

Prerequisites: None
For more information and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).

2.1.4 Barbados Interdisciplinary Tropical Studies Field Semester

Website: mcgill.ca/bits

The Barbados Interdisciplinary Tropical Studies Field Semester is administered by the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Three intensive courses run consecutively with a 6-credit project course. Courses integrate class and laboratory experiences with extensive field trips.

Offered: Summer term

Location: Bellairs Research Institute in Barbados

Enrolment Limit: 25 students

Fees: In addition to the regular McGill fees, students will be required to pay the additional costs associated with delivering the courses in the field. These costs include accommodation and most food, as well as other field costs; they do not include airfare. Fee details for the upcoming semester are available at mcgill.ca/bits/cost.

McGill students may be eligible for a Mobility Bursary; see mcgill.ca/studentaid/special-funding/mobility-exchanges for details.

Application Deadline: Please consult the website for upcoming deadlines.

Application Details: Students must submit:

• a letter of intent;
• a CV; and
• an application form (available on the website)

by email to caroline.begg@mcgill.ca. Further details are available at mcgill.ca/bits.

Prerequisites: A CGPA of 2.5 or higher is recommended.
For more information on the field studies minor and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).
2.1.5  **Panama Field Study Semester**

Website: mcgill.ca/pfss

**Offered:** Winter term

**Location:** Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) in Panama

**Enrolment Limit:** 26 students

**Fees:** In addition to the regular McGill fees, students will be required to pay the additional costs associated with delivering the courses in the field. These costs include accommodation and other field costs; they do not include airfare, food, or other living expenses. Fee details for the upcoming semester are available at mcgill.ca/pfss/cost.

Students can apply for a Mobility Award. See mcgill.ca/mcgillabroad/funding/undergraduate-mobility-award for details.

**Application Deadline:** March 31, 2022* for January 2023 (Winter term of the 2022-2023 academic year).

*: Please note that at time of publication, the application deadline was tentative and is subject to change. Please liaise with pfss for further details.

**Application Details:** Students must submit:

- the online application (available at mcgill.ca/pfss/application);
- a copy of their transcript;
- a letter of intent; and
- a CV

to the Internship and Field Studies Office in the Faculty of Science:

Internships & Field Studies Office
Burnside Hall, Room 720
Telephone: 514-398-1063; 514-398-8365
Email: ifso.science@mcgill.ca
Website: mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/internships-field

**Prerequisites:** HISP 218 Spanish Language Intensive - Elementary or equivalent proficiency, and MATH 203 Principles of Statistics 1 or equivalent. A CGPA of 3.00 and higher is recommended. The program is aimed at undergraduate students in their final year.

For more information and course lists, see Faculty of Science > Undergraduate > Browse Academic Units & Programs > Field Study > : Field Studies - Minor Field Studies (18 credits).

2.2  **Off-Campus Summer Programs**

McGill offers the following off-campus summer program.

2.2.1  **Desautels Faculty of Management**

Courses are given abroad in the Summer session and cover essentially the same material as the equivalent courses given in Montreal. They will, however, be heavily influenced by the local business environment. Courses are offered in various locations.

For the most up-to-date information concerning Summer Abroad courses, please visit the Minerva Class Schedule at mcgill.ca/minerva.

**Application Details:** For registration and/or advising, please contact the BCom Student Affairs Office at 514-398-4068.

2.2.2  **Faculty of Engineering**

The FACC 501 "Technology Business Plan Project" course, normally offered during the Winter term, includes a trip to Israel the following August — also known as the "Israel Start-Up Nation" experiential study trip. This course offers a unique entrepreneurial and cultural experience and is open to students across the University.

Further information is available on the McGill Abroad website.

2.3  **Off-Campus Courses**

McGill offers a number of off-campus courses.
2.3.1 Animal Science

The following course is offered off campus by the Department of Animal Science.

**Off-Campus Animal Science Course**
- AGRI 325 (3) Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

2.3.2 Architecture

The following course is offered off campus by the School of Architecture.

**Off-Campus Architecture Courses**
- ARCH 379 (3) Summer Course Abroad
- ARCH 519 (3) Field Course Abroad

2.3.3 Biology

The Faculty of Science offers the following biology courses off campus.

**Off-Campus Biology Courses**
- BIOL 240 (3) Montréal Flora
- BIOL 331 (3) Ecology/Biology Field Course
- BIOL 334D1/BIOL 334D2 (3) Applied Tropical Ecology
- BIOL 335 (3) Marine Mammals
- BIOL 573 (3) Vertebrate Palaeontology Field Course

2.3.4 Earth & Planetary Sciences

The following courses are two-week field studies (May) in selected branches of the geosciences to examine processes in geology.

**Off-Campus Earth & Planetary Sciences Courses**
- EPSC 231 (3) Field School 1
- EPSC 331 (3) Field School 2

2.3.5 Geography

The Faculty of Science offers the following Geography courses off campus.

**Off-Campus Geography Courses**
- GEOG 290 (1) Local Geographical Excursion
- GEOG 425 (3) Southeast Asia Urban Field Studies
- GEOG 494 (3) Urban Field Studies
- GEOG 495 (3) Field Studies - Physical Geography
- GEOG 496 (3) Geographical Excursion
- GEOG 499 (3) Subarctic Field Studies

2.3.6 History & Classical Studies

The Department of History and Classical Studies offers the following field courses.
### Off-Campus History & Classical Studies Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 349</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Archaeology Fieldwork: Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 262</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Mediterranean and European Interconnections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Internships and Co-op Programs

For information on internships and co-op programs, refer to [University Regulations and Resources > Undergraduate > Internships, Exchanges, and Co-op Programs](#), or the [Internship Offices Network website](#).

### Exchange Programs

Exchanges allow McGill students to complete a semester or year of study at a partner university. Students explore, learn, and grow abroad, all while earning credit toward their McGill degree and paying McGill tuition.

Student exchange agreements are tuition exchange agreements that exist between McGill University and peer institutions which have been reviewed and approved by McGill. The number of exchange spaces available at the host institution are limited, and vary from year to year. McGill students nominated to participate on an exchange term abroad are billed McGill tuition and fees for that term (equivalent to 15 McGill credits). McGill University has agreements with over 150 universities in 39 countries around the world. Exchange programs can be university-wide or faculty-specific. Faculty-specific agreements are only open to students in the specified faculty.

[The full listing of partners can be found here.](#)

#### Eligibility

Student exchange programs are open to McGill students of all nationalities. To participate, applicants must be currently registered as full-time, degree-seeking McGill students, and meet the criteria of their faculty at McGill. Applicants must have completed at least one year of full-time study (24 McGill credits) by the start of the exchange. Students can participate in exchanges for one term or two terms.

Visit [mcgill.ca/mcgillabroad/students-going-abroad/plan-and-prepare](#) for up-to-date information regarding exchanges.

#### Applying to go on Exchange

Applications must be submitted on Minerva. The McGill Application for Fall and full-year exchanges will be open from December to Mid-January. The Winter term application will open mid-April. [For Faculty of Law application deadlines, click here.](#)

Detailed information on the application process and deadlines can be found on the McGill Abroad website: [mcgill.ca/mcgillabroad/students-going-abroad/plan-and-prepare](#).

#### Exchanges Within Quebec

The BCI ([Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire](#), previously known as CREPUQ) offers a Quebec Inter-University Transfer Agreement (IUT). Through this agreement, students registered at any Quebec university can take courses at any other of the province's universities for credit toward a degree at their home university. For more information, refer to [mcgill.ca/students/iut](#).

#### Transfer of Credits from Host Institution

Grades received from the host institution do not appear on the McGill transcript nor are they calculated in the McGill CGPA. The McGill transcript includes a notation of participation in an exchange, the number of transfer credits granted by McGill, and where applicable, McGill course exemptions.

Students can begin the transfer of credits process once they have registered at the host school and have obtained course syllabi. For more detailed information, students should consult their faculty Student Affairs Office. The transfer credits process should be completed within the shortest delay possible after the end of the exchange term.
Before leaving the host institution, students should order two (2) copies of the official transcript for their files, and ensure that the institution sends an official version of the transcript to Service Point at McGill (mcgill.ca/servicepoint).

5 Independent Study Away

Unlike an exchange, participating in an Independent Study Away means that you apply and pay tuition to your host university independently as a visiting student. This program is an opportunity to go abroad to a destination not covered by McGill’s already existing exchange destinations. You must consult the Student Affairs Office of your McGill faculty, as well as the Admissions Office of the university to which you are applying regarding application requirements. Contact information for your faculty’s Student Affairs Office is available at mcgill.ca/students/advising/advisordirectory.

6 Funding opportunities for going abroad

Awards and financial assistance are available to students to help with the cost of going abroad. Further information, as well as application deadlines and eligibility requirements, can be found in the following sections and on the McGill Abroad website.

6.1 Government Student Financial Assistance

Students participating in an official McGill exchange program show as registered full-time on their McGill transcript. As such, Canadian students participating in an official McGill exchange program are eligible to apply for government student financial assistance. American students participating in an official McGill exchange are eligible to apply for their federal aid (Title IV U.S. Direct Loans) within certain constraints and are strongly advised to consult here for more details.

Students who take part in an Independent Study Away (i.e. “study away on their own”) are not eligible to receive government aid through McGill, as they are registered at their host institution. Students should verify with the institution they will be attending whether or not they will be eligible to receive government student financial assistance.

6.2 McGill Scholarships and Awards

For students who hold renewable scholarships and awards, these may be retained for up to one year while on exchange, however will not be eligible for McGill’s yearly in-course scholarships and awards. For further information, please refer to the Regulations for Award Recipients under “Term or Year Award for Academic Reasons”, consult the unit who administers the award, or contact studentexchanges@mcgill.ca.

Students are encouraged to inquire with their individual faculties who may offer travel-related awards available by application.

6.3 McGill’s Mobility Bursaries for Exchanges

The University recognises that the additional costs of going on an official McGill University exchange may be difficult for some students to assume on their own. Thanks to the Quebec government’s Programme de mobilité international et de courts séjours à l’extérieur du Québec (PMICSE), McGill is able to help defray these costs for students who otherwise could not afford to participate. This program is administered by the Scholarships & Student Aid Office, and is based on demonstrated financial need. The application is available to any undergraduate student approved for an eligible exchange semester abroad. Further information, as well as application deadlines and eligibility, can be found on the McGill Abroad website or at Mobility Bursaries for Exchanges.

6.4 McGill’s Enriched Educational Opportunities (EEO) Bursaries

The EEO Bursary Program is administered by the Scholarships & Student Aid Office, to help defray costs or forgone earnings for students who wish to participate in Field Semesters, Field Courses, as well as unpaid off-campus Internships and Research opportunities. Allocation is based on demonstrated financial need. Further information, as well as application information and eligibility requirements can be found on the McGill Abroad website or at EEO Bursaries.
7 Further Information about Global Learning Opportunities offered to McGill students

For more details regarding the global learning opportunities offered to McGill students as well as application procedures, deadlines, eligibility criteria, etc., visit McGill Abroad’s website. Students can also contact Service Point for Student Exchange related inquiries.

Service Point
Telephone: 514-398-7878
Email: studentexchanges@mcgill.ca