

Travel Requirements Guide (Field Trips)

Are You Required to Take a Departmental Field Trip?

Field trips offer students the opportunity to experience art outside of the classroom and beyond the local community, enriching your education for a more global perspective. Specific degree plans require Art + Design majors and minors to participate in departmental field trips as part of their learning experience. Plans include the following degrees: **B.F.A. (75-cr. comprehensive)**, **B.A./B.S. (60-cr. comprehensive [Fall 2017 requirement term and after])**, the **B.A./B.S. in Art History (36-cr. standard)**, and the **Art History minor**.

To meet the travel requirement for these degrees, one of the following three options must be completed before graduation:

- A)** UWEC-approved International Study program;
- B)** At least one of the department's national field trips;
- C)** At least two of the department's regional field trips.*

*Art History minors are only required to complete one regional field trip.

Planning for these trips is essential and the following information has been collated to guide you in your completion of your travel requirements.

Art + Design Department Travel Options

CHICAGO, IL (Partial fulfillment of Option C)

DATES: Fall Semester – Typically 3rd or 4th week/weekend in October

Expense Estimate: \$250 - \$350 (bus, hotel, food, and venue admissions)

A four-day, three-night trip (Thursday through Sunday) to Chicago, Illinois. This trip takes place every Fall semester. We visit several prestigious art museums, galleries, and tour the city. Students purchase a ticket through the Davies Center that includes round-trip transportation, lodging, and a 3-day CTA bus/train pass. Food and entry fees are paid by the student. However, many of the venues are free or offer student discounts. This is a UWEC sanctioned field trip.

NEW YORK, NY (Fulfills Option B)

DATES: Spring Semester – Spring Break week

Expense Estimate: \$800 - \$1,200 (flight, hotel, food, and venue admissions)

A weeklong, faculty-led trip (Sunday through Saturday) to NYC over the University's Spring Break specifically to visit the prodigious art venues. Experiences include major museums, smaller galleries, non-profits, and a studio visit with a working artist in the area. Students must purchase a ticket for lodging through the Davies Center. All other expenses are paid by the student (including booking a flight) and the group plans a rendezvous place and time in LaGuardia (LGA) airport.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (Partial fulfillment of Option C)

DATES: Spring Semester – Fridays; typically 2nd, 3rd, or 4th week in April

Expense Estimate: \$50 - \$80 (bus, food, and venue admissions)

The Minneapolis Art Tour is a one-day trip. Experiences include major museums, smaller galleries, non-profits, and gallery visits. Students purchase tickets for round-trip transportation through the Davies Center. The bus departs from and returns to Haas Fine Arts Center (HFA) on the same day. Entry fees and food are paid by the student.

Travel Requirements Guide – Frequently Asked Questions

Will failure to complete this requirement prevent me from graduating?

YES. If emergency situations arise, such as a death or grave illness, a student would need to communicate with the Department Travel Committee and arrange an alternative. Those situations aside, you must complete this requirement.

Can friends who are not Art + Design majors/minors come on the trips?

YES. Friends, partners, community members, and others are welcomed to come on trips. Preference will usually be given to Art + Design students in cases of requirement needs, but this has not prevented most interested parties from going in the past.

Can I go to these cities on my own and have it count or replace the department trip? Can I go somewhere else?

NO. Department faculty spend time planning trips to provide the best experience visiting these cities with the time allowed, specifically with art destinations in mind. It is also a community building experience to travel with your peers and faculty to discuss art and other experiences on the trip. It also informs your classroom studies and conversation. Occasionally, the department will plan trips to additional locales such as Milwaukee or other cities and these are department-approved experiences.

If I am from Minneapolis, can I drive separately and rendezvous with the group if I want to stay home that weekend or am going to another event in the city?

NOT RECOMMENDED. This kind of request comes up a lot from Minneapolis-area students. Any request like this needs to be submitted to the Travel Committee in a timely manner with a reasonable rationale. Meeting up with friends or going home for the weekend should be planned separately, and these types of requests will be denied. Having a wedding, funeral, or other such important event might be permitted, but must be communicated as soon as possible.

Can I go on the Chicago or New York trip and stay with a friend/relative for lodging?

NO. Through experience of permitting this in the past, the department has discovered that navigating these cities in the morning or at night to rendezvous with the group for completing daily expected experience(s) is too much of a burden on both the group and the student. Though the department sympathizes with financial situations of our students and understands this inclination, we have found this to be untenable.

Can I go on one of these trips the same day I have an academic or professional activity that overlaps trip activities?

NO. We appreciate the complexity of student schedules, especially as students reach graduation time, but you should make every effort to be alert of trip dates and not schedule any other activities for those hours/days.

Does Art + Design offer field trips to other locations?

POSSIBLY. It is possible that the Department of Art + Design might preapprove faculty to lead a unique field trip opportunity to a location different than those listed if it qualifies for the travel requirements. Students looking to fulfill their requirements or excited for other possible travel experiences should pay special attention to department announcements regarding trips.