



# Academic Credit Options

**Benefits of a Faculty-Led Travel Program**



# What are Faculty-Led Travel Programs?

Overnight stay programs outside the state or country.

In 2018, ACO has sent more than 140 students on successful travel programs to places such as:

- Africa
- Australia
- Buenos Aires
- Canada
- London
- New York



# ACO specializes in short-term travel programs

Eight weeks or less in duration

The Institute of International Education (IIE) found that *“the number of U.S. college students studying abroad is at record high levels.”*<sup>1</sup>

In the 2016/2017 school year, more than 332,000 U.S. students studied abroad in programs that earned academic credit.

54.6% of these students were in short-term travel programs.<sup>2</sup>

# Why create a Faculty-Led Travel Program?

- It's rewarding
- Allows you to conduct research
- Retain your students and help them to be successful
- Attracts potential students to our University and your program
- Generates revenue to your department



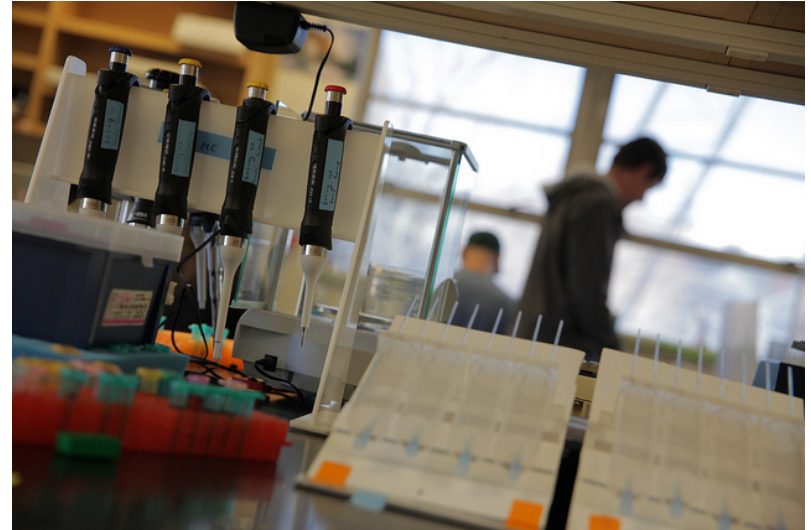
# It's rewarding

- Previous faculty have indicated that leading a group of students abroad has been one of the most rewarding experiences of their academic career.
- A student's study abroad experience can be one of the most enriching and inspiring experiences of their lives and it will change the way they think forever.



# Conduct research

- Traveling abroad gives you another opportunity to conduct research
- Allows for collaboration with other institutions
- Make international contacts



# Student retention and success

- Helps students meet the Silver Core requirement
- Students get real world experience



# Student retention and success

A recently published study on the *Impact of Study Abroad on Retention and Success*, found that students who study abroad, even for short periods of time, had:

- Earned higher grades
- Completed degrees in four years
- An average GPA of 3.21 compared to 3.12 for peers who did not study abroad<sub>3</sub>





# Student recruitment

One factor potential students look for in universities is their study abroad programs.



# Student recruitment

Students who have studied abroad hold a distinct advantage over job candidates who have had no comparable international experience. These students experience increased civic engagement and cultural awareness. They become better world citizens.



# Student recruitment

Quacquarelli Symonds Annual Global Employer Survey, conducted annually since 1991, shows,

*“that employers globally do value international study when recruiting talent, with a 60% affirmative response to the primary question, do you actively seek or attribute value to an international study experience when recruiting?”*<sup>4</sup>

# Revenue generating

Using a self-funded model, short term travel programs can generate funds for various things.\*

- Travel expenses
- Research supplies
- Course materials
- Teaching assistants
- Future program development

\*depending on institution policy

# Revenue generating

Self-Funded Model: aka: self-supporting

The financial status (designation) of a program that costs the university/institution zero to offer.

(i.e., Costs = \$2,000. 10 students. \$200 per student.)

Meaning, we figure out all the costs of a program (or the amount that is needed) and charge the students for those costs.



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## Have an Idea for a Travel Program?

Contact ACO. We will make the process easy.

Travel programs can take more than a year to plan and seem incredibly daunting. But once it's planned, you can offer it over and over. Let us help you develop your travel program.

[ACO@unr.edu](mailto:ACO@unr.edu)

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# Contact us



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## References:

- <sup>1</sup> BestColleges.Com, *The Study Abroad Decision*,  
<http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/study-abroad-guide/>
- <sup>2</sup> Institute of International Education. (2018). Host Regions and Destinations of U.S. Study Abroad Students, 2018. *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange*. Retrieved from <http://www.iie.org/opendoors>
- <sup>3</sup> The Center for Global Education. *Impact of Study Abroad on Retention and Success*. GlobalResearch.com <http://globaledresearch.com/study-abroad-impact.asp>
- <sup>4</sup> QS Ltd. (2011). *QS Global Employer Survey Report 2011*.  
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