



New York University

The 13 Global Academic Centers

A Complete Guide to NYU's Global Network University — Study Away Destinations, Academic Pathways, and Campus Life Across Six Continents

- Accra, Ghana
- Buenos Aires, Argentina
- London, UK
- Madrid, Spain
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Tel Aviv, Israel
- Washington, DC, USA
- Berlin, Germany
- Florence, Italy
- Los Angeles, USA
- Paris, France
- Sydney, Australia
- Tulsa, USA



Contents

1. What Is the NYU Global Network University?
2. Portal Campuses vs. Global Academic Centers
3. How Study Away Works
4. NYU Accra
5. NYU Berlin
6. NYU Buenos Aires
7. NYU Florence
8. NYU London
9. NYU Los Angeles
10. NYU Madrid
11. NYU Paris
12. NYU Prague
13. NYU Sydney
14. NYU Tel Aviv
15. NYU Tulsa
16. NYU Washington
17. Choosing the Right Site — Comparison Table



What Is the NYU Global Network University?

New York University describes itself as a Global Network University (GNU) — a single university operating across three degree-granting campuses and a wider constellation of study-away sites. Rather than sending students to unrelated partner schools, NYU built its own academic centers so that coursework, faculty standards, and student support stay consistent wherever a student is studying.

The idea traces back to 1926, when NYU professor James E. Lough led 350 students on a for-credit voyage around the world — often cited as the first academic study-abroad program in U.S. history. The modern network began in earnest in 1958 with the founding of NYU Madrid, the university's oldest global academic center. Additional sites were added over the following decades, and the network has continued to grow — NYU Tulsa became the newest addition, opening in 2025.

Today, NYU's global network consists of three degree-granting portal campuses — New York, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai — and 13 global academic centers spread across Africa, Europe, the Middle East, North and South America, and Australia. This guide focuses on those 13 global academic centers.

Portal Campuses vs. Global Academic Centers

It helps to understand the difference between the two types of NYU locations:

- **Portal (degree-granting) campuses** — New York, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai. Students apply to and enroll at one of these three campuses, and each is accredited to confer the New York University degree.
- **Global academic centers** — the 13 sites covered in this guide. These are study-away locations, not separate degree programs. Students based at a portal campus travel to a global academic center for a semester, year, or January Term/summer session, then return to their home campus to graduate.

How Study Away Works

Every NYU global academic center provides its own dedicated building, resident faculty and administrative staff, guaranteed housing, and a full slate of NYU-credit courses sponsored by academic departments back on the home campus. Typical features across the network include:

- Full-time professional staff and locally engaged faculty who support students throughout the term
- Guaranteed student housing (residence halls or, at some sites, homestays)
- Faculty-led day trips, weekend excursions, and cultural programming built into the curriculum
- Academic and non-credit internship opportunities at many sites
- Language courses required at several sites (e.g., Berlin, Buenos Aires, Florence, Madrid, Paris, Tel Aviv, and Shanghai)
- Site-specific academic pathways that let students go deep in a subject tied to that city's strengths

Students are generally expected to complete at least one full year in residence on their home campus before studying away, and most schools recommend a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Two of the 13 centers — Los Angeles and Sydney — are reserved exclusively for NYU's own students rather than being open to visiting students from other universities.

01

NYU Accra

Ghana | Africa

Arts, journalism, and public health in West Africa's cultural capital

Location	Labone, a residential neighborhood of Accra
Founded / Notes	NYU's only global academic center on the African continent
Academic Focus	Arts, literature, communication, journalism and media, anthropology, history, politics, global public health, and sociology

Highlights

- Courses taught by scholars, artists, writers, and journalists based in Ghana
- Approved students may take one or two courses at the University of Ghana–Legon, NYU's affiliated local institution
- Housing is provided in NYU residences near the academic center
- Strong entry point for students interested in African studies, public health, and global media

02

NYU Berlin

Germany | Europe

Social sciences, math, and the arts in a city defined by reinvention

Location	A renovated 19th-century building in central Berlin
Founded / Notes	A long-standing site within the European network
Academic Focus	Social sciences, humanities, and mathematics, with academic pathways in art and art professions, environmental studies, mathematics, politics, and sociology

Highlights

- German language courses are offered at every level, from beginner to advanced
- All courses are taught in English apart from the language sequence
- Berlin's 20th-century political history — from the Cold War division to reunification — runs directly through the coursework and excursions
- A required language course structure, matching the model used at several European sites

03

NYU Buenos Aires

Argentina | South America

Public health and media, with an immersive homestay experience

Location	A Tudor-style building in Barrio Norte, an upscale district of the capital
Founded / Notes	NYU's flagship site in South America
Academic Focus	Academic pathways in global public health and media, supplemented by art history, Gallatin interdisciplinary seminars, and psychology

Highlights

- Courses are taught in both English and Spanish, with language instruction at every level
- Most students live with an Argentine host family rather than in a dormitory, deepening language immersion
- The Great World Texts tutorial partners NYU students with Lenguitas, a public high school in the Retiro neighborhood
- A required language course, in keeping with NYU's language-intensive European and Latin American sites

04

NYU Florence

*Italy | Europe**Humanities and the arts on a 57-acre Renaissance estate*

Location	Villa La Pietra, a historic estate on the hills above Florence
Founded / Notes	Home to NYU's La Pietra campus
Academic Focus	A strong humanities and social sciences curriculum, drawing on Florence's art history, architecture, and Renaissance heritage

Highlights

- La Pietra comprises five villas, a Renaissance-revival garden, and working olive groves
- The Intensive Italian Language Program offers coursework taught entirely in Italian for students who want to accelerate their language skills
- Hosts the Program in Global Fashion together with NYU London, guaranteeing enrollment in specified fashion courses
- A required Italian-language component runs alongside subject courses

05

NYU London

United Kingdom | Europe

NYU's largest global academic center, in the heart of central London

Location	265 Strand, central London, adjacent to the London School of Economics
Founded / Notes	One of the network's largest and longest-running sites
Academic Focus	A broad liberal arts curriculum with strengths in the humanities, social sciences, business, and the arts

Highlights

- Reported to host several hundred students each semester, making it one of the largest centers in the network
- Faculty-led walking tours cover historic districts such as Soho, Bloomsbury, and Westminster, plus excursions outside the city
- A popular First-Year Away destination for NYU's Liberal Studies program
- All undergraduates live in NYU-managed housing with easy access to London's public transit

06

NYU Los Angeles

USA | North America

Immersion in the entertainment and media capital of the world

Location	Based in the Los Angeles area, close to the entertainment industry's hub
Founded / Notes	A site reserved exclusively for NYU's own students
Academic Focus	Film and television, music, and emerging media, with an experiential learning model built around the entertainment industry

Highlights

- Courses are drawn from multiple NYU schools, not a single department, giving students a wide range of entry points
- Industry internships are a central part of the experience, connecting students directly with entertainment and media companies
- A dedicated network of local alumni supports a formal mentoring program
- Open only to current NYU students — not available to visiting students from other schools

07

NYU Madrid

Spain | Europe

NYU's original global academic center, founded in 1958

Location	Central Madrid, near Calle Gran Vía, close to the Museo del Prado and Retiro Park
Founded / Notes	1958 — NYU's oldest global academic center
Academic Focus	Intensive Spanish language study alongside coursework in economics, politics, Spanish culture, art, anthropology, and cinema

Highlights

- The founding site of NYU's entire global network, predating every other academic center
- Language instruction runs from a Fast-Track Spanish for Beginners option through advanced levels
- Advanced Spanish speakers may take select courses at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- The academic center includes a reading room, computer lab, and student lounge in the heart of the city

08 NYU Paris

France | Europe

French language and culture on the Left Bank, since 1969

Location	A state-of-the-art building on the Left Bank, near the Luxembourg Gardens and several French universities
Founded / Notes	1969 — founded as part of NYU's Center for French Civilization and Culture
Academic Focus	French language and culture, art history, cinema studies, history, literature, and politics, with additional Computer Science and Mathematics offerings since 2018

Highlights

- One of the largest centers in the network, drawing students into both English- and French-taught coursework
- All students take a French course matched to their level; advanced speakers take the majority of coursework in French
- The Courant Semester in Paris offers a specialized track in computer science, mathematics, and data science for students in those majors
- Faculty-led trips to sites such as Chartres, Giverny, and Versailles are built into the cultural program

09

NYU Prague

Czech Republic | Europe

Music, journalism, and film in the 'City of a Hundred Spires'

Location	Two 15th-century buildings on Malé náměstí, steps from Old Town Square
Founded / Notes	A long-established Central European site
Academic Focus	Particularly strong programs in music (performance and composition), journalism and media, and film — the latter in partnership with FAMU, Prague's national film academy

Highlights

- Music students attend concerts and symphony rehearsals and often collaborate with the Prague Conservatory and Academy of Performing Arts
- Tisch School of the Arts students studying film enroll at FAMU while retaining NYU housing and student life
- Language courses are offered in Czech, German, Polish, and Russian, though none are required
- Small class sizes let faculty build the city itself — from the Velvet Revolution's Wenceslas Square to the Jewish Quarter — directly into coursework

10

NYU Sydney

Australia | Oceania

NYU's only site in the Southern Hemisphere, reserved for NYU students

Location	Central Sydney, with NYU-approved housing a short commute from classes
Founded / Notes	A site reserved exclusively for NYU's own students
Academic Focus	A broad curriculum supported by faculty drawn from Sydney-area universities alongside resident NYU staff

Highlights

- The network's sole location in Australia, giving students a Southern Hemisphere and Asia-Pacific vantage point
- Study trips, group excursions, lectures, and site visits form a structured co-curricular program
- Open only to current NYU students — not available to visiting students from other schools
- A natural pairing with Shanghai or Abu Dhabi for students building a multi-region study-away plan

11

NYU Tel Aviv

*Israel | Middle East**Middle Eastern studies in Israel's financial and technology hub*

Location	A newly renovated building in North Tel Aviv with classrooms, study space, and an outdoor patio
Founded / Notes	A newly renovated site in North Tel Aviv
Academic Focus	Israeli and Middle Eastern studies, exploring the interrelationships between cultures, political movements, and religious traditions in the region

Highlights

- Students may select from an approved list of courses at Tel Aviv University
- A required language course accompanies the subject curriculum, matching the model used at several other sites
- Coursework draws on Tel Aviv's role as a center of Israeli finance and technology
- One of the network's most geopolitically distinctive locations for students focused on Middle East studies

12

NYU Tulsa

USA | North America

NYU's newest global academic center, opened in 2025

Location	Based in Tulsa, Oklahoma
Founded / Notes	Officially opened in spring 2025 — the newest site in the network
Academic Focus	A developing curriculum, with early cohorts participating in Alternative Breaks and summer internship experiences ahead of full launch

Highlights

- The most recently established of NYU's 13 global academic centers
- Selected students piloted the site through spring 2024 Alternative Breaks and summer internships before the official 2025 opening
- Reflects NYU's continued investment in expanding its domestic U.S. study-away options alongside its international network
- A site to watch as its academic pathways and offerings continue to develop

13

NYU Washington, DC

USA | North America

Policy, journalism, and public affairs at the seat of U.S. government

Location	Central Washington, DC, near the city's embassies, agencies, and cultural institutions
Founded / Notes	A long-standing site in the U.S. capital
Academic Focus	American studies, art history, business, economics, environmental studies, history, journalism, metropolitan studies, politics, prelaw, and public policy

Highlights

- Home to 174 foreign embassies and numerous international policy-making bodies, giving students direct access to Washington's political and intellectual life
- The NYU Washington, DC Global Leadership Program offers a select group of upperclassmen an intensive leadership course
- A popular First-Year Away destination for NYU's Liberal Studies program
- Students draw on the city's museums, monuments, and think tanks as an extension of the classroom

Choosing the Right Site — Comparison Table

A quick side-by-side view of all 13 global academic centers to help narrow down a shortlist.

Center	Region	Signature Strength	Open to Visiting Students?
NYU Accra	Africa	Arts, journalism, and public health in West Africa's cultural capital	Yes
NYU Berlin	Europe	Social sciences, math, and the arts in a city defined by reinvention	Yes
NYU Buenos Aires	South America	Public health and media, with an immersive homestay experience	Yes
NYU Florence	Europe	Humanities and the arts on a 57-acre Renaissance estate	Yes
NYU London	Europe	NYU's largest global academic center, in the heart of central London	Yes
NYU Los Angeles	North America	Immersion in the entertainment and media capital of the world	No — NYU students only
NYU Madrid	Europe	NYU's original global academic center, founded in 1958	Yes
NYU Paris	Europe	French language and culture on the Left Bank, since 1969	Yes
NYU Prague	Europe	Music, journalism, and film in the 'City of a Hundred Spires'	Yes
NYU Sydney	Oceania	NYU's only site in the Southern Hemisphere, reserved for NYU students	No — NYU students only
NYU Tel Aviv	Middle East	Middle Eastern studies in Israel's financial and technology hub	Yes
NYU Tulsa	North America	NYU's newest global academic center, opened in 2025	Yes
NYU Washington, DC	North America	Policy, journalism, and public affairs at the seat of U.S. government	Yes

Note: Course offerings, housing arrangements, and program requirements are updated by NYU's Office of Global Programs each academic year. Prospective applicants should confirm current details with NYU directly before finalizing a study-away plan.