

Post Study Abroad Survey

Overall Program

Study abroad program you enrolled in: _____, _____
City Country

Semester and year you studied abroad: _____

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?		
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?		
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?		
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?		
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?		
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?		

What were your reasons/goals for studying abroad? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> attend the study abroad program because it was recommended by previous participants | <input type="checkbox"/> growth in maturity and self-confidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be with other friends that would be participating in the study abroad program | <input type="checkbox"/> growth in self-awareness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> enhance my resume | <input type="checkbox"/> improve career prospects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> establish ties with family/ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> increase ability to communicate in a foreign language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> foreign language waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> intellectual stimulation and development in the liberal arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gain a different perspective on American culture | <input type="checkbox"/> interact with local people and learn more about the customs and traditions of the host country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gain a different perspective on my ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> learn more about business coursework as taught by the host country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gain insight into the culture of the host country of the study abroad program | <input type="checkbox"/> live in and make acquaintances from the host country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater autonomy in independent decision-making | <input type="checkbox"/> take classes that are not offered at UNCG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater understanding of different cultures | <input type="checkbox"/> travel to countries near the host country of the study abroad program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater understanding of my faith | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater understanding of the U.S. in world affairs and history | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> growth in interpersonal skills and ability to adapt | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

<i>How important were the following:</i>	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
The availability of a study abroad program in your decision to attend UNCG?				
This study abroad program to the value of your undergraduate educational experience?				
The opinion of my parents in my decision to study abroad.				
The opinion of my friends in my decision to study abroad.				
The influence of my instructors in my decision to study abroad.				
The influence of my academic advisor in my decision to study abroad.				

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall quality of teaching				
Overall quality of the course content				
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses				

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More	More	Similar	Less	Much Less
Degree of independent learning required					
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)					
Difficulty of grading scale					
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)					

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in?

- Home-stay (living with a local family)
- Off-campus apartment
- On-campus/dormitory

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests, etc.)					
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)					
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)					
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement					

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture				
Amount and quality of contact you had with the local people				
Amount and quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program				

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? _____

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Great Growth	Moderate Growth	Little Growth	No Growth	N/A
Ability to communicate in a foreign language					
Different perspective on American culture					
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage					
Intellectual development in business coursework					
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt					
Maturity and self-confidence					
Self-awareness					
Understanding of different cultures					
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs and history					
Understanding of your faith					

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

Australia¹

Australian Catholic University, Deakin University, Macquarie University, RMIT

Overall Program n=6

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	40%	60
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	0
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	100	0
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	N/A	
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	100	0
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	100	0

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	16.7%	83.3			3.17	3.22
Overall quality of the course content		100			3	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	33.3	33.3	33.3		3	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	50%	16.7	16.7		16.7	3.83	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	16.7		33.3	50		2.83	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	50			33.3	16.7	3.33	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)	16.7	16.7	33.3	33.3		3.17	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	
Off-campus apartment	50%
On-campus/dormitory	50

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	100%5				4	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	66.7	33.3			3.67	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)		40		60	2.8	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement		83.3	16.7		3.83	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture		83.3%	16.7		3.83	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people		66.7	33.3		3.67	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program		16.7	66.7	16.7	3	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 3

Program Impact

¹In Appendices B and C, only those countries with active programs of n ≥ 5 per country were included.

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	N/A	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.33	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	1.08	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	3	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.83	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.67	3.62
Self-awareness	3.83	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.5	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.2	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

ACU:

- I took a course about Human Resource Information Systems at ACV which was excellent.

Deakin:

- Coursework harder. Instead lots of tests/quizzes throughout semester. One big Final (paper or test) at the end of the semester.

Macquarie:

- Accounting course had over 300 students, science course very difficult compared to American courses. Other cultural courses taken were brilliant, gave different perspective of Australian life history.

RMIT:

- I took Australian Society and I learned so much about their history/culture and took weekend field trips to experience the area!

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

ACU:

- Although in general the classes were easier, there were less on-campus facilities/libraries so that made you have to use resources online more often which is actually more like my "real world" business experience thus far!

Deakin:

- Class structure was different. Classes were composed of two parts: lecture and tutorial. In "lecture" there were 100+ students in attendance and one professor who went over information/course. "Tutorials" were broken down to about 20 students and went over what was taught in "lecture" where you could ask questions, etc. The workload was also more independent. We never had "homework" or quizzes.... our grades were only calculated on two or so projects/exams.
- Lots more self learning.

Macquarie:

- Course work was much different at Macquarie - only one exam at end and tutorial sessions along with lectures. UNCG more assignments due during the semester and easier to interact with professors. Course work much more difficult at Macquarie. Professors hard to contact.

RMIT:

- All classes were more difficult there, I had to read more, study more and write many more papers than at UNCG. My professors were great for small classes but I had one class with several hundred students and never got to speak with that professor.
- The way classes were structured when I was abroad was better than UNCG. I would have a big lecture class and we would break down to smaller classes to do all the work in. I learned a lot more in a small class setting.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

ACU:

- Very little is needed in Australia.

Deakin:

- Just to be aware that the teaching style is A LOT different in Australia. It is more independent, so there isn't homework but grades are calculated by only by midterm and exam grades.
- Self discipline to learn and retain coursework.

Macquarie:

- I would recommend an international business course to speak with others that have gone abroad to help in future experiences.

RMIT:

- Everything is written out in essays on term papers. No multiple choice or True/False questions. I had to study much more for exams than ever before.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

ACU:

- They were very friendly and helpful.

Deakin:

- Helpful. They found me at the airport and took me to the university.

Macquarie:

- The IPC at the host school organized many events and were accessible, not as frequently though as there were so many students and with the laid back atmosphere, item were not taken care of right away.

RMIT:

- After orientation didn't have much contact. Sept. 11 occurred while I was there and they had a very nice memorial service for us to attend.(US citizens)
- The IPC was great and helped me with all of my needs.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

Deakin:

- Live with natives (People from that country). Don't live in an international house, if possible.
- Meeting locals.... and not just other students who are studying abroad. I made many friends who were Australian and that definitely helped with learning about their culture!

Macquarie:

- Sending students for the fall semester where there are less American students studying at Macquarie. Organizing trips for students or setting up students with a peer mentor in Australia. Also, mixing students with

other international students (other than American). Also, finding a way to immerse students more in the culture.

RMIT:

- Make friends with the other students in your classroom and living arrangement and get to know them. If you are lucky they will invite you home for the weekend!

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

ACU:

- Rail system was a great value. I also made Australian friends who helped me to some awesome places!

Deakin:

- Up East coast, middle of country, South and New Zealand. Mostly we travelled via plane. Flights were cheap and best way to travel. Did take train to Geelong. Mostly everywhere we went, we signed up for tours and they provided transportation. Trams were great in Melbourne. Taxi, boats and walking were other forms of transportation used.
- Yes, traveling was the best part! We backpacked by bus and also flew by plane. We flew to Cairns (Queensland, Northern Australia) and backpacked south to Melbourne. We went to Cairns, Townsville, Magnetic Island, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Surfers Paradise, Byron Bay, Sydney, all over Victoria (Phillips Island, Ocean Road...). LOVED IT.

Macquarie:

- I traveled often, taking the bus around the city and to the Blue Mountains, Also trains to go to the beach. Flights were very cheap so I traveled to Melbourne, Cairns, Brisbane, Port Douglas, Fiji, New Zealand, China, Japan, Malaysia, and all around Australia. Everything was inexpensive. Taxis were commonly used in the city. A bus ran straight from campus right downtown to circular Quay and QVB building. Also, friends had cars and I was driven and also rented cars in New Zealand, etc.

RMIT:

- All over east coast and to New Zealand and my main transportation was by train.
- I traveled alone to class most days I just walked because I lived in the city and it was only 4/5 blocks. When I went to church or out to a friend's house I took the Tram. I also traveled alone to Sydney for the weekend and rode the train for 9 hours.

Other Comments.

- Study Abroad was the best experience of my life. It was also one of the most challenging experiences I have faced; leaving all my friends and family behind with two suitcases to live out the next 6 months of my life... but it is also the most rewarding. I learned SO much about myself in those 6 months and I definitely came back a changed person. I made some of the best friends and have some of the best stories to tell. To this day, it still is one of the best decisions I've ever made.....

Denmark Copenhagen Business School

Overall Program n=6

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	40%	60
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	0
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	100	0
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	100	0
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	100	0
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	100	0

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	50%	33.3	16.7		3.33	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	50	50			3.5	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	50	33.3		16.7	3.17	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNGC:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	66.7%		33.3			4.33	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	16.7	16.7	16.7	50		3	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	16.7	50	33.3			3.83	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)	33.3		50	16.7		3.5	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	33.3%
Off-campus apartment	66.6
On-campus/dormitory	

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	83.3%			16.7	3.5	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	33.3	33.3	16.7	16.7	2.83	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	75		25		3.5	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	66.7	16.7		16.7	3.33	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	83.3%		16.7		3.67	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	66.7	33.3			3.67	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	66.7	33.3			3.67	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 2.5

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	2.83	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.17	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	3.33	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	3.5	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.5	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.5	3.62
Self-awareness	3.33	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.83	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3.2	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.5	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

- Marketing Course: Contact and Trade with distant market and Society. A great course
- Outsourcing across Global borders was eye opening
- The global business courses were great. Very broad international perspectives.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

- In Denmark there are no papers, tests, quizzes, midterms, only a final exam/project
- Learning abroad is much more team based, group projects, more interactive in class and with your class mates. More thinking seemed to be involved. At UNCG I could see a lot of memorization, busy work. The style of teaching is much different. Abroad we seemed to talk about more real life situations. UNCG seemed to be all about the book.
- The single oral exam at end of term. This was very difficult to handle I found. It improved my study skills.
- There is a verbal learning style used in Denmark, while UNCG is more of a written-style. Also in Copenhagen our class projects were created to mimic real-world business scenarios and projects, which I thought was great in terms of understanding the business world.
- Very similar

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

- I went to an English Program in Denmark. No Preparation for the language. All the Danish speak English.
- None needed except general Information about the country
- None, taught in English
- Study up on Denmark before going so you can get what group work is like.
- To at least learn some basic Danish before leaving.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

- The IPC was my only connection to system. It was freaking amazing with over 1000 students a semester they willingly went out of their way to make this an experience of a lifetime.
- They were always kind, visible, and you knew where to find them. They were great to work with. The IPC at UNCG was also great to work with.
- They were very helpful and accessible.
- Very good
- Very helpful

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

- Don't just hang out with the internationals; it's very easy to do. Meet local students through class and spend time with them.
- Get a bike when you get there.
- Go out, do not stay at home or school, see the sights, meet people
- Make them live with other students and not with host families.

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

- All over the country. Bike, Bus, Train
- Depending on where I went was the mode of transportation I used. Flying: England, Italy, France, Switzerland. Bus: Germany, Sweden Train: Norway, Sweden
- Euro-rail, 9 countries, Spain, France, Italy, Croatia, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Belgium
- I traveled by train to Italy (Rome, Venice, Florence) Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, Sweden, Amsterdam, Belgium.
- I went to Stockholm in a van with 8 other people and I went to Berlin on a Bus/airplane.

Other Comments.

- Studying Abroad was the best experience of my life. You become a worldly person and I believe smarter. A lot of my friends I remember said they wish they would have studied abroad. When do you get a chance to live another country? (Living & Traveling are 2 different things) I think to grow the study abroad program at UNCG needs to make it easier for students to do it. You have to find your way around the process at UNCG to get abroad. I think a lot of people didn't really understand how to do it. If the process was easier more outlined, then more students would go. I personally felt it was easy for me to go abroad because I was determined to do it. But the average person that considers it might feel the process is too complex for them to do. The Average UNCG student when I was there did not know about the Study Abroad Programs. UNCG STUDY ABROAD IS A GREAT PROGRAM!!!!

Finland
Oulu University – Scandinavian Studies Program

Overall Program n=5

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	60%	40
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	100	
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	80	20
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	100	
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	100	

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	40%	40	20		3.2	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	40	40	20		3.2	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	80	20			3.8	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required		40%	20	40		3	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)			40	40	20	2.2	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale			40	40	20	2.2	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)		20	80			3.2	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	
Off-campus apartment	
On-campus/dormitory	100%

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	60%	40			3.6	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	66.7		33.3		3.33	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	40	20	40		3	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	60	40			3.6	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	20%	80			3.2	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	20	40	40		2.8	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	60	20	20		3.4	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 1.2

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	2.75	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	2.8	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	2	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	1.5	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.2	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.6	3.62
Self-awareness	3.2	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.4	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	2.6	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.75	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

- The courses were good. They were not hard or demanded a lot of work but they really taught a lot about the culture. I learned more on the excursions and just being there.
- They were all so much fun!
- Trip to Estonia, Lapland, Stockholm was a wonderful experience. Wish it was advised in Freshman/Sophomore yr > for planning: or offer business class credits

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

- Approachability of professor and probably the amount of work
- Classes were easier, some only requiring one assignment at the end of the course. Professors were more approachable and I felt that academic assistance would have been easily obtained.
- Culture diversity within the class Room. Less academic Pressure
- Experience was the difference. At UNCG it is all book work, where the study abroad taught history, culture, language, and art in class but were also able to get out use it and see it which made a more lasting impression.
- Students are much more self-guided in European programs. Professors seemed to command a higher level of respect during lectures. All other factors seemed very similar.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

- English program
- Get some Finnish language CD's and do some beginning work on learning the language. Almost everyone spoke some level of English, but gaining a passing familiarity with the language helped with my comfort level.
- Guess what? None! Finnish is nice, but unnecessary since most natives are fluent in our language (English).
- it really depends on the program and country
- Try to learn more of the language before going.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

- Good
- Really only seen them once or so. They were not very helpful
- They were extremely accessible and helpful. Whenever I had a question, I just barged right in and asked and they were ready and willing with a helpful response.
- Very helpful. I was greeted by a "buddy" and she answered a lot of questions, helped me get settled in, even took me to the grocery store the first time. She was great!

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

- Create talent show, culture sharing gatherings
- I'd say this: Make a concerted effort to mingle with the locals. It is very easy to surround yourself with your fellow exchange students. This is great, BUT BUT BUT BUT, you should really try to get to know the people of the host country, because you can't know the culture without knowing its people.
- More excursions or getting out the classroom more.
- The buddy system was a great introduction, and the activities were very interesting and informative. But, ultimately, students must take it upon themselves to seek out opportunities, outside of school, to get involved. That's when the real adventure begins!
- You only live once and live your life to the fullest

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

- Eurail pass, bus, tram, rental car, and airplane. Also lots of walking!
- Father lives in England. So I traveled by air. From England I then went to Finland
- I never tried to travel alone.
- London, England. We flew there.
- We traveled by train to St. Petersburg

Other Comments.

- Finland was so nice. I just hope EVERYBODY figures that out soon. People think that just because it is frigid and cold most of the year that it is some kind of barren wasteland. This is just not true. Finland is overflowing with interesting sights and folks. It is the land of 10,000 lakes! Sometimes I think Finland is overshadowed by its neighbor to the west, Sweden. I'm sure that Sweden is a fine country, too, but I find it disappointing that Finland is so often overlooked in the Scandinavian region.
- I was a non-traditional student -- over 30 years old, and still had a great experience. I am glad that I did not let my age become a barrier to studying abroad, because it changed my life. I am a better, different person because of taking the opportunity to live in Finland for four months. I should note that I did not attend as a business student (my first degree), but as a Nordic design student (my second degree).
- I was very homesick for a while and my credit cards were stolen in London which made money tight the rest of the trip, but overall it was a worthwhile and memorable experience.

France
Université Jean Moulin Lyon III, Université Rennes II

Overall Program n=18

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	50%	50
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	94.4	5.6
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	94.4	5.6
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	83.3	16.7
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	94.4	5.6
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	87.5	12.5

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	16.7%	33.3	50		2.67	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	27.8	44.4	22.2	5.6	2.94	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	22.2	38.9	33.3	5.6	2.78	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	22.2%	27.8	27.8	22.2		3.5	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)		5.6	22.2	50	22.2	2.11	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	22.2	33.3	22.2	11.1	11.1	3.44	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)		5.6	27.8	27.8	38.9	2	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	16.7%
Off-campus apartment	72.2
On-campus/dormitory	11.1

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	50%	38.9	11.1		3.39	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	35.3	47.1	11.8	5.9	3.12	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	57.1	21.4	14.3	7.1	3.29	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	50	22.2	22.2	5.6	3.17	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	55.6%	38.9	5.6		3.5	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	55.6	33.3	11.1		3.44	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	55.6	16.7	27.8		3.28	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 5.5

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	3.33	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.67	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	3	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	2.89	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.83	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.76	3.62
Self-awareness	3.82	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.89	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3.61	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.6	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

Lyon 3:

- All were very disappointing to some extent. I would have enjoyed a greater challenge.
- I found the coursework to be a joke. I prefer American style of teaching significantly over French. Perhaps it is just Lyon 3 but quality of teaching and coursework was awful.
- I really enjoyed international marketing and advertising. We did case studies just as if we were at UNCG in marketing. The Disruptive method that was taught really gave an interesting understanding of the advertising arena. I didn't really care for international business, it was lecture based. But there were interesting topics all the same. I did like the final paper as our only graded coursework. My favorite classes were the French ones. I had a lot of fun with the professor, Didier, he was awesome.
- I sat on one French translation course taught in French. I think that was a nice juxtaposition to the English classes I was taking.
- Managing Global Business with Mr. De Leerschnyder was great.
- Marketing, International Marketing and Indian Societies are great. Beware of French art and language classes.
- Some of the teachers were very unhelpful. For one course managing Global Business, I was told I would be graded based on that the instructor thought of me.
- The Economics course was awful. We had 3 different professors and the topics were all over the place and unrelated. The grading of the final exam was totally arbitrary and not based at all on the content of our answers. Everyone in that class from UNCG failed, even though we attended all classes, took extensive notes and completed the exam.
- The French as a foreign language class wasn't very good. Find the lack of textbook in all classes made them more difficult.
- The International Economics course was interesting, Marketing was also very well taught.
- We had a lot of stress over being able to take final exams before our date to leave on the flight home.

Rennes 2:

- One class was missing a professor for most of the semester. Otherwise they were satisfactory.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

Lyon 3:

- Class and coursework i.e. tests, homework were completely differently, emphasis was more on how you learn the material then your ability to be tested on it the professors were in my opinion better.
- Classes that I took in French were rather hard, professors were not as approachable and seem intimidating (French professors that is!)

- Classes were different because we had several nationalities represented. The amount of work is what I would expect from college at UNCG it is too much work given. The professors were assigned to our program and had other obligations as well so not as accessible as UNCG's professors. However we also had the major "manifestations" or "grèves" over the workers' rights.
- Classes were easier and more flexible. Professors more personable and helpful.
- In the end I realized that the courses weren't very hard but I think this was to make up for the overall lack of organization and academic assistance.
- Most classes consisted of one grade for the entire semester. 50% = pass. Little or no homework assignments. Professors do not teach in the same manner as UNCG teachers. I did not find them very approachable and most of them don't even live in Lyon and were only there on the day you had class.
- Much like the Italian universities, the professor-student relationship is very different than in the states. They were approachable, but the lessons were always in the form of a lecture, with little to no student interaction. The amount of work and difficulty was minimal. But, that is probably due to the fact that we were exchange students...
- Professors at UNCG are much more approachable. At Lyon 3, the students are left to fend for themselves. However, that is a great opportunity to learn about oneself, learning style, etc.
- Professors were not a available/approachable. Difficulty of classes was the same. More independent learning may have required in some but there was still time to enjoy the culture.
- The classroom was a lot more diverse with students from multiple cultural backgrounds. Professors much more aggressive.
- The course work is less but there are a lot more to do independently if the student wishes. Class sizes are small (5-25) so you can really get to know your professors and classmates. But don't expect much help from tge faculty.
- The distance the profs. Maintained between the students was a put off, as was the total back of technology.
- The professors are much less accessible and the French style of teaching made the classes more challenging even when the course content was easy.
- The professors at Lyon were not approachable at all. My concerns and the concerns of others were ignored. I felt as if there was no one that I could go to for help. It seemed as myself and others from my school were mistreated because of our ethnicity.
- Very different, few classes, most were open discussions, course work was mostly completed outside of class and was very subjective. The quality of work was a lot less than at UNCG however. I did well, but had no idea until I returned and they send my transcripts.

Rennes 2:

- The professors were very understanding.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

Lyon 3:

- Academics should be someone who is in there major. Foreign language proficiency can range, from little to fluent speakers.
- At least 2 sentences in French.
- At least beginning level. I had completed intermediate before I went and found it very useful. Take as much as you can.
- At least learn / take beginners language class before studying abroad.
- Basic language course a must. An additional travel course would also be helpful - just a few classes/weeks worth.
- Basic level of French (survival) is all you really need before going.
- Candidates should be proficient in reading the language. He or she should also have moderate speaking ability. Most locals prefer that you speak in English.
- High - you must either be well prepared or learn to catch on very quickly to the language and cultural nuances to get the full benefit of the program.

- I recommend that everyone take at least 2 semesters of the language before travelling abroad. It just makes it easier.
- I think that more than academic preparation, one should prepare themselves culturally. Having lived and traveled abroad before, and was fluent in French already, Lyon was like another home for me. But, I noticed that most of the students who didn't speak the language had little to no interest in experiencing the French culture, language, and people. Rather, they tended to stick to each other and only associate with other English-speaking students, which I think is unfortunate because it gave them a limited experience. Moreover, they were the ones who had the most difficulty with the locals when the war in Iraq started.
- I would suggest that students, at a minimum, learn a few phrases to remain polite, showing others they're making an effort to learn. English will get you by.
- It's easy to find general classes for any level you happen to be at in your studies. The more French the better. The dictation was sometimes very hard to follow.
- Little academic preparation needed. Lots of language preparation, French is difficult to speak and understand.
- none
- There is the option of taking classes in French or English, however I think at least two semesters of French is necessary. I was already fluent, but from observing others with little or no French, this is my opinion.
- While no language is necessary for the self program I think an intermediate level of French study would be beneficial simply for living and communicating outside of school.

Rennes 2:

- As a minimum 4 courses at the 300 level or above

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

Lyon 3:

- Corme Montoya was great, but the rest of the IPC was not very approachable or helpful. It felt like the self students were separate from the rest of the international students.
- Fair. Be prepared for culture shock.
- It was rather chaotic. But in the chaos I found individuals that were willing to help out.
- Limited.
- Moderately helpful.
- Montoya was very helpful and accessible but the rest of the dept. was pretty much useless. It took a month or two to get student ID's which prevented us from participating in some programs (sports, computer access, etc.)
- Not accessible, only somewhat helpful.
- Pretty awful when I was there (2004-2005). Got more assistance from UNCG's IPC to help me the entire year.
- There were times that my concerns were not addressed by UPC for several days. There were problems with my housing for two weeks and UPC did not address the matter nor did the Lyon Office. Students should try to meet people on your own. The French faculty does not help students emerge into the culture. Learning the culture requires taking initiative. Candidates will have to learn to adapt on their own.
- They were always open. They planned a few events. I met a lot of internationals at the center.
- They were awful! I arrived at noon and I did not get my apartment until 6 PM at night because they were very slack. I did not even get my grades back until 2 weeks before my graduation and therefore applied for August graduation. I did not get my deposit back until a week later.
- They were okay, as far as civil servants go. I had an insurance issue after visiting the doctor, they were short with me when I asked for help with insurance forms. On my own, I filled out the wrong ones and got no refund. Grrrr.
- Very difficult to work with. Especially if you don't speak the language fluently.
- Very much accessible, the staff was very helpful.
- Very rude unhelpful, frequently difficult to find, Good Luck! (This was not just my opinion, but a running joke amongst international students.)

Rennes 2:

- Excellent

- We were very much left to our own devices with little communication. We arrived to find out we had no housing, went to pick up stipend and were told we needed a bank account, etc. It made the experience quite frustrating.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

- Approach local students--go see plays--ask IPC if there are any families who'd like to interact with students.
- Attend cultural events available. Go out at night to meet locals.
- Don't be afraid of trying to speak and learn the language. The locals will respect you and will be more willing to help if one just tries to speak the language and embrace the differences in food, lifestyles, etc. rather than only speaking English, only eating familiar foods, and complaining about the differences in ways of doing things.
- Encourage living with a family. Playing sports helped. Have French cultural classes or seminars - i.e. movie night, activities with students that have been to the States or want to go. These student were much more willing to interact with us.
- Encouragement to live with someone who speaks the language fluently.
- Get to know local people - school arranged outings, etc. might help which includes locals, local students - not just international students (who tend to cling together and lose out on the cultural and language experience.)
- Go to the soirees for the international students and try not to just stick with your travel buddies (i.e. same school) because then you will just fall in a comfort zone and will not likely make as many new friends.
- I found a French family who wanted an English speaking baby-sitter. That experience was the best way I had of getting to know French people. And we're still in touch.
- Join groups outside the university. I stayed with a host family and joined an Anglican church group. I am still in touch with these people after 5 years and hope to visit them again.
- Just relax and allow yourself to become one with the area you are in. Don't judge the culture, embrace it, it will be your home for a few months. Do what the locals do, and everything will work out.
- Meet host school student, join a club or sports team at the university. Live with a host family and travel a lot.
- Stop by the office for special events. It is located in the center of the campus. There are always free or inexpensive events to attend. Try to sit with the students in the caf. Or at least talk to students at the bus stops.
- Take classes in French. Participate in school activities. Be extravert. Talk to people at bars. Stay with a host family.
- The best mode of transportation was the subway and bus system. A card with unlimited travels was 30 Euro a month, which was a very good price. It's very easy to get around in France Transportation runs most of the night.

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

- After the semester was over, I went home to Italy for a month before backpacking around for a month. I got a bus pass (which is actually better than Eurorail!) and went to Hungary, Austria, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France again, and back to Italy. I was supposed to meet some friends from Lyon in Prague, but I forgot my passport (only had EU Id) and had to get off my bus in the middle of the night on the Germany/Czech border. Long story, but after many hours of craziness (no one spoke English, Italian or French, and I didn't speak German or Czech, awesome) I finally found one nice guy that spoke a little English that drove me to the nearest German town to catch a train to Berlin. The experience was priceless!
- Belgium, Netherlands, Paris, Geneva, Zermatt. Mostly used bus and train. Sometimes taxis late at night. I rented a car to go to Belgium because it was cheaper than train with a large group of people. Around Lyon by foot, train, Metro.
- Get a Eurail pass mailed to you at the beginning of your trip (order ASAP). Travel overnight on the trains. I went all over Italy, France, Switzerland and took the EuroStar to London. Go home with other Europeans, sometimes cheaper and a great insight into the real culture.
- I explored parts of France, Germany, Italy, Poland, The Czech republic by train. I used the bus system in England and Scotland.
- I got to the student train pass to travel at a discounted rate to other European destinations. In the city, I purchased month to month the student metro pass which really paid itself within weeks of use.

- I PURCHASED A Eurail pass which I strongly recommend. I traveled to Paris a few times, Nice, the Champagne region, Dijon, Munich, Mannheim, Barcelona, Venice, Rome, Pisa (all traveled by train).
- I took the train through most of Western Europe. I visited the UK Ireland, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Holy, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, maybe elsewhere. It was the best!
- I traveled by train, bus, airplane. I spent time in Italy, Ireland, and the UK. Traveling on your own takes patience and an ability to trust yourself also it takes good social skills to go and speak with strangers. Europe I the best place for travelers to meet each other. If you can travel with or without people and you will meet a whole list of strangers who could become close friends.
- I traveled to Greece on my own - I went to Crete, spent a week there, then a couple days in Athens. I also traveled on my own to Paris, I traveled by TGV (train), I spent a week there before I came home.
- I travelled to Paris and other cute little places in France alone by train mainly. I also visited Geneva, Switzerland. Otherwise I rode in cars with my local friends and sometimes took the taxis. Around town it was always the buses, metro and tram.
- I used trains and EasyJet to get to London, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Madrid, Paris, Strasbourg, Geneva, Vienna, Munich, Budapest, Rome and probably a few others. I also travelled within Lyon region every week via public transport, walking or riding with the host family.
- Munich, Brussels, Geneva, Nice, Barcelona, Milan etc. all by train - they are pretty accessible, safe, inexpensive and very reliable.
- Paris by train (TGV) Grenoble by train, Alps by bus. Holland, London, Ireland by plane.
- Paris, train. London, Plane
- train, plane, boat, bus, trolley, bicycle
- When students have a problem they should be allowed to contact the UPC center. We were not allowed to call. I feel like I was mistreated because of my race and nationality. I thing it would be a good idea for the IPC to check in with the students within a week of their arrival to the host school and for them to contact them.

Other Comments.

- Even if a semester abroad is not required for your major as it was with mine, I would recommend that all students take advantage of this! If you are open-minded, you will have a great time and meet so many different people from different places. You will never regret going, but definitely will regret not going!
- I highly recommend studying abroad. Employers are looking for something that stands out on your resume. Especially with Global Business growing so quickly, study abroad is very attractive to potential employers.
- I would suggest study abroad to all students. The program is an amazing adventure of a lifetime. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world, well not anything. But I truly believe I came back with a different appreciation for the international program and students. My view of humanity has forever been changed.

Germany
Mannheim University, Fachhochschule Worms

Overall Program n=12

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	58.3%	41.7
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	0
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	100	0
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	91.7	8.3
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	91.7	8.3
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	66.7	33.3

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	33.3%	50	16.7		3.16	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	33.3	58.3	8.3		3.25	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	33.3	58.3	8.3		3.25	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	66.7%	25	8.3			4.58	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)		8.3	50	33.3	8.3	2.58	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	27.3	27.3	36.4	9.1		3.72	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)		8.3	8.3	66.7	16.7	2.08	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	
Off-campus apartment	75%
On-campus/dormitory	33.3

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	50%	25	25		3.25	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	8.3	33.3	33.3	25	2.25	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	22.2	66.7	11.1		3.11	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	33.3	33.3	33.3		3	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	58.3%	41.7			3.58	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	50	33.3	16.7		3.33	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	41.7	50	8.3		3.33	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 3.5

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	3.5	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.09	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	2.12	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	2.36	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.17	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.17	3.62
Self-awareness	3.25	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.33	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	2.83	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.8	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

Mannheim:

- All business courses I took at Mannheim University, in German, were very difficult and I do not recommend anyone to take courses at the master's level like we did.
- I really enjoyed all my courses and felt very engaged by the topics. I didn't take business classes while I was there.
- If you go to Mannheim, it is better to take Hauptstudium classes. The BWL Grundstudium is too large and just about a final exam.
- Registration was hell. Classes often cramped/claustrophobic. Take a clipboard because you may be sitting on the floor.
- Supply Chain Management was hard to pass even though it was taught in English. All of the UNCG students that took it failed it.
- too long ago

Worms:

- Herr Rutter's courses were great b/c they allowed you to submerge yourself in the culture.
- Marketing Seminar Project
- The European Consumers classes were great
- The option to take classes to improve German lang. Skills along with other foreign students made the experience of learning in a different language less stressful.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

Mannheim:

- Again, all business courses were hard. It was not easy to ask the professors any questions.
- In Germany we had almost no homework and no quizzes or tests. In every class we just had a final which determined the student's grade. The classes that were taught for exchange students were more interesting and students could participate whereas the classes that were taken at the university were hard to pass and held over 200 people.
- Professors more helpful at UNCG, abroad more encouragement to be independent, Less "busy work"
- The learning style was more independent. The classes I took were discussion based rather than lectures. The professors were great.
- They are pass/fail with more likely to fail first semester, take many classes take tests both semesters. University unwilling to move up tests had to do equivalents here. If you have a US Base close, make a Base friend, makes shipping things home cheaper, also for those items you crave but aren't found in "foreign" country.

- UNCG's professors are more approachable. But the Hauptstudium in Mannheim is good.

Worms:

- As students, you are not spoon-fed the material, you are really forced to learn independently, which I now appreciate because it increased my own self-motivation to go back to school. The professors were slightly less approachable, but were still available and willing to help.
- Difficulty level much higher because of language. German professors VERY hard to approach. Very little additional academic assistance.
- Not too different... If you are a serious student, it will be recognized
- The major difference was that there was a lot more discipline required for study in Germany...no quizzes, no mid-terms, just one Final exam.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

Mannheim:

- 300 level courses or better. And if you do not have any German background I would recommend to study abroad for at least one year.
- For the courses I took German wasn't needed, but I think it would be for business classes.
- If you are taking regular business classes in Mannheim, you should be at a high level of proficiency in German.
- Not enough focus on listen comprehension and speaking basics for survival German: several students got rude awakenings. Listening and speaking abilities, if you can't ask for help without being hit by someone's purse you are not prepared. Directions, train, bus, subway, plane (vocab), basics grocery, bank, docs, ect.
- Recommend some coursework in culture of the country

Worms:

- At least 4 yrs German Language and culture study.
- Higher than basic level. At least proficient in understanding and speaking.
- I wasn't quite prepared when I arrived, after 2 years of German, but was able to catch on quickly with some intensive studying. That being said, there were others who were less prepared than I who managed to survive. I chose to ONLY speak German during my semester however, unlike many of the French and Spanish speakers who reverted to their native language very quickly, and often posed questions in English instead of German.
- Try to become as proficient in the language as you can; try to listen to audio programs or watch program in German to get used to the accent, dialect, speed, etc of speech.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

Mannheim:

- They were great! They provided a lot of opportunities to learn about the region and interact with German students.
- They were ok. Most of the time I had to figure things out on my own. They did not give me the place of living that I signed up for and they were very difficult to reach due to their operating hours which are very limited. I also had problems with transferring credits over.
- very helpful
- Very limited, hard to catch them open, by the way why do you need your "hand held" anyway

Worms:

- Not very accessible at all.
- Satisfactory
- This area needs improvement! There was no one to help me when I was trying to get from Frankfurt to Worms, getting a telephone in my apartment was difficult and the overall "help" was below what I expected from the host school.
- Very helpful.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

Mannheim:

- Assign them a "buddy" in the locality or live with a host family
- Because all the classes that I took were with German students I made several good friends. The field trips were great.
- Find a Church, stay away from bars, and meet with other students for "coffee" or lunch or Dinner. Get a map and walk your community try to find interesting areas, for me a farmer's market type store.
- Going to different festivals, parks, parties etc is a must if you want to learn the culture and improve the language skills and make friends. Try to stay away from English speaking. Buy a TV!
- Socialize with Germans, go to the campus cafeteria and parties.
- Try to get involved with the locals who live where you live. For example, some of my flatmates were German and we would cook dinner together.

Worms:

- Be open minded and try not to compare everything to the U.S.; accept the culture for what it is and realize that this is a unique experience that not everyone will get the chance to experience. Talk to people and speak German every chance you get, even if you think it's "bad" the locals appreciate it and you will learn more about the culture.
- Get out of the International Student group. Spend time in the community outside of the college, or at least with Germans from the school (although I found non-student natives to be more accessible).
- Organize more outings, although Herr Rutter did a great job of that.
- Set up a buddy system for international students to be paired with local students, so that international students don't spend only time with other international students.

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

Mannheim:

- Bus, train, airplanes
- I flew into Frankfurt. My friends picked me up. If I hadn't lived in Germany previously I would have been lost. When you are stranded in a foreign country w/out knowing any of the language it is rather difficult. I think someone should pick up all the new exchange students from the airport as we do here at UNCG.
- I used the regional train pass to travel near Mannheim and I used the train to travel in Germany, Austria and France. My parents and I also rented a car for a while to visit some remote areas and go to the town I was born in.
- I went traveling for four weeks. Spain, France, Italy, Greece.
- Spain Train, Plane, buses, Subway, Taxi. Went solo, stayed in hostel and a hotel. Do yourself a favor. Take a small kitchen knife find grocery store get bread, cheese, fruit, veggie you can eat raw. If you have allergies make sure you know how to communicate that in the appropriate language.
- various countries, Belgium, Czech, France, Poland - train!

Worms:

- All over Europe... train and Ryan Air weekends
- By train: Italy, Netherlands, France, Switzerland, Austria; By bus: Czech Republic, Luxemburg; By car: Rest of Germany Berlin, Köln, etc; By plane: Greece
- I traveled to Heidelberg and Frankfurt via the U-Bahn (train) mostly. I had friend in th8is area, so sometimes they picked me up in their cars. I also took a bus trip to Spain over one of the school breaks. Via car, I also took a trip to Bremerhaven.
- Trains mostly, the rail system is more than adequate.

Other Comments.

Mannheim:

- UNCG can help by: Getting Campus housing for Return from Study Abroad done before leaving for study abroad. Technology for those who won't be there more than a year is hard to come by internet/email or is very expensive. Don't assume we will have access to get things done in USA. Also Study Abroad Students often come back to states only 1 or 2 days before classes start. So if housing messes up for classes (thus advising too) and take or arrange for Alternative tests. Get information from study abroad over to office, dealing with Fin. Aid ect. One unnecessary problem like housing leaves a bad taste in mouth for entire program.

Suggestions:

- Take backpacking: plate/bowl/silverware/sharp kitchen knife/cup
- Take a travel clock with easily reset able clock time and alarm
- Sleeping bag or blanket/sheet hostels and first night in dorm and airport if stuck
- Take book bag as carry-on backpack helpful if planning touring Europe.
- Waist money bag with plastic connections (no metal) wear underclothes take all the \$ you will need for year electronic transfers and travelers checks are extremely expensive. Make sure you have credit card for any purchases in airport. Rollers on luggage a must is not a backpack.
- Make multiple copies of front and backs of all important cards

Also I didn't know until I was about to go to Worms, Germany that it didn't really have any classes for business (that I could use). So there was mass confusion when I registered to stay in Mannheim. This could have been better with more advising concerning major and study abroad university matching. Also it would help if students could send things to the Study Abroad ahead of time, shipping due students have to wait "weeks" before getting stuff.

All students should be told to ask where the Grocery store, bank, office or maps available, hygiene products, over the counter drugs, cleaning, supplies, train station, bus station, store (with cooking utensils, clothes, bedding, food, some electronics), doctors office and find these places before you need them.

Know dishes using only one appliance (microwave, stovetop, oven) you don't know which you will have that works.

Some Power of Attorney have trouble with Financial Aid and FASFA - have one contact that deals with persons who are doing stuff for students who are abroad. I know my FIN/AID was totally messed up due to my Power of Attorney had that she couldn't get answers for (or got different answers). Students should be given contact information for this person.

Worms:

- This was a great experience, and I even met my wife at Fachhochschule Worms. She's a French native who was also studying there.

Mexico
Instituto Tecnológico Y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey
Campus Cuernavaca, Guadalajara, Mazatlan, Monterrey, Queretaro

Overall Program n=29

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	34.5%	65.5
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	0
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	96.6	3.4
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	100	0
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	96.6	3.4
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	100	0

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	44.8%	41.4	10.3	3.4	3.28	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	44.8	41.4	10.3	3.4	3.28	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	72.4	24.1	3.4		3.69	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNGC:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	10.3%	24.1	55.2	10.3		3.34	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)		17.2	51.7	24.1	6.9	2.79	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale		10.3	44.8	34.5	10.3	2.55	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)	10.3	3.4	55.2	20.7	10.3	2.83	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	69%
Off-campus apartment	31%
On-campus/dormitory	6.9%

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	58.6%	24.1	13.8	3.4	3.38	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	55.6	25.9	7.4	11.1	3.26	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	60.7	17.9	10.7	10.7	3.29	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	58.6	31	3.4	6.9	3.41	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	62.1%	27.6	10.3		3.52	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	65.5	34.5			3.66	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	62.1	31	6.9		3.55	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 4.6

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	3.45	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.45	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	2.57	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	2.97	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.57	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.61	3.62
Self-awareness	3.46	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.66	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	2.93	3.14
Understanding of your faith	2.2	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

Cuernavaca:

- All were outstanding, I actually thought that the courses I took abroad were more challenging than these at UNCG
- Everything was great
- I liked all of my courses, teachers were very helpful
- The classes in general were easier and contained little relevance to my degree although the courses counted toward my requirements.
- The literature course on Mexican literature was great!

Guadalajara:

- Extra-curricular courses were key to my overall enjoyment of my classes. Specifically, percussion and dance.
- I enjoyed the business courses that I took while abroad. We visited aduanas, created our own businesses, etc.
- Latin American Literature course at UNCG prior to studying abroad (with Sara Grossi), even though was difficult with local Spanish-speaking students in class, extremely improved my ability to listen and understand Spanish when I arrived in Mexico. Didn't realize until I arrived and understood more than most students in the streets/stores of Mexico. A. Latin American Culture class at ITESM in Guadalajara was lots of fun. We had assignments to visit museums and art history structures in the center (downtown). B. Literature courses at ITESM was enjoyable in the wide array of books we read/studied. C. Advanced Spanish class was only moderately difficult. D. Business Spanish was enjoyable and had opportunity to expand business vocabulary.
- The literature and writing courses were outstanding, they were specifically for non-Spanish speaking students and they strengthened my skills.

Mazatlan:

- All of the courses were outstanding.

Monterrey:

- Courses were very challenging but fair.
- Doing business in Mexico - Great Course
- Doing Business in Mexico in English with a prof that looks like George Carlin was one of my best classes ever
- It's been a while but the International Negotiations course I took in Monterrey were well rounded.
- The business courses were not satisfactory... No real structure and professor was not prepared EVER!
- There was a lot of busy work that I feel was redundant.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

Cuernavaca:

- Classes were equally helpful.
- Classes were harder but in part because of learning in Spanish (Marketing - taught in Spanish). Some professors were easy to approach. Similar to UNCG.
- Only difficulty in language but I come from Russia so English was also not my native language. It will get easier with time you just need to be more patient.
- Reminded me of high school classes - small class sizes, lots of interaction with other students and professors.
- The primary difference was that way the courses were taught. In Cuernavaca, there was more one-on-one interaction with my professors due to class sizes being much smaller. Also, professors implemented more creative strategies when teaching material. By contrast, classes at UNCG have a more bureaucratic feel.
- You were more on your own in Mexico with less technology and space. The classes were easier in English - teachers were pretty friendly.

Guadalajara:

- Honestly it felt like less work - with exception of the night business course - but since the language was different it took just as long.
- I think it was pretty much the same. Your education is what you make of it. The professors were always available if you needed them.
- In Mexico, the course work was slightly easier, but it would have been much harder if I had taken the classes in Spanish, my one regret. The professors were great and helpful.
- Professors at ITESM were equally approachable and friendly. Classes were not heavy as difficult at ITESM and not even that much homework - which I guess allowed for more exploring opportunities in Mexico. I remember professors being easily persuaded to change assignment due dates.
- Teachers related well and much more to exchange students at the Tec than at UNCG.

Mazatlan:

- Just transportation I lived a good distance from school, didn't have a cat so it wasn't like I could walk to the library, etc whenever I wanted.
- Professors a lot more personable, workload was a litter smaller and grading scale was not as difficult. Integrated more interaction with the community.

Monterrey:

- Abroad you don't worry about the grade so much, and learn more outside the classroom
- Abroad you start to think and live the language (as far as learning the language). But for other subjects it's very similar, very strict grading and classroom environment.
- Basic conversational Spanish more real world language rather than textbook.
- Classes were extremely easy compared to UNCG. The work load was very light. Professors were very approachable.
- Classes were less difficult. Everything else about the classes was the same.
- It was very similar.
- Language Barrier. I adapted very easily.
- less difficult of classes, more busy work, same approachability, everything took a long time Mexicans are on a late schedule always
- No problem - I was 35 years old then I went there. I was already an immense student.
- not much difference in this area of the universities
- The amount of work given was similar. The professors were easily and approachable and willing to assist you, if you needed it. The classes seemed to be a lot more relaxed abroad rather than at UNCG.

Queretaro:

- Similar.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

Cuernavaca:

- all levels can successfully study
- I would recommend at least two years of foreign language. With regards to my experience, the level of academic preparation is not important. What IS important is that others keep an open mind and have a willingness to adapt to the nuances of the particular culture.
- Intermediate level of foreign language would be preferable but anyone truly wanting to learn the foreign language and is willing to work hard at it shouldn't hesitate!
- It goes different for each individual, for example I just had one class of Spanish were some people had a couple years of Spanish and they went back home. The language or how well you know it is not as important as how fast or well you are willing to adapt to a new situation, culture. Most important thing is patience and wiliness to learn new culture.
- Language is crucial if you want the full experience. You need to be conversational, but not an "expert" on arrival.
- Need to know some basic/vocabulary

Guadalajara:

- At least beginning Spanish before going, it makes the experience so much more valuable, the more classes you can take the better. I had completed advanced level, I am now fluent.
- I don't think there's really any preparation, you just have to come with an open mind. There was a student from Canada who had never taken a Spanish course before her study abroad and left speaking the language fluently.
- I would recommend at least intermediary to high /advanced proficiency. I think if I'd been a beginner, I would have been overwhelmed. Trying to team, adapt and explore in country at the same time would have been difficult unless I had friends you knew already with you. I went knowing noone and advanced Spanish skills.
- If you take classes in a foreign language is better but PAINFUL. 14 hours a day studied for 1st 2 months.
- Writing or reading ability would be pretty important to at least have basics to build off of (understanding and speaking)

Mazatlan:

- Just basic Spanish, of course the more the better, if you don't know any Spanish you could still get around because is such a tourist town.
- Since Mazatlan is a tourist town it is easier to get around with English but I still recommend a beginners course.

Monterrey:

- 8th grade level would be sufficient to pass any courses at Tec De Monterrey.
- actually, in Monterrey, you really don't need to know Spanish. Everyone speaks or wants to speak English and almost every class offered to students studying abroad is in English.
- At least up to 203 to 204 classes
- I don't remember needing them too much. But when I did there wasn't a problem.
- I feel that little preparation is needed because once you are in the culture and allow yourself to try the experiences, language will not be an issue. Most of the people in Monterrey, especially at the TEC, know how to speak English. They had a wonderful buddy program, which partners a native English speaker with a native Spanish speaker, that teaches you another language.
- I spoke almost no Spanish when I left the US but then I got to Mexico - I had no choice but to learn. It might make it easier to know some of the language but not essential.
- in Monterrey it is ok to have no Spanish, if you have any experience you should go somewhere else
- Joining International student Association. Living in Phillips–Hawkins with International Roommate
- Min of 6 classes - at least through 300 level
- Same as UNCG
- Take up to at least SPA 102.

Queretaro:

- More speaking ability is better, but I think that willingness to learn and immerse oneself in the local culture is important.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

Cuernavaca:

- Extremely!
- The IPC of the host school was very helpful and accessible.
- They spoke very little English in my case but they tried to help as much as possible.
- they were really helpful and understanding
- They were very accessible and helpful. If you ever needed anything they would gladly oblige.

Guadalajara:

- good
- I had little contact with them, somewhat inaccessible, but helpful if you could find them
- The international student advisors were extremely accessible, encourage participation in travelling and other activities and were very much included and mingled with international students.
- They need to screen the families better - The host families. Mine was crazy as I outlined in my feedback letter.
- They were always accessible (once you got used to the hours the office was open), and they were always helpful.
- They were very helpful-could go to them with any questions.

Mazatlan:

- Very helpful and always available when needed. They were always checking up on us.
- Very helpful

Monterrey:

- Fair... They are there for you. They will listen to you, but be prepared to listen to them as well, follow up with them, understand how to play by their rules.
- Get involved and don't be shy. See everything you can and go see things outside of your school. Take advantage of every opportunity as well as create opportunities.
- great!!
- The IPC was fantastic about responding to emails and phone messages promptly.
- They rock my face off
- They were helpful. All of them were very nice.
- They were somewhat helpful.
- They were very helpful in General. However, they are not always fair with financial dispute, in my opinion.
- They were very helpful.
- Very good

Queretaro:

- Good.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

Cuernavaca:

- Attend International functions on campus. I highly recommend joining the International Student Association and conversing with students of the particular culture that you are interested in. The International Fest is also a very good event to attend.
- Get out! You'll want to spend time with other study abroad students, but make yourself find local friends. It will be a much more rewarding experience.

- Living with a family is the best way other than dating someone from that culture. I dated a Mexican girl and learned much more than I would have if I wasn't dating a local.
- make friends, go out to places don't stay home even especially if are home sick
- Travel, you'll make friends wherever you go!

Guadalajara:

- Consider living in the campus housing - that was my only regret.
- forbid then to live in dorms with Americans many never spoke 1 word of the foreign language
- Local trips or parties that involved local people. The tendency is for the international students to flock together all the time, some didn't even learn basic Spanish due to this. Help get them out and involved with the culture.
- Must stay with a family. I knew of other students staying in the apartments or school dorms with each other and they tended to still speak English majority of time and were too dependent on each other. A family allows you to experience firsthand, the culture food, family, customs and requires you to speak Spanish and rapidly improve your speaking skills. If you are with a good family they serve you as your own family in sense of a comfortable place port or place to come home to every night. They may even take you to additional places you may not discover otherwise living with other international students.
- The school offered volunteer opportunities and events where you would work with other students and people in the community. Always take advantage of that. And the trips that were made available for the students studying abroad were enlightening.
- Whatever activity you're interested in at home seek it out in the new place as well and decide to be involved with it. Also, take an upper level class for Mexicans that is taught in English. You meet a lot of people that way.

Mazatlan:

- It's a NO BRAINER!! Best experience I've ever had (or ever will)
- Join a club or a sports team at the university. Meet students and spend time with their families. Stay with a host family and explore the real downtown Mazatlan away from tourists and travel in Mexico.

Monterrey:

- Do your best to understand a new culture.
- Find a student in host country who wants to be involved and help them by pairing them to exchange students before they come so they can communicate. Give them ideas for organizing group trips and cultural activities.
- I would suggest staying with a host family and traveling as much as possible.
- Join sports teams (intramural) Don't be afraid to make friends.
- Live off campus - Do not hang out with other American students
- Put yourself out there - not into risky or unsafe situation but don't be afraid to speak even if it's not perfect.
- show them interesting examples
- staying in Dorm at Host Country with local students. Joining clubs with local students.
- This is definitely not a program I would recommend if you want to immerse yourself in the Mexican culture, or if you are an older student. The city is very Americanized and the students are not as open to other cultures, as most who go there are fairly rich.
- We went with the international students group to micnoncan (Morelia) Beautiful- took bus provided by School. We also did semana Santa (Spring Break) in Acapulco- took a plane. On campus travel agency helped greatly.

Queretaro:

- They should participate in school clubs, avoid living with other exchange student and avoid excessive social interaction with other exchange students. I found that many of the American students would bond together, and their exposure to the language and culture was limited because of this.

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

Cuernavaca:

- Acapulco-bus, all around Cuernavaca... bus, taxi; Mexico City-bus; Tasco-bus; Xochimilco-bus

- bus-like a tourbus/greyhound bus - used to travel to various cities. Buses have air conditioning, bathrooms and most showed a movie during the trip. Once at a particular city, taxis were used to get around. Within host city, the ruta was taken. Bus with no air conditioning, sometimes crowded with standing room only, but cheap and safe. At night, we traveled by taxi.
- I went to Mazunte by bus which was a great trip but horrible mode of transportation.
- I went to Puebla, Acapulco and Cancun some other cities. Most of the time by bus.
- Mexico has great public transportation. I traveled to Acapulco, Oaxaca, Taxco, Puerto Escondido, and Mexico City all by bus. I also used buses and taxis in the city to get downtown or to the grocery store.
- The only time I traveled my own was within the city of Cuernavaca, I used rutas (buses) and taxis. However, I and a few friends did travel within the country. For these trips, we used the autobus service (Pullman de Morelos or Estrella de Oro) All of these services were very accessible and inexpensive. For students going to Cuernavaca, I have word of advice: Hold on to your change!!!

Guadalajara:

- I flew to Cancun, then traveled by bus through the Yucatan Peninsula, then down to southern Mx to the state of Chiapas. I then returned on a 24hr bus ride to Guadalajara. There are student discounts for buses - make sure proper ID form the host school is issued.
- I traveled to Ixtapa, a beach, by car with my roommate. I traveled with two of my friends to their hometowns in MX by bus. I've never traveled Greyhound in the States, but I was pretty familiar with the busing system in MX.
- I went at the beginning of semester with several international friends to Puerto Vallarta via bus. We really enjoyed it stayed with local artist who sublet.
- I went to Puerto Vallarta by bus - it was awesome!
- Travelled to Puerto Vallarta with two friends in international program - local friend we made (friend of international advisor) drove us.

Mazatlan:

- I traveled to Guadalajara twice and once to Mexico City by bus.
- local transportation - Bus system to school, bus here and there Taxis all night.
- South Mexico, Oaxaca, Michoncan, Chihuahua, Los Mochis Culian; Rent a car, buses and trains.

Monterrey:

- (Buses) Mazatlan, Zacatecas, Real de Catorce, Guanajuato, Penjamo, Col de Caballo
- I had the opportunity to travel all over Mexico. I visited Tampico, Mexico City, Veracruz, Acapulco, Teotihuacan, Taxco, and many smaller destinations. I traveled by bus because it was inexpensive.
- I took a plane then there was a bus from the airport that took us to the school.
- I traveled to Cancun with a friend for spring break. We flew on a plane to get there, and we took buses all the way back to Monterrey. This was an exciting and memorable adventure.
- I traveled to Mchuscon and spent 2 days celebrating "the day of the dead" (like Halloween). We took a bus and it was great.
- I traveled to Zacatecas, Real De Catorce, Guanajuato, Guadalajara, Tampico, Saltillo, and Texas, all either by bus or a friend's auto.
- rented cars and went all over Mexico
- Traveled throughout Southern Mexico. Traveled via bus.
- Traveling in Mexico consisted of mainly buses or cabs. We traveled to about 4 different states, but travel is quite expensive in Mexico. It is cheaper to travel to Mexico from an outside country than it is from within.

Queretaro:

- I rode busses, taxis, and even hitchhiked. I went to the beach a few times, to many cities, camping trips, rock-climbing trips.

Other Comments.

- Everyone should live this experience at least once. Especially when you have such a great possibility to go with the school. You always have someone to help you and guide you. It's much harder to do it on your own.
- I am willing to give a presentation about the study abroad program and my experiences. I had a wonderful time, learned to speak Spanish fluently, and met my wife while studying abroad.
- I wish I would have chosen a different host school so that I would have gained a greater knowledge of the "real" Mexican culture.
- In relation to the family experience previously mentioned, I think the most important thing a student can do before leaving abroad is find a good, well respected family to stay with while abroad. Talk to friends or any others who traveled abroad at the same place you will and who stayed with families. I applied late to study abroad and was really lucky with the family I found. I never received a family list, which I noticed other international students had when I arrived. Many students had real trouble or did not get along with families they were assigned and ended up moving a lot or just moved to international student housing, which again I don't recommend. I imagine that was a nightmare for them and could potentially put a damper on your perception of the experience you receive while abroad. I sort of wish I would have had more assistance from UNCG or pros/cons of where to live and may be a list, if existed, of well-rated families available. I actually went to (illegible) who was the International Dean at the time. He knew a girl who stayed in Guadalajara with a family she really liked. He called her on the spot and I was able to talk with her and get the family's phone number. I called the family myself, which was nerve-racking in itself, and asked if they had room and/or would like another guest. They actually were housing two other male medical students (one from Mexico and the other from Panama). I was lucky again that these students were Spanish-speaking and served as additional "guides" for me around the city. The family I stayed with was the Juarez family and the mother is called "Mama Ruth". I am not even sure if they still host students. They lived near Mate St, near La Minerva fountain. The couple was a little older and their daughter, Monica and her son Juan Carlos, "Charlie" lived with them as well.
- Just study abroad.
- See attached which was written about 2/3 the way through my time in Mexico:

When I first arrived in Cuernavaca, I was nervous to say the least. I will admit things were different from what I expected. But, I never really knew what to expect before I came to Mexico. I had been to Mexico when I was six years old with my family on a three-week mission trip. Ever since then I wanted to come back and experience it when I could remember things. Even though my Spanish was not good – basic level – this was something I was determined to do.

Getting off the plane and waiting on everyone else before traveling back to Cuernavaca was extremely beneficial. Everyone was in the same shoes as me – nervous, anxious, excited, and every other emotion you could imagine. It was an excellent chance to meet many of the other international students. When we arrived at the school, I met my house-parents for the first time along with one of my roommates. I became nervous again. All of the international students were splitting up when I was just beginning to get comfortable with things. However my house parents were great. We arrived at the house and met the other students living there – they were French. How neat is that? Not only do I get to learn about the Mexican culture here, but I also get to learn a little about the French culture. The day after I arrived, one of my roommates showed us the school and took two of us on the ruta (bus) to the grocery store. Wow, things were amazing. I was really in Mexico.

The first week before classes began included many meetings with the other 60 international students. We discussed culture shock, safety, excursions offered, took a tour of Cuernavaca, and even climbed a beautiful mountain in Tepoztlan. Needless to say, everyone made lots of friends during the first week. There was not time to miss home.

When classes started it took time to get used to the different teaching and learning styles. Soon, things began to loosen up. I got comfortable with the new styles. They really don't seem that different anymore. What was I so worried about in the beginning?

My Spanish has really improved. I can negotiate the price of a taxi ride, give directions to my house, order food at a restaurant, answer the phone, and get around town by myself. All of these things might seem really small, but it is much more than I could do before I arrived. My vocabulary has greatly improved and I have the basic survival skills – that's what is important.

One of my roommates and I began to volunteer at a children's hospital in Mexico City every Wednesday. We take the bus, travel on the subway, and walk a few blocks to get there. We play with them and teach the children and their parents English. It has been a great experience. They are so grateful.

I have traveled all over Mexico since I have been here. Every weekend we try to go somewhere different. I have been to 11 different cities and seen so many things in Cuernavaca. Sometimes we go on day trips and sometimes for the weekend we try to go somewhere different. I have been on excursions with the school and excursions on my own. I am taking advantage of every opportunity I have while I am here. My parents have been to visit. I was able to take them to several places. We stayed in Acapulco, but rented a car and drove to Cuernavaca. They were able to meet my house-family, my friends, my teachers, and the staff in the International Office.

I have no complaints about coming to Cuernavaca. No matter where I would have chosen to go, I would have been nervous leaving my family and friends back home. Mexico is so friendly. I not only have other international students as friends, but also have made Mexican friends. I am sure they will be friends for a lifetime.

Spain

Universidad de Granada, Universidad Castilla-la-Mancha Toledo, ISEP: de Vigo

Overall Program n=9

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	50%	50
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	0
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	77.8	22.2
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	88.9	11.1
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	100	0
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	66.7	33.3

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	33.3%	55.6	11.1		3.22	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	44.4	33.3	22.2		3.22	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	44.4	33.3	22.2		3.22	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	55.6%	11.1	22.2		11.1	4	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	11.1	22.2	55.6		11.1	3.33	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	22.2	22.2	33.3	22.2		3.44	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)		11.1	44.4	44.4		2.67	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	
Off-campus apartment	44.4%
On-campus/dormitory	55.6

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	88.9%	11.1			3.89	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	55.6	11.1	33.3		3.22	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	50	25	25		3.25	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	55.6	33.3		11.1	3.33	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	88.9%		11.1		3.78	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	66.7	22.2		11.1	3.44	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	66.7	11.1	22.2		3.44	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 6.8

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	3.67	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.67	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	3.33	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	3	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.67	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.67	3.62
Self-awareness	3.56	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.78	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3.56	3.14
Understanding of your faith	3.17	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

Granada:

- courses in "Bellas Artes" (fine arts were the best courses!)
- I think the opportunity to study Business in the Spanish language was invaluable in my understanding of the language since most of the students in my classes were native Spanish Speakers.
- In General...The level that my Spanish was at when I first went to study abroad made it very difficult to learn. Their level of education is a lot higher than in the states. Mixing with an inability to understand the language at first, made learning very difficult.
- My program was unique in that it was the 1st year UNCG students integrated into the Bus school @ the university of Granada Spain. We studied Buss. Classes in Spanish which was a wonderful and challenging experience. However I was disappointed that after 2 semesters of studying Business principles in the Spanish language, I rec'd no Spanish (illegible) than a 2nd major as I feel was deserved. Other than that I enjoyed my experience immensely and would recommend it to any Bryan students looking to expand their cultural and language experiences.

Toledo:

- I took an International Economics class and a class about the European Union's Economy - both were great! Great teachers were Carmen Diaz Mora and Rosario Gandoy Juste

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

de Vigo:

- I found that the learning environment differed in Spain from that at UNCG in terms of the level of difficulty. Most courses were overall easy to understand and relatively simple to pass. They have a pass/fail system as opposed to UNC-G's GPA point system. I do however believe that I wasn't particularly challenged enough but then again this could be a result of my choice of courses which were all basically Spanish language courses.
- There was no attendance policy. Final grade for class was based on one exam or a final project. The professors were very accommodating and helpful.

Granada:

- Classes in Spain were very large and lecture driven. Much memorization was needed. No projects or opportunities for group learning. No outside work but exams are scary because they are based off of memorization.
- During my stay in Spain I was forced to spend much more time studying due to the language barrier. However, this struggle made me master the language and the content because you can't learn what you don't understand.

- In this system you're expected to be self motivated and plan your own work load or level of involvement.
- None, except the language.
- The professors were very approachable and understanding. Basically there is only one exam at the end of the semester and no homework. It is really up to the student to not fall behind. It is very easy to put your studies off and fall behind.

Toledo:

- Many students in Spain decide not to attend class, so it might be hard to find motivation to attend, but I highly recommend all American students to go to ALL classes. There teachers were always willing to help out (but not so much other students) very little class participation required, I had to self-teach myself many things by using the textbook.
- The only difference was the fact that everything was in Spanish, so if you did not know the language, then you would have a hard time understanding and learning any of the material.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

de Vigo:

- I would definitely recommend taking as many language courses in advance where possible even outside of UNCG to prepare yourself. Spaniards are eager and willing to teach you the language however you'll find it's easier to get around if you're well prepared in advance. When you arrive, make sure you completely immerse yourself in Spanish culture. I say this because it wasn't until I did just that that I really started to learn and fully understand Castellano Spanish.

Granada:

- High Intermediate level of fluency.
- I don't think I could have survived or excelled in any way if I didn't already speak and understand Spanish.
- I studied Spanish for a long time before going abroad; it's difficult to pinpoint a specific level, but I feel the student must feel comfortable in their basic conversational skills.
- I thought my Spanish was proficient enough to understand and speak with ease. It really was not. I did learn a lot and am still very fluent in Spanish.
- I was fluent before going to Spain because I had lived previously in Ecuador. It would have been much more difficult had I not spoken Spanish to keep up.

Toledo:

- For this program, I believe it is extremely important to feel very comfortable with your Spanish skills, i.e., reading, writing and speaking.
- I recommend a high level of proficiency - it was difficult for me (after 6 years of Spanish) to understand the teachers at first. It took at least 3 months to get comfortable with the Spanish.

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

de Vigo:

- In the very beginning they were really present; taking all students on trips to see different parts of Spain. However as the semester edge closer to the end their contact with us was a little less than at the very beginning. I wouldn't necessarily say they were NOT helpful. They were there when we needed them.

Granada:

- It Sucked. You had to search for them and seek them out in every way. They did nothing to help you unless you bugged them for it.
- Not very helpful or friendly, however, I did not need help all that often.
- the contact in the business school was extremely accessible and helpful of academic questions. The contact that oriented lodging was not.

- The host school was wonderful. However, our contact for housing, academics and any problem was somewhat elusive. My roommate and I learned to take care of a lot of mishaps on our own.

Toledo:

- Everyone was very accessible and helpful.
- The IPC in Toledo was not helpful at all (especially with finding a place to live) and was always closed.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

de Vigo:

- Be careful! Safety first! I can truly say though I never every felt threatened for my safety when I studied there. Participate in as many extracurricular activities as you can. For example, I am a semi-professional salsa dancer, so the first thing I asked about when I arrived was where are there places to go dancing. I met a TON of people. Spaniards love to have house parties and play music (on the guitar). I would definitely suggest going in big groups and NEVER by yourself. Also there are several pubs and nightclubs that have no entry fees. So it's great to kind of go and be social because several of the Spanish students hang out there. So much fun!
- Get out of the dorms! Try and immerse yourself with students that are not from the US or English speaking. Mingle with other exchange students from diff. countries. Travel the area and meet the people. Try and travel to neighboring countries and neighboring cities! Take advantage of your time there.

Granada:

- Don't be afraid to approach other foreign students. I made the best friends with those I met in my same situation from other countries in Europe, S. America, Austria etc.
- Don't hook up with other Americans!!! This is so easy to do, yet a big mistake when trying to master the local language. If you spend your time speaking only English, you will return to the US not speaking your second language and better than you left.
- Have students live with host families. Living in a dorm was miserable - it was hard to make "native" friends because the kids in the dorm were snobby.
- I recommend trying to make friends with Americans. I made friends with mostly other international students. They are some of the best people I have ever met. Not having English speaking friends forced me to learn the language.
- Living in the dorm was good. If you have some language ability to connect with the Spaniards. There are 400 some Spanish and maybe 30 foreigners, so you're bound to meet someone local.

Toledo:

- I suggested signing up for Flamenco classes (I took Flamenco during my 2nd semester in Toledo) at a local studio and got to be a part of the performance. Make friends who are locals!!!
- Only that it was the best decision I ever made, and you cannot help but get immersed in the local culture. The staff and students are very eager to show you around town and there is always some form of entertainment happening in Toledo or nearby Madrid.

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

de Vigo:

- We planned different trips and traveled in groups. The travel agencies always had the best deals! Went by car to the south of Spain and visited many cities. The railroad station was very close to the dorms. Took a train to another city and hopped plane to Tenente. Car rental was always very easy. Travel as much as possible. It was the best time of my life!
- While I was in Spain I traveled to the border of Portugal by car, flew to the Canary Islands, and drove to the south of Spain to Granada. My roommate and I met a Spaniard with whom we both became very good friends and he took us all around Spain.

Granada:

- I have traveled all over Spain and Portugal. The most in-expensive and convenient mode of transportation is bus or Euro-rail. In Europe you can travel just about anywhere this way and travel times are usually available all day. The buses are comfortable, roomy and have restrooms. I traveled all through Spain this way. Also, if you check with you local University they will sometimes put together weekend trips at discounted rates. These trips usually are during different festivals and are a lot of fun.
- I traveled to 7 different countries after my exchange program was completed. I went by plane, ferry, and train; flying to major cities and using the train between less common places. Great airfare deals. DO NOT waste money on Eurail passes!!
- I used the buses and train to travel within Spain. Fares are very reasonable and it was convenient to get to those stations. I went from Granada to Seville, Madrid, Barcelona, Toledo, Baza, Cadiz and other cities. To travel to Italy and Portugal, I went with Ryan air. At that time fares were seriously like \$5 one way plus tax. No joke!!! That may have changed now.
- Scotland - flight/bus/hitch hiked, Prague and Budapest - flight/rented car, throughout Spain - bus/car, Germany - plane, Portugal - rented car
- Through Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, Bus and train.

Toledo:

- I took the bus everywhere!! 1hr bus ride to Madrid form Toledo and from the bus station in Madrid I took overnight bus rides to Lisbon, Seville, Malaga, Cordoba, Galicia. I also took the metro from Madrid's bus station to the airport and flew to Belgium and Rome. I sometimes went by car (a friend's car) to Salamanca and Valencia. I always traveled with at least one other person.
- Wow, we went everywhere, by car, train and plane. We traveled throughout Spain, Portugal, Italy, France, Africa and England. Once you are in Europe, it is very inexpensive to travel.

Other Comments.

de Vigo:

- If anyone wishes to e-mail me with more specific questions than those that were addressed in this survey, please feel free to e-mail me. I don't mind at all. I love to share my experiences! Take care and have fun!

Granada:

- I truly enjoyed my study abroad experience. I would love to go again. I learned a great deal and would recommend it to anyone. I just wish my program was an exchange to study Spanish and not economics. It was very difficult. I feel like it's impossible to be proficient enough in a foreign language for economics studies until you actual go to that country and submerge yourself to learn the language. I recommend adding Spanish courses for no additional charge to the program

Toledo:

- Again, by far the best thing I have ever done.

United Kingdom

Strathclyde University, Plymouth University, Manchester Metropolitan University, Hull University

Overall Program n=30

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	25%	75
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	100	
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	95.8	4.2
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	N/A	
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	100	
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	100	

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Overall quality of teaching	47.8%	47.8	4.3		3.44	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	56.5	34.8	8.7		3.48	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	39.1	43.5	17.4		3.22	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Degree of independent learning required	56.5%	21.7	17.4	4.3		4.3	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	13	8.7	43.5	26.1	8.7	2.91	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	21.7	26.1	43.5	4.3	4.3	3.57	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)		17.4	56.5	26.1		2.91	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	
Off-campus apartment	52.2%
On-campus/dormitory	43.5

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	60.9%	34.8		4.3	3.52	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	47.1	41.2	5.9	5.9	3.29	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	30	35	30	5	2.9	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	56.5	34.8	8.7		3.48	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Country Average	Overall Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	69.6%	30.4			3.7	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	56.5	39.1	4.3		3.52	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	52.2	39.1	8.7		3.44	3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 4.1

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Country Average	Overall Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	2	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	3.61	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	2.45	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	3.04	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.87	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	3.87	3.62
Self-awareness	3.78	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	3.74	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3.09	3.14
Understanding of your faith	1.92	2.37

Additional Questions:

If a particular course or courses were outstanding or unsatisfactory, please feel free to comment.

Hull:

- Organizational Behavior: The professor was very good and entertaining, but the class size was about 400 students and the testing was not relevant to the teaching at all. Financial Management (or Corporate Finance): Was as the English say, Rubbish. The professor was a man that had to be around 100 years old and had no idea what he was talking about. He would mumble most of the time and then randomly yell at the students for falling asleep in his class. The majority of the class failed the final exam, the only way that I was able to pass it was by intense independent study. I would suggest taking this at UNCG in order to properly learn this course.
- The teachers in general were different than what we have in the US. They are not as willing to work with individuals.
- Phil Smith's (I think that was his name) Marketing Class was phenomenal
- I really enjoyed the business ethics classes that I took in Hull.
- Language courses outstanding; Business Organization - unsatisfactory - teaching styles
- Project Management course was great.

Manchester:

- I would recommend UNCG students to not take their major courses abroad. Take general courses.

Strathclyde:

- I took pretty easy classes. Stick to 300-level and below. I love economics so I took almost all econ classes.
- Although difficult to recall all my courses the Economic courses were fantastic, especially as Scotland established their Parliament the year I was there.

What differences did you find between learning abroad and learning at UNCG? (difficulty of classes, amount of work, approachability of professors, additional academic assistance)

Hull:

- The way the UK goes about teaching and studying is more lecture based and the prof. really expect students to go off and research and study on their own. Once you understand that it becomes easier to finish your coursework and keep up with your classes.
- Difficulty of classes: I would definitely say that all of my classes were much easier at Hull. The content (books) was basically the same as at UNCG, but the grading was much easier. I had to put in far less effort in my everyday class work, and the system of grading the exams was a joke. Basically if you can repeat word for word what is written in the course book, you make a good grade. No independent thought required. Amount of work: One paper (sometimes group work) and one final exam per class. That was all. Approachability of Professors: They did not want to talk with me after class and were for the most part not present during their

office hours. If I happened to see them in a pub they wanted to down pints with me and talk all night.
Additional academic assistance: I'm pretty sure there wasn't any.

- The professors were not as accessible as what we are use to in the US.
- No busy work at Hull
- Difficulty is similar, but grading is on a much different scale and favors greater amount of aspects which can be graded. Students in the UK are expected to do much more independent work/research for an individual course, and are tested on their knowledge of information not presented in lectures. Professors are usually very approachable, and seem to be particularly interested in the experiences of Study Abroad students.
- Everything was up to you - there was no attendance policy so you didn't "have" to go to class.
- While abroad I felt as though I had much more independent course work. Not any group assignments. So in that way it was more difficult.
- More independent study in UK, more approachable professors at UNCG, Less out of class work - very important to study and be well prepared.
- More independent study. Some classes did not have homework or tests, just a final exam.
- Classes had different structures less homework and more independent study style. There was less or no homework but exams were at times more difficult.

Manchester:

- It's very independent studying there. Professors are not as approachable as UNCG. The classes are much difficult because you have to do a lot more research work on your own.

Plymouth:

- I felt that the professors abroad allowed us to be more independent.
- Professors at UNCG were easier to approach. Class difficulty is equal in US and UK. US classes have more assessments - UK courses had 1 paper to determine grade.

Strathclyde:

- Diversity - Studying abroad was the best thing I ever did. I met so many wonderful people from all over the world at our pub meet Wed. night. Classes can be difficult. There are only 2 tests a year midterm and final so you have to make sure you keep up.
- Strathclyde was easier in a way because it was 1 test at the end of class. No classes required. I thought it was much easier. You only need a 40 to pass out of 100. EASY!
- Difficulty of work was less abroad as well as their
- In Scotland the assessment was not central as in at UNCG. Essays at the UK Universities regard much more discipline and self-learning
- I felt much more anonymous in the higher class sizes at Strathclyde. The grading scale was more difficult because there were fewer assignments so were weighed more heavily.
- Class work structure very different. Frequent assignments and tests at UNCG, abroad 1 report/exam and then a final MUCH HARDER
- Study at Strathclyde was much greater in regard to difficulty and amount of work. Although difficult the work was attainable. The professors were available for questions and provided access to TAs.

What level of academic preparation (and foreign language proficiency, if applicable) would you recommend to others considering your program/university?

Hull:

- I studied in an English speaking country but it did help that I spoke fluent French when I travelled to France and Belgium and I think that I would have enjoyed Italy if I spoke some Italian
- I would recommend hanging out at a pub in Greensboro and learning how to socialize. Also watching a few movies such as Snatch might help you understand the local English.
- Everything was English.
- none. UNCG prepares you adequately.

- Since it is the UK, there are no foreign language preparations required, however, there are a great number of local phrases and different word meanings and associations that one must be familiar with, and understanding a British or Scottish accent can also be a challenge sometimes.
- Basic Business courses
- Depending on the person very little academic preparation was needed. This does not include language preparation for I did not go to a non-English speaking country.

Manchester:

- Be comfortable with writing long research papers.

Plymouth:

- Not sure - this was not the first time I studied abroad. I think the best preparation is discussing culture shock and things you can expect in the host country.

Strathclyde:

- Have self-discipline
- My Junior year was perfect timing. 2 years under my belt and 1 year to finish up when I got back.
- academic expectations. However, each class came with a "tutorial" which is like a lab, so each class was almost like taking 2 classes. However, I enjoyed the division of work/homework was done in these labs.
- A higher ability than most at UNCG to prepare essays and reports.
- I would recommend having an understanding of world affairs and the US's position in them.
- I felt prepared
- I would recommend students talk with students for the host school to get an idea of the academic program. Be prepared to STUDY!

How would you describe the accessibility/ helpfulness of the IPC of the host school?

Hull:

- I went to one of their meet/greets. I was fortunate to live with other exchange students and meet students in my classes so I really did not need the IPC to help me get around.
- They were very helpful and very nice. They had several hundred students to deal with and still found time to help individuals. It would be nice if they could extend their office hours and add a few staff though.
- Hull & UNCG did a great job coordinating everything.
- Very friendly, moderately accessible and helpful, but not bad.
- very accessible
- They were always there to lend a helping hand. If I had any questions they were there to answer them for me.
- Very good and very involved
- Not that great. There should have been more interaction with the students.
- Fairly helpful

Manchester:

- They were friendly and helpful.

Plymouth:

- Fine I had no problems
- Easily accessible (e-mail, phone, office visit). Not too helpful - they told UNCG I could find certain courses (which I needed to graduate) and then when I got to UK these courses never existed. Bad communication.

Strathclyde:

- Great
- VERY GOOD
- Very accessible although was not proactive about offering opportunities for international students to interact with host students or learn about culture.

What suggestions do you have for getting future students more involved in the local culture?

Hull:

- Join a club. The social life at Hull has to be one of the most active in the WORLD. There is a club for everything, and most people have no skills that relate to the club, they are just interested in the subject. I was a member of the Football, Parachuting, and Submission Fighting Clubs, that kept me active with the locals while still giving me enough time for school and travel.
- Go abroad alone and it will force you to make friends.
- Encourage students to not be afraid. Students need to let their curiosity spur them, to let their interests run wild and to explore everything they possibly can. Don't worry about sticking out, they're obviously not from that country, but don't be offensive or self-righteous. It's a once in a lifetime experience, and as long as a student behaves themselves and chooses wisely, they'll learn a lot more than what they're getting from their classes.
- Get out and join a club or association. In the first week I joined up with the American football club and got to know those guys very well.
- Social events or seminars.
- Travel to local or nearby cities and countries, make friends and explore new things, be open minded.
- Try to meet the local students that are from the country or local area. That way you can experience the total cultural experience.

Manchester:

- Go out and immerse yourself! Don't be shy because they are not going to approach you first. You have to take the first step.

Plymouth:

- I didn't have a problem. I made friends, joined clubs and groups (volleyball, skydiving club) so the friends I made took me to their home towns, showed me around and helped get me involved.
- There needs to be more activities throughout the year. When I arrived in the UK, there were 3-4 a week my first 1-2 weeks, then nothing

Strathclyde:

- Join clubs. You can't be super shy if you go. There are no security blankets when you leave. You learn to make your new friends and that makes your security blanket.
- Be active in the university and make as many friends as possible.
- They were excellent at Strathclyde. They organized weekly outings to bars with all the International students as well as trips throughout the country. They were very accessible and helpful.
- Students should go for 2 semesters. Other students who only went for 1 semester didn't have sufficient time to really know locals of build relationships
- Have the host school host more activities for international students to learn about the culture.
- Meet students that are residents not just study abroad students.
- Get involved with the host school International office. Participate in as many of the activities that they offer, even if they sound "hokie".

If you traveled on your own, please describe where you went and what mode of transportation you used.

Hull:

- I used planes/trains/cars/ferries. I went to Ireland, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Scotland and then weekend trips in England. I had the most fun with groups of friends who also wanted to go to the same place but may have wanted to see different things. One friend had a car so she would take us around and we paid for gas. But students get discounts over in Europe so I never paid a full fare.
- I traveled around the UK via train. I bought a student travel card which gives you a huge discount on train travel. Scarborough is a great day trip, while Leeds, York, and Manchester are great little weekend trips. Edinburgh is a much recommended short trip also. London is about 3.5 hours away and a bit expensive to train to, so book in advance. Also there is a ferry from Hull to Rotterdam, which is close to Amsterdam. It's a

convenient and fun way to see Holland. Traveling to other places in Europe is done cheaper and quicker via air. www.skyscanner.net is the best place to search for tickets, it compares Ryan air, easy jet, ect. all in one site. I went to Ireland, France, and Italy on a plane.

- I went all over the UK & Europe. We used trains, ferries, buses, and bikes. We did not fly or rent a car...we did hitch hike
- Train mostly, Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, All over the UK, Italy, Czech Republic
- Public transportation is a lot more prevalent and easily accessible than it is in the U.S. We went all around the England/Scotland Island, taking trains for longer-distances, and taking busses for shorter or local distances. The train schedule is very easy to understand and you can track your journey easily as well with the abundant information. Busses are slightly more challenging, as there are more of them making more stops in a smaller radius, but are simple to use.
- train, bus
- Italy (air), Amsterdam (boat), Scotland (train), France (air/train), Ireland(air/train/), Ireland (air/train/bus), Spain (air)
- We had 3 weeks for break. 2 friends of mine got Eurail passes and went to Paris, Normandy, Bordeaux, Madrid, Barcelona, Rome, Florence, Munich and Amsterdam. It was the best trip of my life.
- London, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, France, Italy; planes, trains, auto, buses, subways
- I went to France, Spain and Italy and Spring Break through a travel company on a two week bus tour. It was excellent (Contiki Travel).
- I used STA to purchase my tickets and then from there the university had arranged transportation a t the airport for all international students. This was one of the best experiences in my life so far!

Manchester:

- The train, bus to London, Birmingham, Scotland

Plymouth:

- London - bus, Germany - bus and boat, Amsterdam - plane
- Another UNCG classmate and I bag packed around Europe via Eurail pass during a 4 week spring break period.
- I went to Paris by bus from London. There was a ferry. I flew to Budapest for 3 weeks. I'd rather go to Alexandria in Egypt if I could go back. Maybe even Israel.
- I took part in the Honors in the UK program and spent a weekend in Scotland. I took a bus to Exeter and flew to Glasgow. I also went to Paris for the weekend. A friend and I took a bus to London and flew Easyjet to Paris for 4 days. (Any student headed to Europe should know about Ryan Air and Easy jet, they are very cheap flights!!! My round trip flight to Paris was less than \$30!!

Strathclyde:

- I traveled to Amsterdam, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, France, Greece, Ireland, and England. You can take the train or airplane. It's so cheap once your there!
- Train/rail. I traveled on trains to England with University trips and to see friends. I take a boat to Ireland for a week. That was about all I had time for.
- I traveled on my own using public trains quite frequently.
- England, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Italy, Holland via train and ferry; within Scotland to St. Andrews and Isle of Skye on bus.
- Greece - plane, London, Scottish Highlands, Wales - train, Dublin, Ireland - Ferry, Germany, France, Amsterdam, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Belgium> plane and coach tour
- After finals I travelled through Scotland by car, the B+B's are great and very accessible with little prior planning. I also Backpacked through Europe. In Europe I used a EURAIL pass. Train travel was great accessible and easy to manage.

Other Comments.

Hull:

- I had an excellent experience abroad but I wanted to go and I had the support of my family which helped. The first months were hard because I did not know what to expect but I had the desire to make it work and in the end it did and it is one of my proudest moments/experiences/year because I did it, I made it work!
- Hull is a great place for those who want to experience life outside the US, but lack foreign language skills. Out of every University I have attended Hull has the most active student social life by far. Hull is to Manchester as Greensboro is to New York. The locals are excited in meeting foreigners rather than annoyed, and you get a good overall perspective of life in the UK. Overall I had a great experience in Hull, although if your goal is to increase language ability or to travel around Europe, I would suggest going to Uni on the European Continent.
- Studying abroad was the best choice I ever made, I wish I did it earlier in my college career so I could go again before I graduated.
- IT'S WORTH IT, no matter what your doubts are. There's so much to gain on a personal level, and the perspective you gain from being educated away from the U.S. is very enlightening and rewarding. Studying abroad is a challenge, but it was the BEST part of my undergraduate experience.

Plymouth:

- My study abroad program was the very best thing I did at UNCG. It was an amazing experience that helped me grow and see other countries. I only wish I had gone for a year rather than just one semester. I highly recommend the program.

Strathclyde:

- I loved my experience so much that I ended up moving back to Scotland for four years after I graduated.
- It's an experience of a lifetime! I put my time abroad on my resume and that is what every prospective employer brings up first. Which immediately puts me at ease, because I had such a great time.
- The year that I spent in Scotland changed my life. Socially, emotionally, academically the year in Glasgow opened my eyes to the world. It presented many challenges and a host of wonderful opportunities. The friends that I made there were my groom men when I was married a year ago. They are my greatest friends and I talk with them often, even though they have scattered over the world.

Without the opportunity that this program provided me my life would be much different today. I am incredibly appreciative of UNCG and the Study Abroad program. If I could ever provide assistance please feel free to call on me.

All Responses

Overall Program n=126

<i>Please answer the following questions:</i>	Yes	No
Had you previously lived, worked or studied abroad?	37.1%	62.9
Would you recommend that other students go abroad?	99.2	0.8
Would you recommend your specific program to a friend?	96.0	4.0
If the language of your host country was not English, were you able to manage without difficulty?	93.2	6.8
Do you believe that study abroad was worth the cost?	97.6	2.4
Did you receive sufficient academic advising regarding your program from the Bryan School?	87.8	12.2

What were your reasons/goals for studying abroad? (Check all that apply)

Reason/Goal	Percent
greater understanding of different cultures	84
growth in interpersonal skills and ability to adapt	84
interact with local people and learn more about the customs and traditions of the host country	81
growth in maturity and self-confidence	79
gain insight into the culture of the host country of the study abroad program	77
enhance my resume	75
improve career prospects	73
growth in self-awareness	71
live in and make acquaintances from the host country	64
travel to countries near the host country of the study abroad program	62
gain a different perspective on American culture	61
increase ability to communicate in a foreign language	60
greater autonomy in independent decision-making	53
learn more about business coursework as taught by the host country	53
greater understanding of the U.S. in world affairs and history	41
intellectual stimulation and development in the liberal arts	40
attend the study abroad program because it was recommended by previous participants	28
gain a different perspective on my ethnic heritage	15
foreign language waiver	14
take classes that are not offered at UNCG	14
establish ties with family/ethnic heritage	13
greater understanding of my faith	8
be with other friends that would be participating in the study abroad program	6

- Get out of my comfort zone
- It was also a requirement for me for the International Business Certificate
- Major requirement
- Requirement for my major
- Return to my birth country
- Take classes that were pass or fail for my last semester of college
- Take truly "international" business courses with other international students and perspectives
- To have fun!!
- To comply with my degree in International Business
- To see another part of the world.
- travel within host country
- Use Russian studies background
- Visit old friends

How important were the following:	Very Important (4)	Important (3)	Somewhat Important (2)	Not Important (1)	Average
The availability of a study abroad program in your decision to attend UNCG?	32%	18	11	38	2.44
This study abroad program to the value of your undergraduate educational experience?	85	11	2	2	3.78
The opinion of my parents in my decision to study abroad.	16	24	34	26	2.3
The opinion of my friends in my decision to study abroad.	6	8	29	58	1.61
The influence of my instructors in my decision to study abroad.	6	24	34	36	1.98
The influence of my academic advisor in my decision to study abroad.	14	28	26	32	2.23

Academic Program

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the academic program:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Average
Overall quality of teaching	38%	46	14	1	3.22
Overall quality of the course content	39	47	11	2	3.25
Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	49	34	14	2	3.31

<i>Please compare the following to UNCG:</i>	Much More (5)	More (4)	Similar (3)	Less (2)	Much Less (1)	Average
Degree of independent learning required	39%	23	27	8	2	3.91
Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	6	13	39	32	9	2.76
Difficulty of grading scale	18	21	35	18	6	3.25
Academic resources (library, study space, technology)	5	10	45	30	10	2.69

Accommodations

What type of housing did you live in? (check all that apply)

Home-stay (living with a local family)	20.6%
Off-campus apartment	48.4
On-campus/dormitory	31.7

<i>Please rate the following aspects about the living arrangement:</i>	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Average
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests, etc.)	59%	30	8	2	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	38	32	14	7	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	40	22	18	6	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	52	34	10	4	3.35

Intercultural Engagement

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you were with the following:</i>	Very Satisfied (4)	Satisfied (3)	Dissatisfied (2)	Very Dissatisfied (1)	Average
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	63%	30	6		3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	58	34	6	1	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	54	32	14		3.4

How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with? average: 5.79 (std. dev. 5.44)

Program Impact

<i>Please rate the amount of growth you experienced in the following areas:</i>	Great Growth (4)	Moderate Growth (3)	Little Growth (2)	No Growth (1)	N/A	Average
Ability to communicate in a foreign language	38%	26	11	5	20	3.25
Different perspective on American culture	54	35	7	2	2	3.44
Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	17	30	18	14	20	2.61
Intellectual development in business coursework	24	42	26	3	4	2.91
Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	69	25	4	1	1	3.64
Maturity and self-confidence	69	25	6	1	2	3.62
Self-awareness	67	22	8	1	2	3.59
Understanding of different cultures	70	25	3	1	1	3.66
Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs and history	36	41	18	2	2	3.14
Understanding of your faith	11	14	20	14	39	2.37

Table 11
Aspects of the Academic Programs I

		Australia	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Mexico	Spain	UK	Overall
Q1	Overall quality of teaching	3.17	3.33	3.2	2.67	3.16	3.28	3.22	3.44	3.22
Q2	Overall quality of the course content	3	3.5	3.2	2.94	3.25	3.28	3.22	3.48	3.25
Q3	Overall integration of intercultural experiences into academic courses	3	3.17	3.8	2.78	3.25	3.69	3.22	3.22	3.31

Figure 1
Aspects of the Academic Programs I

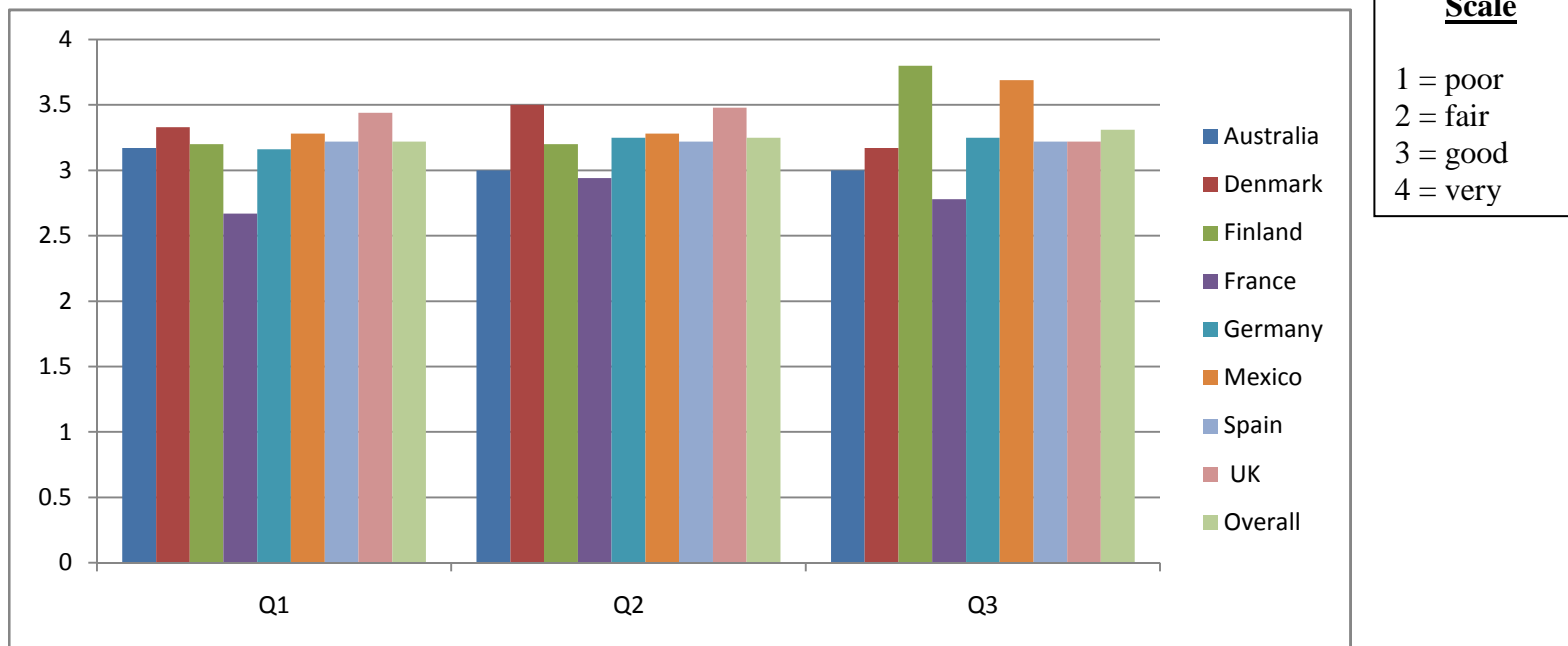


Table 12
Aspects of Academic Programs II

		Australia	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Mexico	Spain	UK	Overall
Q4	Degree of independent learning required	3.83	4.33	3	3.5	4.58	3.34	4	4.3	3.91
Q5	Workload for courses (reading assignments, papers, etc.)	2.83	3	2.2	2.11	2.58	2.79	3.33	2.91	2.76
Q6	Difficulty of grading scale	3.33	3.83	2.2	3.44	3.72	2.55	3.44	3.57	3.25
Q7	Academic resources (library, study space, technology)	3.17	3.5	3.2	2	2.08	2.83	2.67	2.91	2.69

Figure 2
Aspects of the Academic Programs II

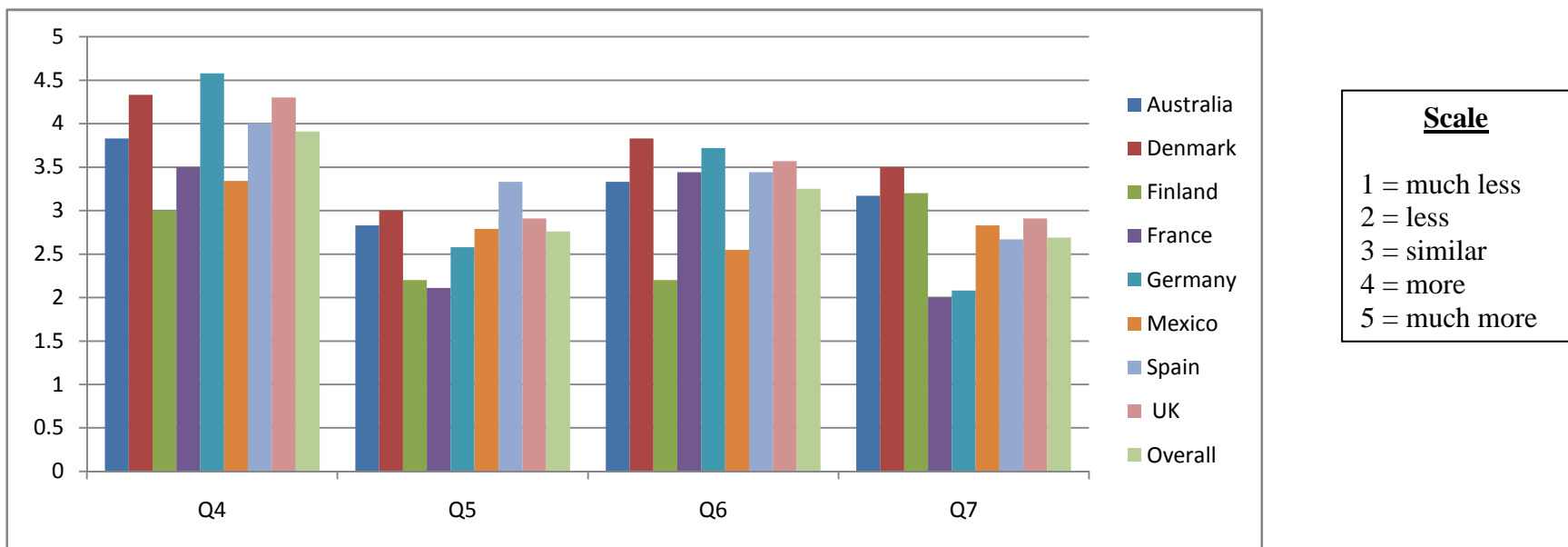


Table 13
Comparison of Accommodations

	Australia	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Mexico	Spain	UK	Overall
Location (safety, accessibility/transportation & sites of interests)	4	3.5	3.6	3.39	3.25	3.38	3.89	3.5	3.47
Building staff (landlords, host family, etc.)	3.67	2.83	3.33	3.12	2.25	3.26	3.22	3.3	3.11
Meals (variety, quality, quantity or provisions for independent eating)	2.8	3.5	3	3.29	3.11	3.29	3.25	2.9	3.13
Overall satisfaction with your housing arrangement	3.83	3.33	3.6	3.17	3	3.41	3.33	3.5	3.35

Figure 3
Comparison of Accommodations

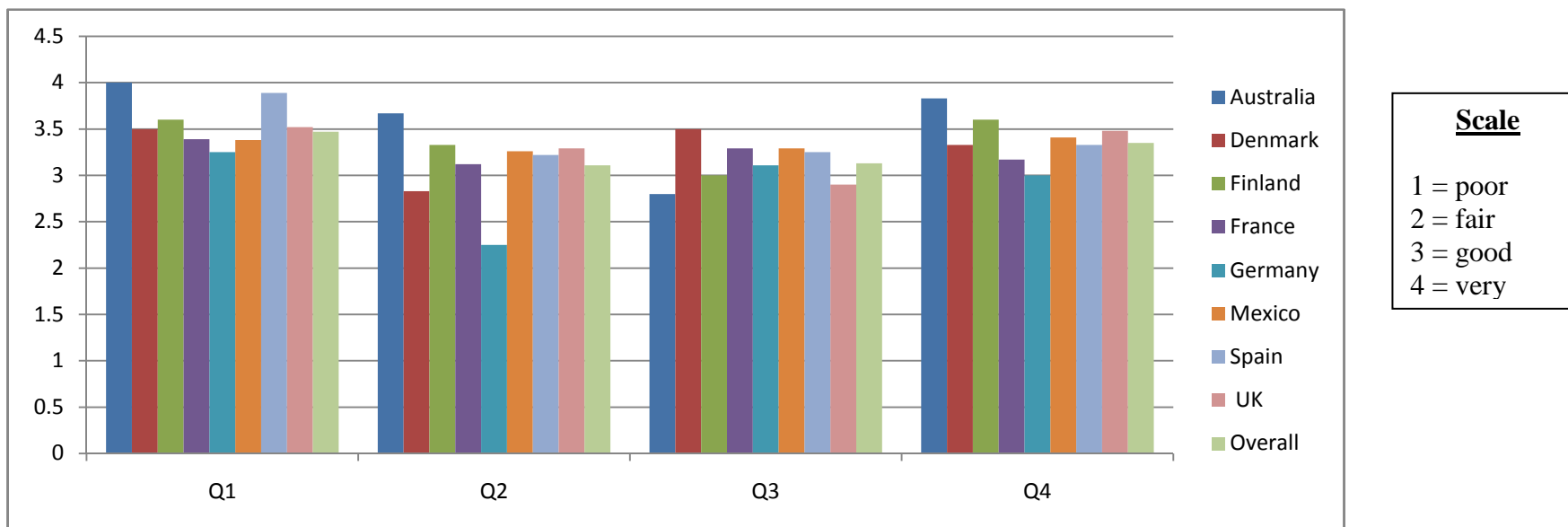


Table 14
Comparison of Intercultural Engagement

	Australia	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Mexico	Spain	UK	Overall
Your ability to immerse yourself in the local culture	3.83	3.67	3.2	3.5	3.58	3.52	3.78	3.7	3.58
Amount & quality of contact you had with the local people	3.67	3.67	2.8	3.44	3.33	3.66	3.44	3.5	3.5
Amount & quality of cultural interaction facilitated by the program	3	3.67	3.4	3.28	3.33	3.55	3.44	3.4	3.4
How many of the friends you made abroad are you still in touch with?	3	2.5	1.2	5.5	3.5	4.6	6.8	4.1	5.8

Figure 4
Comparison of Intercultural Engagement

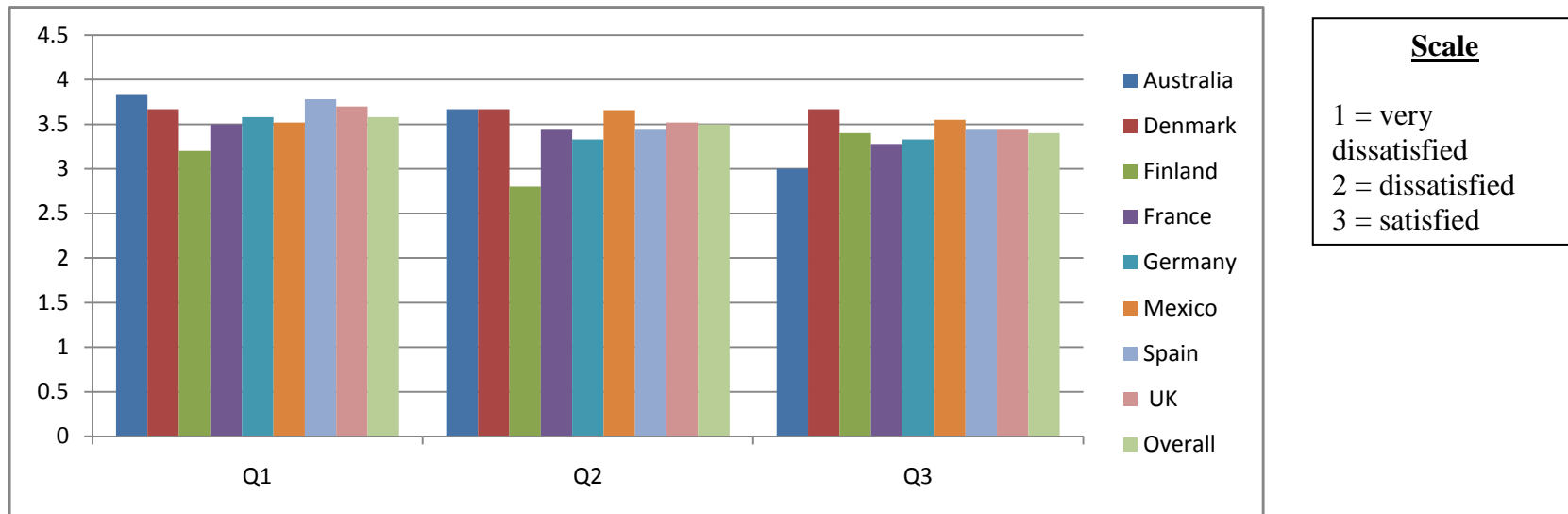


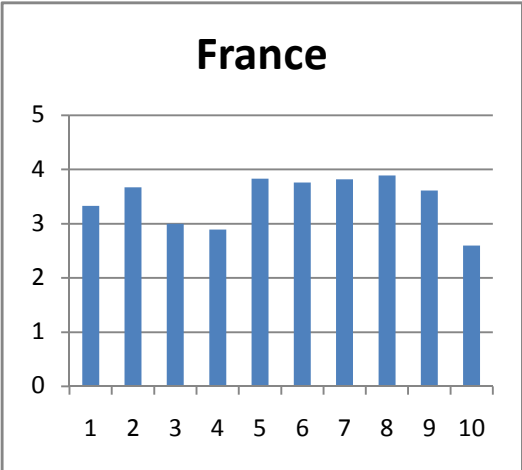
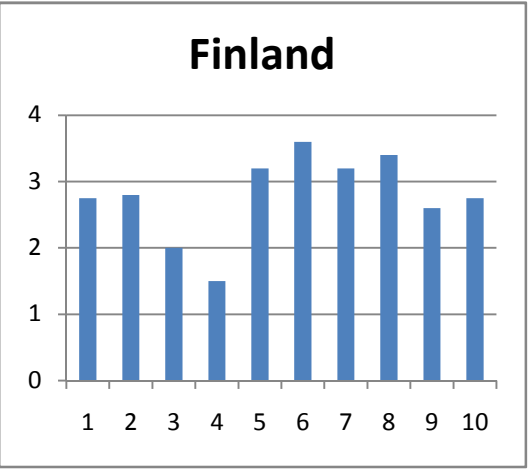
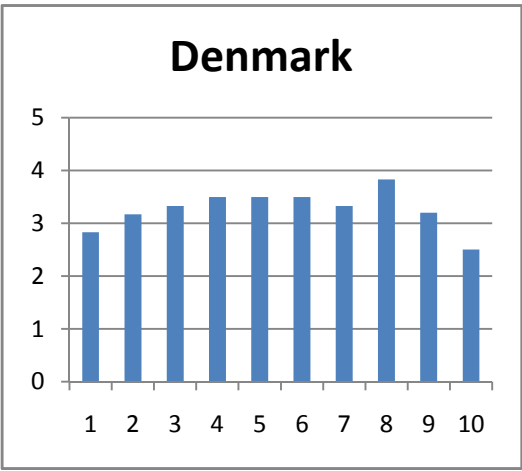
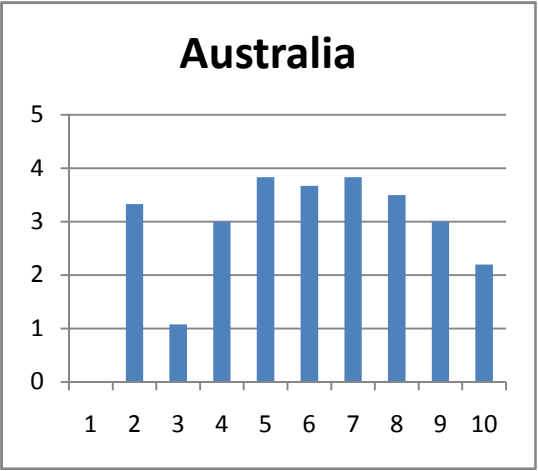
Table 15
Comparison of Areas of Growth

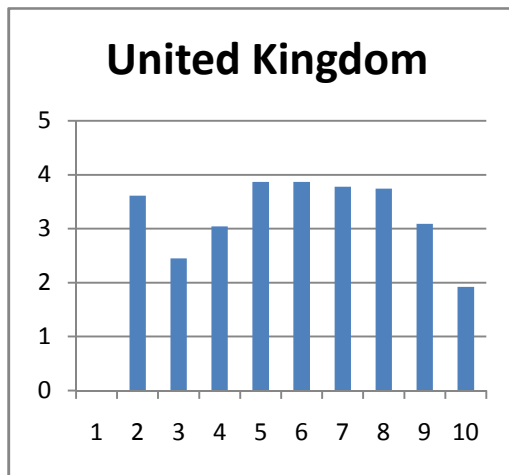
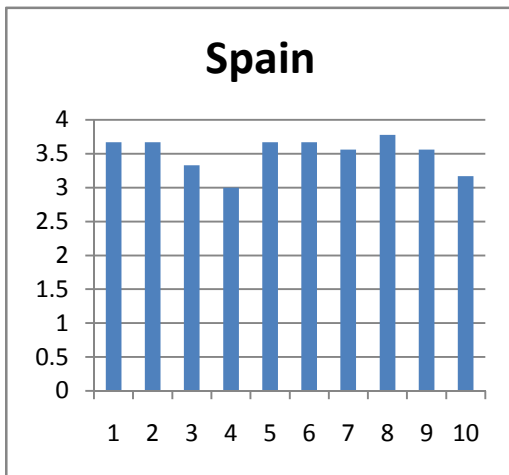
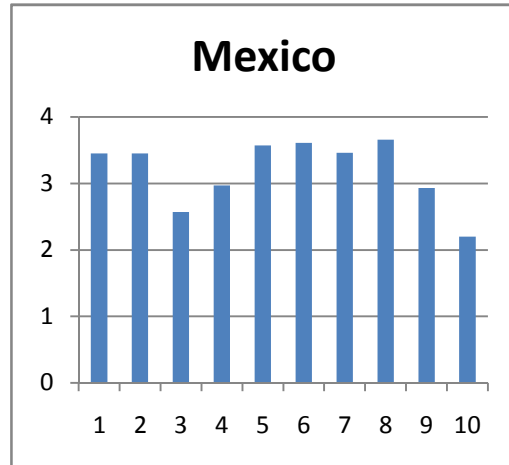
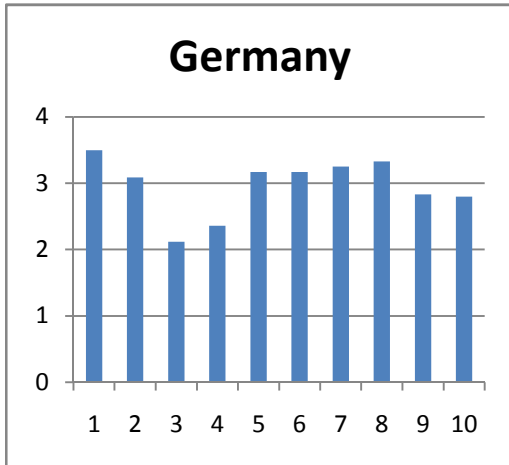
		Australia	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Mexico	Spain	UK	Overall
Q1	Ability to communicate in a foreign language	N/A	2.83	2.75	3.33	3.5	3.45	3.67	N/A	3.25
Q2	Different perspective on American culture	3.33	3.17	2.8	3.67	3.09	3.45	3.67	3.61	3.44
Q3	Different perspective on your ethnic heritage	1.08	3.33	2	3	2.12	2.57	3.33	2.45	2.61
Q4	Intellectual development in business coursework	3	3.5	1.5	2.89	2.36	2.97	3	3.04	2.91
Q5	Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt	3.83	3.5	3.2	3.83	3.17	3.57	3.67	3.87	3.64
Q6	Maturity and self-confidence	3.67	3.5	3.6	3.76	3.17	3.61	3.67	3.87	3.62
Q7	Self-awareness	3.83	3.33	3.2	3.82	3.25	3.46	3.56	3.78	3.59
Q8	Understanding of different cultures	3.5	3.83	3.4	3.89	3.33	3.66	3.78	3.74	3.66
Q9	Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history	3	3.2	2.6	3.61	2.83	2.93	3.56	3.09	3.14
Q10	Understanding of your faith	2.2	2.5	2.75	2.6	2.8	2.2	3.17	1.92	2.37

Scale

- 1 = no growth
- 2 = little growth
- 3 = moderate growth
- 4 = great growth

Figures 5-13
Comparison of Areas of Growth





Q1	Ability to communicate in a foreign language
Q2	Different perspective on American culture
Q3	Different perspective on your ethnic heritage
Q4	Intellectual development in business coursework
Q5	Interpersonal skills and the ability to adapt
Q6	Maturity and self-confidence
Q7	Self-awareness
Q8	Understanding of different cultures
Q9	Understanding of the U.S. in world affairs & history
Q10	Understanding of your faith

<u>Scale</u>
1 = no growth
2 = little growth
3 = moderate growth
4 = great growth