



# Study & Internships Abroad, Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes Report Snapshot

# Study & Internships Abroad: Fall 2024

## Learning Outcomes Report



Presented here are key insights on student learning from the Fall cohort of study abroad students and interns who took part in our learning outcomes assessment.

### Personal Learning



### Professional Learning



### Academic Learning



### Cultural Learning



*“Studying abroad in London through the CIS Abroad program was an unforgettable experience... CIS Abroad offered the perfect balance of guidance and independence, ensuring I had the resources I needed while also giving me the freedom to explore the city.”*

**University of Massachusetts Student Semester in London - University of Westminster**

## Program Learning Outcomes

As a result of this engaged, immersive learning experience (via direct enrollment in an institution overseas combined with participation in the Local Life co-curriculum), students will:

### Intercultural Competency

- Have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of their own culture and the varied US-American perspectives that exist.
- Demonstrate an appreciation of, and open-mindedness toward, other cultures.
- Exhibit an awareness of, and sensitivity toward, the issues that confront the local community and their global influence.
- Display an understanding of values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives different from their own.
- Be more likely to regularly take into account diversity and cultural differences.

### Career Management:

- Have explored and examined their career goals.
- Have developed and/or strengthened their career readiness competencies.

### Leadership:

- Be able to approach life with a high degree of adaptability, independence, and self-confidence
- Demonstrate the ability to think critically, solve complex problems, and cope effectively with ambiguous and unfamiliar situations.
- Actively seek out new, challenging experiences.

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### How the learning was measured

Students were asked to respond to a series of statements that pertained to their learning given the various aspects of their study abroad program. Using a five point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree), students selected the number that best corresponded with how likely they would be to agree with each statement as a result of their study abroad experience. Examples to support students' evaluation of their learning were requested for select statements.

#### Personal Learning: 4.6/5

- 4.6 My sense of personal independence and self confidence has increased.
- 4.6 I am more likely to seek out new, challenging experiences.
- 4.4 I can explain how my own identity, values, beliefs, and culture influence my interactions with others
- 4.7 I am more readily able to adapt to new and different situations and environments.



*"These experiences have taught me to approach every situation with curiosity and a desire to understand. I've learned the importance of problem solving when something doesn't go exactly as I planned it to...Having these soft skills that allow me to problem solve, be curious, and create meaningful connections in any future job are extremely valuable. Not only is studying abroad a personal experience, but also one for professional development."*

**University of Louisville Student  
Semester in Greece- Fall 2024**

#### Professional Learning: 4.4/5

- 4.4 My overseas experience prompted me to think critically about my future career goals.
- 4.4 My ability to think critically and solve problems has increased.



The top NACE career competencies students cited as being developed and/or strengthened during this experience included:

- 83% Global/Intercultural Fluency
- 81% Resilience
- 80% Critical Thinking
- 79% Communication

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### Cultural Learning: 4.6/5

- 4.6 I have reflected on and developed a greater understanding and appreciation of my own culture(s).
- 4.8 I have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures.
- 4.6 I have a better understanding of the values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives of individuals who are different from me.
- 4.5 I will be more likely to take into account diversity and cultural differences in my daily life.



*"My plan is to go into healthcare. More specifically I want to be a PA and there is a large underrepresentation of minorities in this field. I want to be able to cater to voices who often go unheard and learning about other cultures will help me become a more well rounded healthcare professional."*

**University of Denver Student  
Semester + Intern on the Italian Coast -  
Sant'Anna Institute**

### Academic Learning: 4.3/5

- 4.2 I can effectively explain to others how my major and/or minor can be understood from a global perspective.
- 4.5 My ability to understand the ways in which culture affects communication has improved.
- 4.1 I feel confident that I can effectively explain the implications of global problems, trends, or systems to others.



*"I've always grown up between two cultures but it's been so interesting to add a third culture and compare the similarities and differences. Trends in immigration and homelessness were so interesting to see across cultures especially during the election."*

**Virginia Commonwealth University Student  
Semester in Costa Rica - Universidad Veritas**

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