



Study Abroad: Fall 2021

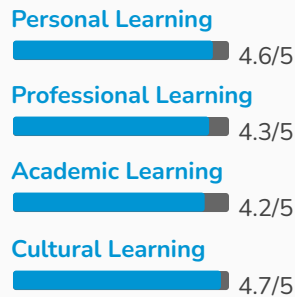
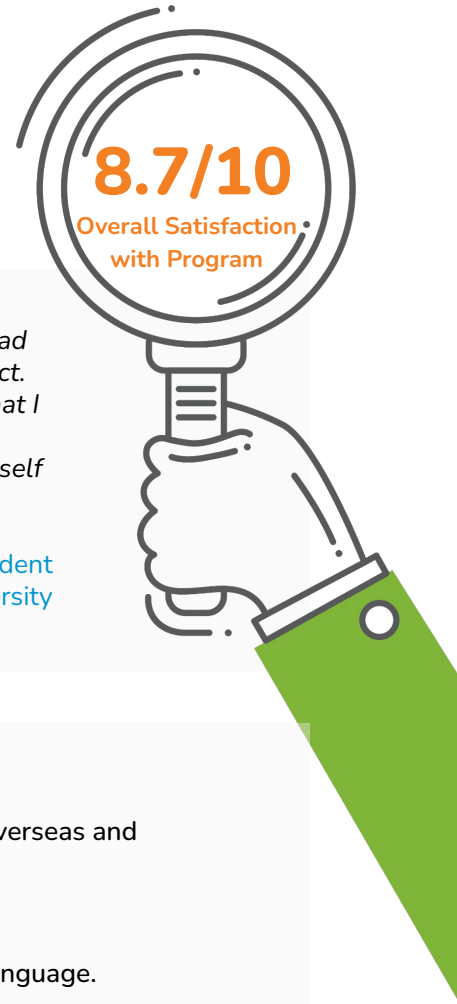
Learning Outcomes Report

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Presented here are key insights on student learning from the Fall 2021 cohort of study abroad students who took part in our learning outcomes assessment.



"I came to Korea alone. This is my first time abroad without my family so I didn't know what to expect. Once I arrived in Incheon Airport, I told myself that I needed to grow up and to get things done. After being by myself abroad, I learned a lot about myself and I'm confident with who I became."

Towson University student
Semester in South Korea @ Sogang University

Program Learning Outcomes

Through a combination of direct enrollment in a CIS Abroad partner institution overseas and participation in our cultural co-curriculum, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of global issues, processes, trends, and systems.
- Communicate effectively across cultures, preferably in a second or third language.
- Understand their academic discipline within a global context.
- Have explored and examined their career goals.
- Understand their future career within a global and/or intercultural context.
- Have developed and/or strengthened their career readiness competencies.
- Have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of their own culture(s) 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.
- Display an understanding of values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives different from their own.
- Will be more likely to regularly take into account diversity and cultural differences.
- Have reflected on their own identities, values, beliefs, and cultural frames of reference in a global context and how they influence their relationships with others.
- Be better 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

- 4.5 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.
- 4.8 My sense of personal independence has increased.
- 4.6 My overall level of self confidence has increased.
- 4.5 My ability to think critically and solve problems has increased.
- 4.5 I am more able to cope effectively with ambiguous and unfamiliar situations.
- 4.7 I am more likely to seek out new, challenging experiences.



"The language barrier... when it came to ordering meals or asking a question about the menu it was a bit difficult to communicate. Instead of stressing over it, I'd first try my best and if that didn't work, I would type it and have my application translate it. They always appreciated the effort but I do wish I learned more of the language before going to a whole different country."

University of Houston-Downtown student
Semester in Thailand @ Mahidol University

Professional Learning: 4.3/5

- 4.1 I have a greater understanding of how my future career field is situated within a global/international context.
- 4.4 My overseas experience prompted me to think critically about my future career goals.
- 45% Stated that going abroad influenced their professional goals by creating a desire to live/work abroad in the future, and to continue exploring and meeting new people.

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

- 80% Global/Intercultural Fluency
- 78% Resilience
- 76% Communication
- 76% 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).
- 4.9 I have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures.
- 4.8 I am more open-minded toward other cultures.
- 4.2 I have a greater awareness of issues that confront my host community.
- 4.7 I have a better understanding of the values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives of individuals who are different from me.
- 4.7 I will be more likely to take into account diversity and cultural differences in my daily life.

Academic Learning: 4.2/5

- 4.0 I can effectively explain my increased knowledge of global issues, processes, trends, and systems to others.
- 4.6 My ability to understand the ways culture affects communication has improved.
- 3.9 I can effectively explain to others how the my major and/or minor can be understood from a global perspective.

"As a former eastern bloc country, the Czech Republic is still dealing with consequences of its communist past. It was very educational... to experience the perspectives and stories of people who lived through communist rule in Prague. I've gained a much truer understanding of the dangers of authoritarianism and a greater appreciation for the personal sacrifice it takes protestors to combat it."

Robert Morris University student
Semester in Prague @ Charles University



"I have been able to see that my views on topics are not always as universal as I had thought and that other people, due to their experiences back at home, will often have much different views than me."

University of Pittsburgh student
Semester in South Korea @ Sogang University

"My creative advertising class helped me understand how each country has a reputable brand, and how the brand, 'Made in Italy' has benefited its economy and production market."

University of Colorado Denver student
Semester in Florence @
Florence University of the Arts

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