

Study Off Campus in Social Work

International and Off-Campus Studies Office
St. Olaf College



Photo Credit: Emily Johnson '20
Exploring India: Human Development in a Cross-Cultural Context

Department of Social Work

Faculty Offices Located in
Holland Hall

Main Office— HH 504

“Being in México has been one of the most influential experiences in my lifetime...It is amazing to see the differences between Mexican social work and social work from the U.S, especially as students...The way we have learned Social Work is interesting as well. In the U.S I have learned how to work with individuals, then groups and families, and then communities. It is the other way around in México. They work from a macro level and then to the individual and that is pretty amazing.”

-Saul Hernandez, '19
Social Work Major

[Additional Stories from CGEE social work program in México, including Saul's \(link here\).](#)

Exploring Off-Campus Study Opportunities by Major

The St. Olaf social work program encourages student participation in off-campus study, both domestic and international. Majors can conveniently schedule an Interim abroad. To participate in a semester program off-campus (e.g., HECUA in South America, ACM Chicago, and CGEE Namibia) and complete the major requirements in four years, students must plan in the first year with the help of social work faculty. St. Olaf co-sponsors [Social Work in a Latin American Context \(Mexico\)](#) for social work majors, which fulfills major requirements, in the spring semester of the junior year.



Oles in Eastern Cape, South Africa, 2017
Interim Course: Social Realities of South Africa
Photo Credit: Department of Social Work

Social Work majors can study off-campus for an interim and/or semester long program, all it takes is a little planning! Social Work majors who wish to do a semester program during their Sophomore year or who wish to do the Social Work program in Mexico during Spring their Junior year, must start planning early in their first year on campus. Majors can also study off-campus during any Interim.

The Planning Guide is a tool for those interested in pursuing a Social Work major. It outlines the order that coursework typically takes; each semester building on the previous one. It also helps social work majors' plan for an opportunity to study aboard. The Planning Guide can be found on the Social Work Department website (stolaf.edu/scoialwork)—or linked here: [PLANNING GUIDE FOR SOCIAL WORK MAJOR](#).

Application Steps

1. **Investigate programs.** Seek out advising from IOS Staff and Program Advisors. Use this time to better explore program options.
2. **Identify the program(s)** that best fit your interest, your needs, and your academic pursuits.
3. **Complete the IOS Application process.** Faculty Program Advisors review and approve applications for St. Olaf students to apply for and study off-campus.
4. **Complete the Secondary Application process.** This is the process of applying directly to the university or program provider, if your program is hosted off-campus.

Note: Scholarships are available for all off-campus study programs.

For Advising or Application Questions

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More information can also be found on our website:

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