



GESI Online Application Instructions for Northwestern Students

Pre-Application Checklist:

Before starting the online application process, read through the following checklist so that you have all required materials prepared. Additional instructions, if applying to a first and second choice program, can be found on the [Study Abroad website](#):

- A digital headshot (optional)**
- Passport information** - if you do not yet have a passport, you can enter information later.
- 7-digit student ID number** - this can be found on your Wildcard or Caesar.
- Resume** - this will be shared with GESI site teams and internship hosts.
- Study Abroad General Essays** - Topics can be found [here](#) and on the online application.
- GESI Essay** - Prepare the following essay in a word document so you can easily copy and paste to the application.
 - *Building on the progress made through the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) were introduced in early 2016 as a "universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and enjoy peace and prosperity." In 300-500 words, describe which SDG resonates with you the most and why, and describe a few steps you think could help achieve that goal. **If Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala or Nicaragua is your first choice GESI location, complete the response in Spanish.***
- Preliminary Course Plan** - Know your GESI course names, as you'll be required to enter them in the online application (copy below), as well as how you intend to count them (e.g. International Studies major or distribution credit):
 - **Summer** - *COMM 395 SA Doing Development: The Theory and Practice of Community Consulting and INTL 293 SA: Development in the Global Context*
 - **Fall** - *SESP 295 SA Theory and Practice of Community Consulting, Section 21, Global Engagement and INTL 293 SA: Development in the Global Context*
- Unofficial transcript saved as a PDF** - this is also found on Caesar.
- GPA Below 2.5** - Several additional steps are required, see the [Study Abroad website](#) and online application for specific instructions.
- Meetings and Approvals** - As part of the application process, all NU students are required to meet with a School Representative (See chart in the online application). Students in certain schools, such as WCAS, have additional requirements.

Continue to next page

Scholarship Application (if applicable)

If you are a Northwestern undergraduate eligible for financial aid, you must complete a brief scholarship section within the online application to be considered for any GESI *Summer* scholarships, including uploading a current Financial Aid award letter. See instructions in the online application.

*For GESI Fall, the financial aid process is completed through Northwestern; please review the [Financial Aid website](#), and contact Krista Buda Bethel, Assistant Director of Financial Aid.

Your GESI Application:

1. Go to www.northwestern.edu/studyabroadapp. Login with your netID and password.
2. Create a profile. If you have applied for a Study Abroad program before, be sure to update your profile before you begin.
3. Find your first choice GESI location and click "Select" and indicate the term you intend to participate in order to begin your application (Summer or Fall).

****The application will ask you to list a first and second choice program. If GESI is your only program choice, **DO NOT** select a second GESI location as your second choice program (this will trigger duplicate fields); there is space in the application to rank your preferred location(s). *Your application does not lock you into one GESI country. Should you decide you are interested in another site, the GESI staff can update your application to reflect your updated preferences.**
4. Students applying to GESI **must conduct an interview with GESI staff prior to submitting their application**. These interview sessions are an opportunity to articulate how your program choice aligns with your personal and academic interests, learn more about the program, and ask questions. Schedule an interview through our [online scheduling system](#). Off-campus students will be interviewed by phone or Skype.
5. Make sure you have completed all sections of the application. If you have completed all required questions in a section, you will see a **green check mark** next to that section. If you do not see this green check, return to that section and complete the required questions.
6. Review your application on the **Review & Save** page, then click the Submit Application button at the bottom of the page. If the option to submit your application does not appear, that indicates that some part of the application is not yet complete.

Please be aware that once you submit your application, it will be sent to a study abroad adviser for review. You will not be able to edit your application after clicking "Submit Application" unless instructed to do so by a study abroad adviser.

Questions? We're here to help! Contact GESI at gesi@northwestern.edu or give us a call at 847.467.2689. For technical issues with the online application, please email studyabroadapp@northwestern.edu. **We look forward to reviewing your application!**