Colby’s philosophy of off-campus study is generally that study abroad should provide students with a cultural and linguistic experience and promote cultural integration, which is usually facilitated by spending at least a full semester in a single host country. Exceptions are made for certain programs such as SIT’s IHP and other select programs which provide a quality educational experience and which can reinforce, complement, and broaden a student’s educational program at Colby. (Touring or shipboard programs are not acceptable and not petitionable)

In addition to exciting opportunities, programs located in multiple countries can entail extra challenges due to the highly structured and tiring pace of travel, the intensity of group dynamics, frequent transitions and, in some cases, the course’s difficult subject matter. It is important to be aware of this to be sure that you are physically and mentally prepared for it.

If you wish to petition for such a program you must make an appointment with a staff member in the Off-Campus Study Office to discuss the process for petitioning.

YOUR PETITION SHOULD INCLUDE:

As part of the online Colby Application for Approval form for the specific program(s), please include a statement of petition (approx. 100 words) in the “petition box” addressing the reasons why this program is of particular interest to you and how it meets your goals.

(We recommend submitting a backup application for another program in case your petition is not approved or in case you change your mind).