UNC Study Abroad Impact Report | 2019-2020

Institute of International Education
Open Doors 2020
(for Academic Year 2018-19)

#13
in U.S. for total participation in long-term programs

43%
of UNC-Chapel Hill undergraduates study abroad before graduation

#18
in U.S. for total participation in study abroad

UNC Study Abroad Office Participation 2015-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>1448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>1510</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>1549</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>1724</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>729</td>
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</tbody>
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*Includes domestic programs, graduate students, students in the professional schools who study abroad through UNC Study Abroad Office, and non-UNC-CH students who study abroad through UNC Study Abroad Office. Does not include students who study abroad through other units on campus.
COVID-19 Response

$609,000 Total dollars refunded to students for study abroad programs canceled in spring 2020
382 Students supported through program modifications due to COVID-19 in spring 2020

Tar Heel Reflections

Sophie Hastings, CET Colombia

I learned that I need to take the time to educate myself more on a variety of issues. Race is one of those. Race is different but similar in Colombia and I quickly realized I thought I was more educated than I actually was. I also became much more aware of the space that I take up.

Kelsey Rapp, UNC in Montpellier

Thanks to COVID-19 and just the general nature of adapting to a new culture, I grew more comfortable with change and instability and developed an appreciation for the approach of taking life day by day.

Looking back on an unprecedented year

To the Carolina community and our global partners,

We appreciate your collaboration and support during the tumultuous 2019-20 academic year. Our work is to make the dream of studying abroad a reality for Carolina students, and it’s disappointing when we see their dreams undone. The global pandemic caused program cancellations midstream during the spring 2020 semester, affecting nearly 400 #heelsabroad in 41 countries. Thanks to their host institutions—and to the responsive student support team at UNC—students returned home safely and nearly all were able to complete their studies remotely. Many received financial support through UNC’s COVID-19 Impact Fund.

A lot of planning goes into studying abroad, months or even years before a student gets to the airport. Our team is doing the work now that will support Carolina students dreaming about study abroad for years to come. We are working with the Office of the Vice Provost for Global Affairs to revise policies and practices related to health and safety. Advisors are meeting individually with students to identify the best program for their major. Program Directors are helping UNC faculty design new global learning experiences for summer 2022. We continue to receive gifts from dedicated alumni and friends toward study abroad scholarships. When the time comes, Carolina students will be ready to study abroad. And we will be ready to support them.

This year brought other challenges to the UNC community. As the United States experienced race-based violence, the Study Abroad Office redoubled its commitment to diversity and inclusion through professional development, outreach to underrepresented students, and partnerships across campus. We hold ourselves accountable for closing equity gaps in study abroad, as you’ll see in this report.

There may be a pause on international travel, but Carolina is not letting up on its commitment to make global education available to all students. In fact, with the great pivot to remote learning we have introduced barrier-free options for students to learn virtually with global partners worldwide. Those global experiences will enhance study abroad for future #heelsabroad.

UNC Study Abroad Impact Report 2019-20 reflects some of the year’s challenges, but it cannot fully convey the dedication, resourcefulness, and resilience of the Study Abroad Office staff, who put Carolina students first above all else, day after day.

With gratitude,

Heather Ward, Associate Dean
To be able to experience the way that others live outside of the U.S. and to have the opportunity to travel and explore the world drove me to study abroad. The UNC program in Sevilla was perfect for me because it gave me a homestay opportunity, and the classes and program size were the right fit.

NOAH ROBERTSON, UNC IN SEVILLA
College of Arts & Sciences
Study Abroad Participation

Enrollment by Program Type
- Exchange: 33%
- UNC Faculty-led: 16%
- Provider: 24%
- Direct-enroll: 13%
- Non-approved: 2%

Top Majors of Participants
1. Global Studies (70)
2. Political Science (60)
3. Psychology (58)
4. Economics (54)
5. Public Policy (50)
6. Biology (47)
7. Computer Science (37)
8. Environmental Studies (26)
9. Romance Languages (25) and Environmental Sciences (25)
10. Peace, War, and Defense (24)

UNC Study Abroad Participant Outcomes
- 85% say they will likely highlight their study abroad experience on job applications and in interviews
- 98% feel confident in their problem-solving skills post-study abroad
- 89% say they noticed a shift in their perspective of other cultures post-study abroad

Top Destinations by Country
1. England (149)
2. Spain (85)
3. Italy (74)
4. France (40)
5. Australia (36)
6. Singapore (35)
7. Scotland (25)
8. Ecuador (16)
9. Ireland (14)
10. South Africa (13) & Denmark (13)
UNC Honors Semester in London at Winston House
UNC Honors Semester in London offers students the chance to study and intern from UNC’s Centre for European Studies: Winston House. Students complete coursework in Politics, Art History, Dramatic Arts, Media and Journalism, and Literature taught by a rotating UNC faculty-member-in-residence and local instructors and complete an internship customized to their interests. While UNC’s Honors Semester in London has been running for 30 years, we recently celebrated the 15th Anniversary of Winston House in 2019-2020.

Winston House hosts many other UNC programs and events throughout the year with UNC Study Abroad and Honors Carolina as well as UNC Global, the Morehead-Cain Foundation, Kenan-Flagler Business School, the London Carolina Club, and the Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Incoming Exchange Students
204 INCOMING STUDENTS*

Top 5 Sending Countries
1. United Kingdom (40)
2. China (24)
3. Singapore (18)
4. France (12)
5. Ireland (11)

*Non-degree seeking students
My study abroad experience was contingent upon me getting scholarships and saving up money from the previous semester. Once I arrived in Europe, I realized how quickly I could go through my funds. I had to learn how to budget and more importantly had to prioritize the things that were important to me.

GIGI CLONEY, SPRING 2020

Students Who Received Financial Aid

- Covenant Scholars: 12%
- Need-Based Aid: 41%
- Study Abroad: 35%
- UNC-Chapel Hill: 12%

Scholarships Awarded for Study Abroad

- Total amount awarded for fall and spring programs: $398,484
- Applicants who received an award: 111
- Average amount awarded to each scholarship recipient: $3,590

Gifts and pledges to study abroad received by the Arts & Sciences Foundation in 2019-2020: $786,420

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