

Visiting International Student Program (VISP)

Division of Continuing Studies, Adult Career and Special Student Services

Celebrating 10 years of VISP in 2022

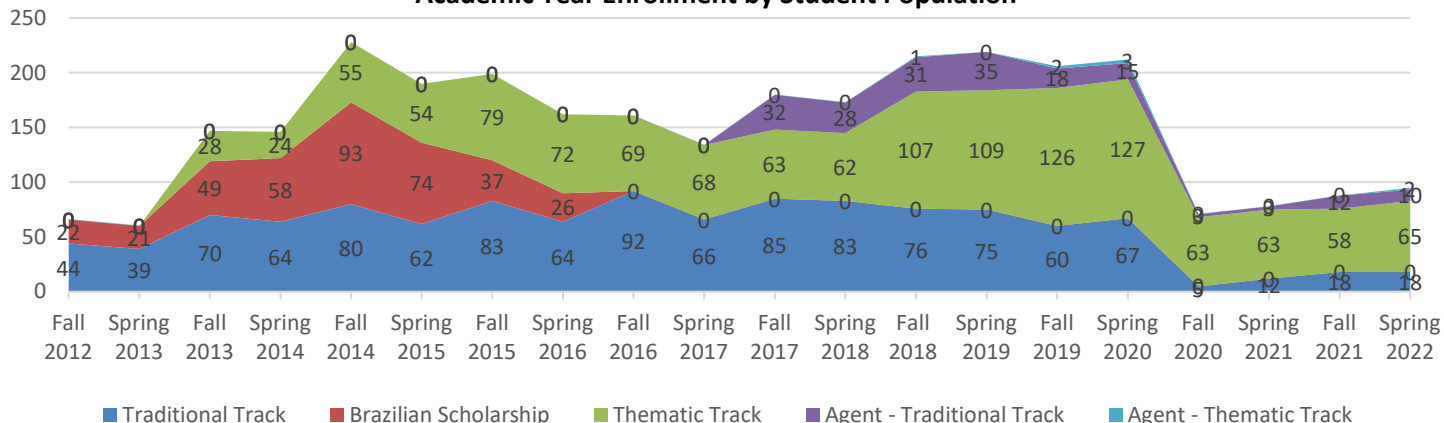
Launched in 2012, the Visiting International Student Program (VISP) welcomes international students interested in short-term, nondegree study at UW-Madison. Traditional track VISP students enroll in courses from across the university curriculum on a space-available basis.

Expanding the scope of VISP, the Thematic Track program allows for focused study within a hosting UW-Madison department. Some departments encourage their thematic track participants to apply for a subsequent graduate degree program to further enrich their academic journey at UW-Madison.

VISP in the Numbers

- Over 3,300 former participants from 42 countries
- Almost \$50 million in revenue to campus
- 240+ international partnerships
- 25 VISP Thematic Tracks created
- Average UW-Madison GPA of 3.4
- 950+ students receiving a 4.0 GPA
- 700+ VISP participants later joined one of 50 different degree programs in nine UW-Madison Schools & Colleges.

Academic Year Enrollment by Student Population



Summer Highlights

- Average summer VISP enrollment of 72 students.
- Growth in Thematic Track options continues with past groups in departments of Agricultural & Applied Economics, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Engineering Mechanics, English as a Second Language (ESL), Finance, Mechanical Engineering, Political Science, and Statistics.
- Collaboration with Summer Term on recruitment efforts as well as creating additional student support services.

VISP Program Snapshot for Academic Year 2021-22

Student Profile

- Enrollment for Fall: **88**, Spring: **95**
- 77.5% undergraduate level, 22.5% graduate level
- 60% made up of **Thematic Track programs** from Agricultural & Applied Economics, Economics, Computer Sciences, Mathematics, and Statistics
- Average UW-Madison GPA: 3.71**

Enrollment Changes due to COVID-19

- 56% decrease in enrollment from academic year 2019-20, but up 23% from 2020-21.
- Online-only option allowed continued enrollment from countries where travel continues to be restricted.
- 88% of VISP students during AY 2020-21 enrolled online from home, 40% during 2021-22.