

Semester off-campus FAQs

Q: Do I still pay normal GFU tuition as I have previous semesters?

A: *Yes, you will be billed by GFU – usually equal to GFU tuition + room & board (with some variations, depending on the program).*

Q: Do I keep my GFU financial aid package?

A: *Yes*

(If you have financial-related questions, please direct to Student Financial Services)

Q: Will my credits transfer? How do I find out what they will transfer as? (GE, elective, major, etc.)

A: *Yes. Talk to your enrollment counselor and/or your academic advisor for specifics.*

Q: Am I responsible for booking my own flight?

A: *Yes, unless your program costs include a flight (if so, you know who you are). After booking, please pass on receipt to Center for Global Studies coordinator by email.*

Q: Will my flight cost be reimbursed?

A: *No costs are ever 'reimbursed'. With the exception of the SSO and NYCAMS programs; your flight amount will be credited to your student account, within reason. (ie. Please purchase the lowest possible fare; please book plenty of time in advance)*

Q: Do I have to depart from Portland airport?

A: *No, you are free to depart from other large airports if Portland is not your closest departure airport (within reason).*

Q: Does George Fox pay my deposit and any application fees?

A: *No, you are responsible for paying both deposit and application fee. Your deposit will be credited to your student account (for ALL programs), your application fee will not.*

Q: Will I be able to fly with other GFU students to my semester off-campus destination?

A: *This depends on:*

- 1. Whether other GFU students are going to your same destination*
- 2. Whether you coordinate your flights together*

(This is your responsibility – the Center for Global Studies does not do this for you)

Q: Can I go to my destination before the semester begins and/or can I stay longer?

A: *Yes, as long as you are present when your program begins through its conclusion. (The Center for Global Studies will not pay for any flight changes or multiple destination tickets)*

Q: I need assistance with applying for a VISA, whom do I ask?

A: *All program-related questions, including VISA questions, are to be directed to the program itself NOT the Center for Global Studies.*

Q: The Semester in Spain program requires that I apply in person for my VISA at the consulate in San Francisco. Does the Center for Global Studies assist with this?

A: *Yes, the Center for Global studies travels to SF to apply on student's behalf.*

Q: My program begins at a later date than George Fox. Can I live on-campus during this time?

A: *No. Although you are still considered a GFU student for the semester, you are not eligible for on-campus housing.*

Q: Does the Center for Global Studies require anything of me after my return?

A: *Yes, your grades will be on-hold until you complete the following:*

1. *A reflection (2-page minimum) sharing pros/cons of your semester program, and any personal, spiritual or academic learning you wish to share.*
2. *Attend a de-briefing / welcome back gathering organized by the Center for Global Studies in the beginning weeks of the new semester. (Reflections are due at this time)*

Q: If I have concerns during my semester off-campus, whom do I talk to?

A: *Your first contact should be within your off-campus program. Your secondary contact should be the Center for Global Studies at GFU.*

Q: I'm having trouble adjusting back to GFU life after I return. Are there resources on-campus to help with this transition?

A: *Yes, the Center for Global Studies is available to meet with you and help you navigate re-entry. Please don't hesitate to approach us.*

Q: I want to make sure I am well prepared for my semester off-campus. Are there specific resources available that might assist me?

A: *Yes, please contact the Center for Global Studies who will assist you by:*

1. *Providing a relevant reading list*
2. *Connecting you with other GFU students who are either alumni of your program or are attending your same semester.*
3. *Scheduling a meeting with the director or coordinator to discuss concerns and suggest preparation.*