

Study Abroad Student Learning Outcomes Assessment AY14-15



Name of Assessment Project: Study Abroad Student Learning Outcomes Assessment AY14-15

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Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project: Study Abroad, UC San Diego (note: new name as of July 2015), advises nearly 5000 student per year and sends approximately 1000 students abroad each year, the majority of which go abroad on programs developed and run by outside program partners. Our office provides extensive advising (based upon a developmental advising model) to help students choose the best program that fits their academic, career and personal goals, and then we provide extensive pre-departure intercultural training and health and safety training as well as advising and reintegration services for students upon their return to campus. We know that the advising work we do contributes to the overall strategic plan of the university by helping students who study abroad graduate faster than those students who do not study abroad.

Assessment Project Description: The project's primary goal is to assess students' learning related to the six outcome statements listed below.

- Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes:**
- Students are aware that those who study abroad can graduate at least as fast as those who do not study abroad
 - Students are aware of programs that help them make progress toward timely graduation
 - Students are aware of safety resources available to them
 - Study abroad students are aware of cultural adjustment prior to departure
 - Study abroad students are aware of the value of their study abroad experience on their career development
 - Study abroad students are aware of the financial resources available to them

Relationship to Student Affairs Learning Outcomes: Communicate Effectively, Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success, Lead in a Diverse Global Society, Promote Social Justice and Community Responsibility

Assessment Project Start: 9/29/2014

Assessment Project End: 6/30/2015

Population/Sample: All students who have studied abroad (approx. 950 in 2014-2015); all students who have not studied abroad (for graduation and retention factoring)

Type of Assessment: Student learning outcomes and/or behavioral outcomes

Other Assessment Type(s): Student Research and Information Data

Assessment Methods: Student Research and Information Data
Other Assessment Method(s): Data were collected and provided by Bill Armstrong's Student Research and Information Office

Data Analysis Methods: Comparisons between the percentage of students who studied abroad and those who didn't show that those who studied abroad graduated on time or faster than those who did not study abroad. This evidence suggests that two of the above learning outcomes are being met.

How Your Results Will Be Presented: The time to graduation data was shared across campus with faculty, staff, and administration at all levels. It is also posted on our website and has been used in several presentations at national conferences (IES Abroad, Diversity Abroad).

Progress: 100%

Link Assessment Project in Campus Labs Baseline :	Name	Source
	No items to display.	

Summary of Findings: In the entering cohort of FA2007, 272 or 65.7% of students (of 414 who studied on EAP) graduated in 4 years, while 388 or 93.7% of those had graduated in 5 years. This is compared to the entering cohort students who did NOT study on EAP: 2,055 or 55.1% graduated in 4 years and 2,959 or 79.4% had graduated in 5 years.

In the entering cohort of FA2007, 110 or 63.6% of students (of 173 who studied on OAP) graduated in 4 years, while 162 or 93.6% of those had graduated in 5 years. This is compared to the entering cohort students who did NOT study on OAP: 2,217 or 55.9% graduated in 4 years and 3,185 or 80.3% had graduated in 5 years.

It is clear that students who study abroad graduate at the same rate or faster than those who do not and are therefore

meeting the first two learning outcomes stated above.

Impact of Assessment: This project's findings will be used to further refine and improve the design of Study Abroad's student learning outcomes, plus the design, implementation, and/or delivery of its programs and services. They will also be used to promote the retention, on-time completion and graduation rate of UC San Diego's study abroad students.



Lessons Learned: Six student learning statements have been drafted for this assessment project. In an ideal world, we would have set out the learning statements and then built the programs around these; however, our programs have been in place for many years already, so we were working backwards to define and articulate our learning outcomes both to fit our programs as well as fit into the strategic goals of the VCSA and campus. Luckily, our learning outcomes have aligned well with the solid work we've been doing in the Programs Abroad Office/Study Abroad, UC San Diego for years.

Having gone through the exercise to identify six student learning outcomes for our unit, we realized that four of them need further revision as they are not S.M.A.R.T. as they are written in terms of identifying measurable ways to assess them (i.e., there is really no objective way to measure if a student is "aware" of something).

A few of the assessments we would like to undertake in the coming year as we continue to learn and hopefully gain some resources to help us collect data include:

- Looking at graduation and retention data for Global Seminars students (first cohort was SU 2008)
- Assessing the impact of the Academic Integration work we do with the departments and colleges upon EAP students' graduation rate
- Assessing the impact of the OASIS/GS scholarship upon students' ability to go on a Global Seminar (tied in with the sixth learning statement, above)
- Assessing the impact of study abroad on students' career development (we'd like to work with Career Services on this)
- Assessing our diversity outreach and advising efforts, specifically as they relate to the Diversity Road Map we are working on in conjunction with the Diversity Abroad Network

Supplemental Information: Additional reports on UC San Diego's study abroad students are available at: <http://icenter.ucsd.edu/about/publications/index.html>

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