

Research & Study Abroad

Why Combine Research & Study Abroad?

- o Seize opportunities to research in unique labs, archives or libraries
- o Focus your study abroad experience through a unique academic lens

o Establish professional & personal networks on an international scale

o Enhance your resume while traveling the world

What Are My Options?

- o Study abroad for a summer, quarter, semester or year
- o Conduct research while abroad or upon return
- o Participate in research labs or complete independent study

Work with a faculty mentor at UCI or from your host country

See what students have to say! - on next page -

• How is it Possible?

- o There are study abroad & research opportunities for all majors & interests
- o Some programs abroad cost less than or the same as attending UCI
- Scholarships & research grants are available
- UROP grants/fellowships require the involvement of a UCI faculty mentor and should not be viewed a form of financial aid or to support fees for participating in a study abroad program.

How to Get Started?

- Visit the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) for assistance with:
 - ✓ Identifying your research interests
 - ✓ Identifying a UCI faculty mentor
 - ✓ Funding opportunities
 - ✓ Research timeline and proposal deadlines
 - ✓ Apply for the UROP Research Abroad Fellowship

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)

Student Services II, Room 2300 949-824-4189 <u>urop@uci.edu</u> www.urop.uci.edu

- Visit the Study Abroad Center for assistance with:
 - ✓ Finding a program abroad to focus on your research interests
 - ✓ Funding opportunities

UCI's Study Abroad Center
The world is your classroom...

Student Services II, Room 1100 www.studyabroad.uci.edu

Research Student Testimonials

Discover different approaches for incorporating research into your study abroad experience

#1 Conduct research while on a research-focused program

Christine Nguyen, an Environmental Science major, studied abroad on the UCEAP Costa Rica Tropical Biology & Conservation program that is primarily focused on research. She developed a research project on her favorite sea animal – the octopus.



"The Tropical Biology Independent Research Practicum was a challenging, but incredibly rewarding class. I loved that I was able to come up with my own question and methods; researching a personal interest really made the project feel like my own work. My amazing mentors guided me through the full process, and I gained valuable experience in data analysis, scientific paper writing, and public speaking. Doing research abroad in Costa Rica made me realize I love being outside in nature and conducting fieldwork, and as a result, I did further environmental biology research when I came back to UCI. Science in the beautiful outdoors, what could be better?

#2 Conduct research while on a non-research focused program

Sandra Johnson, an African American Studies & Education Science double major, traveled to Cuba with UC Davis Summer Abroad, took regular courses for her major and conducted ethnographic research on Afro-Cuban women and race relations in Cuba.

"Before I studied abroad I received a grant from UCI's Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) to conduct research in Cuba. Upon return, I presented my year-long research project twice at the 2015 Undergraduate Research (UROP) Symposium as well as at UCI's Undergraduate Critical Theory Conference. I hope to further my research after I graduate in 2016. Cuba is a country of humble people and it holds a special place in my heart. Cuba is a country that is full of riches within, beauty, great weather, and amazing music. I hope to return some day. ¡Viva Cuba Libre!"



#3 Conduct research upon return

Allison Lim, Political Science & Sociology double major, utilized her experience abroad in Leeds, England to develop a research proposal upon returning to UCI. She presented her research at the UROP Symposium.



"After returning to UCI, I decided that I wanted to do research on perceptions of gender, based on the various observations I made in England. I chose to explore the topic of expectations between women and men regarding their gender roles in the home. My year-long research project questioned if U.S. college students perceive that they will have an equal division of household and childcare labor in their future families. Studying abroad taught me to question things that I took for granted as part of our culture. I encourage my peers to take advantage of the resources UCI provides for students to conduct research projects into topics that interest them."