

Current Study Abroad Program

Top 10 Study Abroad Destinations

- Australia
- China
- Costa Rica
- Germany
- France
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Spain
- U.K.

Varied courses address diverse interests, immerse in culture, and foster interdisciplinary learning.

San Diego Mesa College has offered study abroad programs in Argentina, Costa Rica, England, Italy, France, Peru, and Spain. The offered study abroad courses include Art, Biology, Drama, Fashion, French, and Spanish. Proposed ones are English and Geology. From summer 2015 to January 2024, the number of participating students has steadily grown from an initial group of 34 students to a total of 68 students across multiple international destinations. 350+ student have participated since the summer of 2015.



Study Abroad Benefits

Academic Attainment___

87% claimed that studying abroad influence subsequent educational experiences.

Career Development_____

98% reported that study abroad experience helped them to better understand their own cultural values and biases.

_Cultural Development___

76% reported they acquired skill sets while studying abroad that influenced their career path.

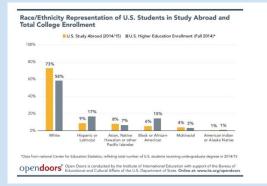
- 1. See the World
- 2. Education
- 3. Take in a New Culture
- 4. Hone Your Language Skills
- 5. Career Opportunities
- 6. Find New Interests
- 7. Make Lifelong Friends
- 8. Personal Development
- 9. Graduate School Admissions
- 10. Life Experience

| PARTICIPATION IN STUDY ABROAD | Student total | % of total |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| All U.S. undergraduates who study abroad during their degree program | 169,216 | 5.9 |
| U.S. higher education undergraduate total* | 2,867,563 | |

*Total U.S. students receiving Associate and Bachelor's degrees. Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2022

This data has been compiled from Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange, a project conducted by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs and the Institute for International Education. Our trends match other institutions, data we know, report found graduation rates of 45.8% for Hispanic students and 38% for African American students, compared with 62% of White students and 63.2% of Asian students (Shapiro, Dundar, Huie, Wakhungu, Yuan, Nathan, & Hwang, 2017).

Current Study Abroad Program



Although only a quarter of the study abroad population is non-White, Open Doors 2016 data show a modest increase of racial/ethnic minority students studying abroad, from 17 percent in 2004-05 to 27 percent in 2014-15.







Our Approach

- The I Am Study Abroad Campaign puts a special focus on underrepresented student populations.
- In collaboration with UMOJA and support for DREAMERS to ensure inclusive opportunities for all students. We have given focus presentations. During International Education we had panel focusing on Black and Brown Student Experiences Traveling and Studying Abroad.

Addressing The Barriers

Our Approach

- Cost and financial aid restrictions
- Family and community influences
- Lack of awareness
- Concerns about on-time graduation

- We focus on addressing these barriers through targeted outreach and support initiatives.
- Workshops on family/cultural stresses are offered to support first-generation Americans.
- We target study abroad scholarship programs specifically to students receiving Pell Grants.
- Scholarships such as the Benjamin Gilman and the Gilman McCain for Veterans are promoted, supported with one on one meetings and writing workshops.
- Regular workshops are conducted to educate students about scholarship opportunities.
- We have focused marketing strategies: social media, email campaigns, website content, flyers on campus to reach students effectively.
- We emphasize lower-cost destinations and prioritize faculty-led programs aimed at low-income and first-generation students of color.



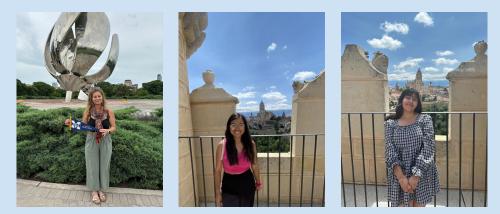


Study Abroad Program Aid

Fundraiser

The Study Abroad Office is made up of myself and two work-study returnee students. Additional International Education Committee members are needed to help us provide valuable study abroad opportunities. In the future, we're hoping to create events and partnerships to get continuous funding for our Study Abroad Scholarship. Doing events for students, focusing on their professional skills for their careers and transfer with work based learning.

Meet Our Current Team



Grants/Scholarships

- Apply for **IDEAS Grant**, the Allied Health program is interested (Up to \$30,00)
- We apply to the 100,000 strong grant, The 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund
- Additional scholarships often available for destinations aligned with our UN initiatives on Human development, incentivizing exploration of lesser-known destinations. And for our first time travels, such as;

https://www.firsttrip.org/first-trip-scholarship

First Trip promotes nontraditional travel!

First Trip values the philosophy of global citizenship and promotes travel to non-traditional study abroad destinations. In recent years, international educators have begun challenging students to consider more meaningful international experiences over cliché Western European excursions. First Trip proudly participates in this initiative.

Study Abroad Program Alternatives

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)

COIL is as an innovative approach to internationalizing the classroom. The partnership and common syllabi/curriculum is guided from the benefits of COIL:

- Enables cultural and academic idea exchanges.
- Eliminates travel barriers and promotes accessibility.
- Students can participate from San Diego.
- Students develop cultural competence and global awareness.

I collaborated with the University of Chiapas, in Mexico.



Former Study Abroad Student

Ashley López

- 20 Years Old
- Business Major
- Madrid, Summer 2023









College doesn't prepare them for life. Wesley House Does.







Save The Date...

<u>Study Abroad Faculty & Student Panel</u>

April 11th | 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

- During 2024's Cultural Unity Week, the study abroad program will be hosting a faculty & student panel discussing their experiences in Argentina, Italy, Rwanda, and Spain.
- All students are welcomed to attend the event.

Study Abroad Re-Entry

April 30th | Time TBD

- In late April, a mini conference will be held for returnee students. Here the returnee students will learn how to apply their study abroad skills in order to achieve their professional and transfer goals.
- The invited students are the Summer 2023 (Italy & Spain) students, Winter 2024 (Argentina) students.

21 Century Skills:

- 1. Adaptability
- 2. Analysis/Solution Mindset
- 3. Collaboration
- 4. Communication
- 5. Digital Fluency
- 6. Empathy
- 7. Entrepreneurial Mindset
- 8. Resilience
- 9. Self-Awareness
- 10. Social/Diversity Awareness

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Spain





Peru





Costa Rica



Argentina

France

Italy