

MEMO**Date:** December 16th, 2022**To:** Suwako Watanabe, Chair, Academic Requirements Committee (ARC) Chair**From:** Ron Witzak, Executive Director, Office of Global Engagement & Innovation
Jennifer Hamlow, Director, Study Abroad
Cindy Baccar, AVA & University Registrar**Subject:** Modification of University degree requirements related to Study Abroad credits**Background**

Emerging nation-wide guidance from NWCCU and Federal Financial Aid regulators prompted us to review policies and practices related to the way PSU awards credit for Study Abroad. Based on that review, the following proposed changes are submitted for approval. These changes are viewed as more a matter of making explicit that which has largely been in place based on the practicalities and nature of study abroad programs. In other words, it is not common for students to go over these limits. The purpose is to make things explicit and build in checks within the Degree Audit system to ensure compliance.

PSU Faculty-led study abroad credits are excluded from the proposed policy changes below.

Proposed Changes

1. Maximum number of Study Abroad credits (excluding PSU Faculty Led study abroad) that will be counted toward a degree is 45 quarter credits.
2. Restrictions on Residence Credit: While Study Abroad credits are still considered PSU institutional credit, they are differentiated from counting toward fulfilling the residency requirement to earn a degree because the instruction is not being provided by PSU faculty. Study Abroad credits (excluding PSU Faculty Led study abroad) are excluded from counting for Residence Credit, but do not interrupt the backward scan of 45 of the last 75 credits at PSU.