



Study & Internships Abroad, Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes Report Snapshot

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Learning Outcomes Report



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

Personal Learning



Professional Learning



Academic Learning



Cultural Learning



I have many life goals that I want to accomplish and being abroad has given me a lot more time to myself to really think about what I want to improve on and what I should be doing with my time.

**Elizabethtown College Student
Semester in Japan -
Meiji Gakuin University**

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:

Global/Intercultural Fluency, Equity & Inclusion:

- 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: 4.7/5

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



Being surrounded by so many different cultures and people from different places, I've been able to keep into account how to best adapt to the cultures around me to be respectful..

**Grand Valley State University Student
Semester in Thailand - Mahidol University**

Professional Learning: 4.5/5

- 4.4 My overseas experience prompted me to think critically about my future career goals.
- 4.5 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:

- 86% Resilience
- 85% Communication
- 83% Global/Intercultural Fluency
- 83% Critical Thinking

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Cultural Learning: 4.7/5

- 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.
- 4.6 I will be more likely to take into account diversity and cultural differences in my daily life.



Simply going to the grocery store or any store in public has helped me understand that things are very different from the US. You can't expect everyone to speak English. You have to pay attention to your loudness, body language, and so much more. I've realized that you have to be aware of your surroundings and people's perception of you while trying to immerse into another culture.

**Michigan State University Student
Semester in Barcelona - Universitat
Autònoma de Barcelona**

Academic Learning: 4.3/5

- 4.1 I can effectively explain to others how my major and/or minor can be understood from a global perspective.
- 4.6 My ability to understand the ways in which culture affects communication has improved.
- 4.1 Thinking about what I learned through this experience and how it applies to the real world, I feel confident that I can effectively explain the implications of global problems, trends, or systems to others.



My major relates to issues regarding food sustainability and Costa Rica is a very large agricultural country and values environmental sustainability. Finding new practices and educating others relates to the mission of Costa Ricans.

**University of Maine - Orono Student
Semester in Costa Rica - Universidad Veritas**

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