

## How can you prepare for the advising session? Here are some suggestions:

- Read about the various [Program Types](#) and begin thinking about which option suits your needs and interests.
- Begin to [Search for Program](#) options! Yes there are over 500 affiliated options to choose from and thousands of courses within those programs - which is rather overwhelming! During the advising session, we will help you narrow these choices down to a few based on the information you provide to us.
- Bring a list of the MTSU courses you still need to take in order to graduate. Participation in education abroad is supposed to be part of your degree, not in addition to it, but that is up to you! If there are certain courses you still need, then we can show you how to research and find similar courses (and ultimately get the course equivalencies established by your academic departments using the Course Approval Form).
- Are you familiar with your state and federal aid? If not, you should be! For example, there is a national education abroad scholarship only available for Pell Grant recipients. If you don't know if you are a Pell Grant recipient, you will miss out on this opportunity!
- Review the Office of Education Abroad website, especially [Getting Started](#), [Policies](#), and [FAQ's](#).
- Be prepared to take notes through the advising session and follow-up on tasks your EA advisor suggests.
- Allow at least 20-30 minutes for the meeting, and possibly longer depending on the nature of the conversation.
- By all means, bring a list of questions!

## What do you do next?

Well, it depends on your specific situation and what stage of the application process you are currently in. *Typically* during an advising session we might suggest that you choose a program, request online pre-approval, apply for an actual program, meet with your Academic Advisor(s) to complete the Course Approval Form, meet with the study abroad rep in the Financial Aid Office, begin researching scholarships, create a calendar of deadlines, participate in a webinar, call your program provider, meet with a faculty leader, talk to past participants, etc.

If you have questions after the advising session, just email/call us and ask! Our office is here to advise students through the education abroad process, but it's ultimately up to each student to understand their specific situation and where they are in the process.