

Multi Site: Australia & Solomon Islands

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's *decision to apply* for an EAP program. The document is *not* a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the [UCEAP](#) and [BSA](#) websites. The best source of detailed program information is always the [UCEAP Program Guide](#) from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Applications 2019-20

Berkeley Study Abroad uses a portal called myapp.berkeley.edu (often referred to as "Slate") UCEAP applications. The portal opens in October, which is when you will be able to start an application to see specific requirements relevant to your program of interest. The link below will provide detailed information about preparing for submitting a UCEAP application.
<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/uceap-how-apply>

RESOURCES

Advisor Contact Information

For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising>

EAP Alums

EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

One of the first cycle's participants and Gilman Scholarship recipient, Natalie Myren also created a blog about her experiences: <https://natsgilmanfiles.wordpress.com/>

EAP Alum-Created Resources

Some of our returnees have created presentations to share with others. You can look at their work through the [Student Created Resource](#) Google folder that we will continually update.

Readings & Recommended Coursework

The more informed you are about the history and current affairs of Australia, the Solomon Islands and Oceania in general, the more fulfilling your study abroad experience will likely be. Coursework in Oceania, Indigenous Peoples studies, Environmental Sciences and Development Studies by the time of departure is strongly recommended in addition to the required coursework. Such classes will allow you to become familiar with the context in which issues are discussed, and will help you to understand the unique relationships that Pacific Island nations have with the rest of the world.

Please see the some suggested resources below:

<https://cgph.globalhealth.berkeley.edu/category/research/oceaniaresearch/>

Australia Soloman Islands Program Handbook

Each year, instructors and program coordinators at the Univ. of Queensland produces the ASIP Handbook to help departing students gain a better understanding of the schedule, academic coursework, and logistics of the program. This resource could be helpful for prospective students as well, but please keep in mind that changes are possible from year to year and the details are going to be different for your term of participation. Please see below for the link to the latest version available.

http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/_forms/1819/Solomon_Islands/UCEAP%20ASIP%20Information%20Handbook%202019.pdf

PROGRAM

PACIFIC ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH- SPRING

The 11-week multisite program in Pacific Island Environmental & Community Health is a relatively new program offered in Brisbane, Australia and Honiara, Solomon Islands since spring 2017. Students spend 6 weeks at the University of Queensland before moving to the Solomon Islands. In Brisbane, students will be studying at the University of Queensland and in Honiara, students will be studying at Solomon Islands National University. During the five weeks' time in the Solomon Islands, students will be conducting field studies in additional locations outside of the capital.

In addition to time in Honiara, students on the program will be traveling to remote communities where there may not be many modern facilities students are used to.

Please keep in mind the additional cautions UCEAP states in the Eligibility tab of the program:

"As field activities are a major component of the program and are very physically demanding, participants must be physically fit, able to swim, and free of serious medical conditions that would require on-going medical supervision. There is little development of infrastructure in the Solomon Islands and access to many of the field sites is via hiking/climbing. Students must be prepared to participate in long-distance walks over extremely rough, remote terrain and bush land. Students must be prepared to swim and snorkel and will be using boats to gain access to field sites. Students must be willing to abide by the water safety regulations presented and enforced by the program supervisors. In addition, students must be flexible, open to the local culture, and tolerant of local religious practices."

The program will focus on areas of marine science, environmental studies, sustainability, community health and cultural studies. The prerequisite is to have at least one lower division class in statistics and one lower division class from the following: biology, ecology, environmental studies, or environmental science completed prior to departure.

Space Limitations

This program is an impacted option. For the spring 2020 program, Berkeley was granted 10 spaces. This number was increased from 6 on 2/13/19.

Students interested in this option are highly encouraged to speak with the adviser prior to applying. You may be able to obtain permission to apply to a back-up choice.

Because this program is impacted, applicants need to think very carefully whether this program is the right fit.

The selection criteria we will use for this program include:

- Student's coursework background and training in relevant areas

- Student's completion of at least one lower division class in statistics and one lower division class from the following: biology, ecology, environmental studies, or environmental science.
- Whether the courses abroad are relevant for major related requirements
- GPA
- Class Standing
- Statement of Purpose: priority will be given to students who successfully convey why the Environmental & Community Health program in particular is a good fit for them and how the program will benefit them academically, professionally, and/or personally.
- Completeness and thoroughness of application. Incomplete applications without sufficient reason could be denied immediately.

Please check [UCEAP's Program Page](#) for the most up-to-date information.