



University of South Carolina **EDUCATION ABROAD**

2024– 2025





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Education Abroad Office Snapshot



Letter from the Director

This year has been one of renewal, innovation, and growth for our programs, our students, and our global partnerships. Over the past year, we have witnessed a steady increase in student participation abroad, with numbers now surpassing pre-pandemic levels. Our students continue to demonstrate resilience, adaptability, and curiosity as they immerse themselves in new cultures, languages, and communities across the globe. Their stories reaffirm our belief that international education not only deepens academic learning, but also fosters empathy, global citizenship, and lifelong connections.

This year we acquired a new travel management system, Via TRM, that will streamline our lengthy application process and, we hope, reduce confusion and frustration among education abroad applicants. We expanded resources highlighting our cost-effective programming in furtherance of our vision that all students—regardless of background—have the opportunity to pursue a global education. We also focused on creating tailored advising and pre-departure support for first-generation travelers.

Instructor-led programs remain a cornerstone of our program portfolio, with innovative courses that integrate global learning into the heart of our curriculum.



Global USC in Peru 2024

**Morgan
Morris
Inabinet**

Director of
Education Abroad

03

From an environmental documentary filming project in Switzerland to a peacekeeping course in Kosovo, these experiences connect learning with pressing global challenges, preparing our students to be leaders in an interconnected world.

Looking ahead, we are committed to building deeper, reciprocal partnerships abroad, finding creative solutions to increase the affordability of education abroad, and highlighting the rich diversity of location options that we offer.

None of our work would be possible without the collaboration of our faculty, the dedication of our staff, the support of our donors, and above all, the courage of our students who take the leap into the unfamiliar.

Thank you for sharing in this mission. Together, our work continues to transform the lives of our Global Gamecocks.

With gratitude, Morgan

Mission & Vision

The mission of the Education Abroad Office at USC is to support the goals of the Global Carolina initiative and serve the university community by engaging in global partnerships and providing accessible, safe, and high-quality international experiences for students that enhance their academic, personal, and cultural learning.

Our vision is to create opportunities for students, faculty, and staff that inspire academic and personal growth while building a university community with a broader world view, as well as a deeper understanding and greater appreciation of other cultures.

Rankings

A photograph of three young adults, two women and one man, posing in front of a large red torii gate. The woman on the left is wearing a white dress with yellow floral patterns and sunglasses, making a peace sign. The woman in the middle is wearing a white sweater and a pink skirt, also making a peace sign. The man on the right is wearing a light blue t-shirt and a brown shoulder bag, making a peace sign. In the background, there is a traditional Japanese building with a dark roof and red walls, and other people are visible walking around.

#1

Among SEC institutions for total number of education abroad students engaged in mid-length (i.e. semester-long) study abroad

#16

Among U.S doctoral institutions for total number of education abroad students engaged in mid-length (i.e. semester-long) study abroad

#27

Among U.S doctoral institutions for total number of education abroad students

Health & Safety

Supporting the health, safety, and security of travelers is the Education Abroad Office's foremost priority. Annually, we partner with the Office of Enterprise Risk Management to identify all foreseeable risks associated with international programs and develop or strengthen risk controls to mitigate their potential impact on our travelers. Such risks include incidents impacting students on a personal level (e.g. mental health, medical, crime) and incidents with potential to impact large groups of travelers (e.g. terrorism, civil unrest, natural disasters).

Our ability to support travelers hinges on all students (graduate and undergraduates) registering their travel with our office in advance. In order to ensure every student is supported to the greatest extent possible, we rely on our partners across campus to promote our office's services and the important of registering university-related international travel with us. We also depend on many campus partners—who generously share their expertise on issues such as alcohol safety, sexual assault and violence intervention and prevention, and mental health - to help us support education abroad students.



Health & Safety

Risk Management & Mitigation Practices

The Education Abroad Office (EAO) Risk Management Plan is coordinated by a full-time Global Health & Safety Specialist (see page 8).

- **Preparing Program Leaders:** All instructor-led program proposals undergo review by the International Program Approval Committee, which focuses on the academic and risk management elements of the program. To better prepare faculty and staff to lead programs, instructor-led program leaders are required to participate in incident response training facilitated by the EAO and campus partners.
- **Preparing Students:** All education abroad participants are given in-depth pre-departure resources developed by EAO staff, campus partners, and/or their Instructor-Led Program leader, which provides tips for promoting health and safety abroad from both a general and region-specific perspective.
- **Emergency Response:** Education abroad students have access to 24/7 emergency support through their program's on-site staff and USC via USC Police. Additionally, education abroad students are required to be enrolled in international medical insurance that provides coverage for emergency medical expenses, counseling, medical evacuation, security evacuation, and much more.
- **University Travel Warnings:** All students seeking university approval to travel to areas that are subjects of a University Travel Warning are required to submit a higher risk travel safety plan that undergoes a thorough review by the Student International Travel Oversight Committee. Students are required to demonstrate strong academic justification and a personal risk mitigation plan in order to gain university approval. Students then receive a personalized safety briefing from the EAO's Global Health and Safety Specialist.

External Partners

- Crisis 24
- U.S. Department of State
 - Overseas Security Advisory Council
 - OSAC Academic Sector Committee
 - Consular Affairs
 - American Citizen Services
 - Regional Security Officers
 - Country Councils
- PULSE: Dedicated Network of International Health, Safety, and Security Professionals

Campus Partners

- Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity
- Sexual Assault and Interpersonal Violence Prevention (SAVIP)
- Office of Civil Rights and Title IX
- Student Health and Well-Being
- Office of Enterprise Risk Management
- USC Police

For a complete list of general safety tips for education abroad students, visit our website at sc.edu/educationabroad

Meet the EAO's Global Health & Safety Specialist

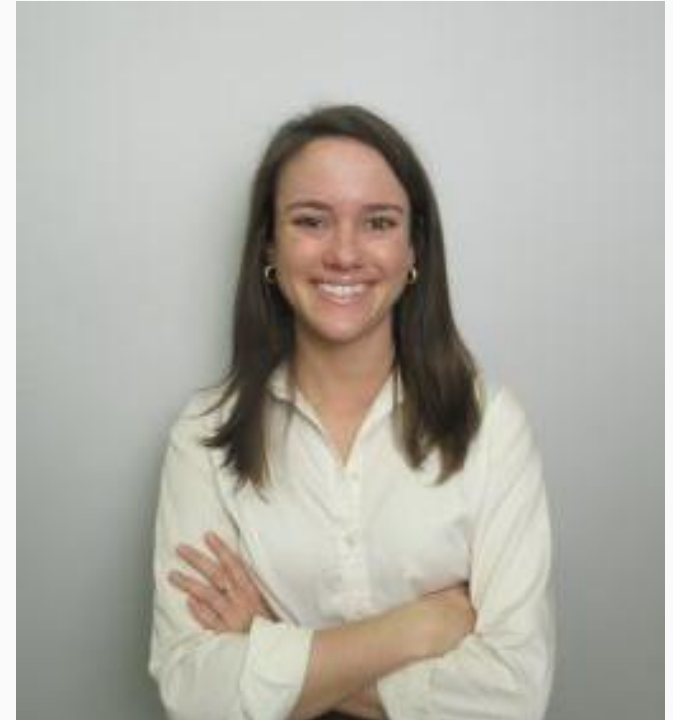
07

As international education continues to expand post-pandemic, the safety and well-being of our students remains central to our mission. This year, we were excited to welcome Ashlan Andrews to our team as the new Global Health & Safety Specialist—a role that strengthens our commitment to student support.

In this position, Ashlan coordinates health and safety resources, manages emergency protocols, and monitors global events that may impact USC travelers. She leads the review process for high-risk destinations and ensures compliance with international travel policies.

Ashlan brings a background in student affairs and international engagement, with a passion for creating safe, inclusive, and transformative global learning experiences. Whether she's guiding a student through a travel petition, consulting on emergency planning, or leading a training session, her goal is simple: empower students and staff to navigate international travel with confidence.

Outside of the office, Ashlan enjoys walking her dog, Minnie, reading historical fiction novels, and exploring new places—making her a natural fit for global education!



I'm passionate about helping students prepare for meaningful international experiences, and I'm thrilled to be part of a team that values both global experiences and student well-being!

– Ashlan Andrews

Staff Directory

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Morgan Morris Inabinet

Director of Education Abroad

morgan.inabinet@sc.edu

In addition to supporting the great work of the EAO team, Morgan is responsible for strategic and operational oversight of USC's education abroad and other international programming for undergraduate and graduate students.



Marci Heidt

**Assistant Director for
Advising & Programming**

mmheidt@email.sc.edu

Marci leads the advising team and oversees other student-focused programming. She also meets one-on-one with students and supports them through the study abroad process, specializing in assisting students interested in European programs. She liaises with DMSB and Nursing.



Kelly Anastes

**Assistant Director for
Enrollment & Operations**

anastes@mailbox.sc.edu

Kelly Anastes oversees the enrollment process and other non-advising operations of the office, including the front desk operations, partner visits, and office management. In her role she also oversees application approvals, maintains student records, and processes data requests.



Elizabeth Cooper

**Education Abroad Advisor &
Pre-Departure Coordinator**

ec65@mailbox.sc.edu

Elizabeth conducts one-on-one advising to assist students through the education abroad process. Elizabeth specializes in assisting students interested in non-European programs and those interested in internships. She liaises with CAS, CEC, and Social Work.



Rachel Harris

**Education Abroad Advisor &
Post-Experience Coordinator**

rh64@mailbox.sc.edu

Rachel conducts one-on-one advising to assist students through the education abroad process. Rachel specializes in assisting students interested in European programs. She liaises with ASPH, Music, Education, and Pharmacy.



Dasya' Young

**Instructor-Led
Programs Manager**

dryoung@mailbox.sc.edu

Dasya' leads support for faculty leading faculty-led programs, students enrolled in faculty-led programs, and also develops other faculty outreach initiatives.



Haley Turner

**Education Abroad Advisor
& Marketing Coordinator**

hfturner@mailbox.sc.edu

Haley conducts one-on-one advising to assist students through the education abroad process and leads the team in marketing, outreach, and recruitment efforts. Haley specializes in assisting students interested in non-European programs. She liaises with CIC, HRSM, and Honors.



Ashlan Andrews

**Global Health & Safety
Specialist**

ashlan@mailbox.sc.edu

Ashlan serves as the Global Health and Safety Specialist, overseeing resources and processes that ensure the well-being of students on university-related international travel. She manages the higher-risk travel review process and monitors global events impacting USC travelers.

Joined Our Team in Summer 2025 – Welcome Patrick & Ernest!



Ernest Owusu Achiaw

**Administrative and Enrollment
Assistant**

saabroad@mailbox.sc.edu

Ernest serves as the first point of contact for the Education Abroad Office, assisting a large student clientele by managing inquiries, scheduling, processing applications, and supporting staff with a variety of administrative tasks.



Patrick Steimer

**Education Abroad Advisor &
Visa Coordinator**

psteimer@mailbox.sc.edu

Patrick conducts one-on-one advising to assist students through the education abroad process. Patrick specializes in assisting students interested in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and France. Patrick supports all students through the visa process and assists in visa processing for select locations.



Staff Highlights

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The EAO team contributes our expertise to the international education field in a variety of ways.

Conference Presentations

Ashlan Andrews, Global Health & Safety Specialist

- Presenter, *Supporting Mental Health in Education Abroad*, South Carolina Association of International Educators Annual Conference, February 2025.

Marci Heidt, Assistant Director of Advising & Programming

- Presenter, *Data Analysis for International Educators: A Hard Skill That's Easy to Learn*, Forum on Education Abroad Annual Conference, March 2025.
- Presenter, *Data Analysis for International Educators: A Hard Skill That's Easy to Learn*, CIS Abroad Leadership Series, July 2025.

Morgan Morris Inabinet, Director of Education Abroad

- Facilitator, *Pre-Conference Workshop - Streamline & Strategize: Mastering Office Efficiency and Planning for Success*, South Carolina Association of International Educators Annual Conference, February 2025.
- Panelist, *Opening Plenary: Forecasting the Future of Health, Safety, Security and Risk Management in Education Abroad*, Forum on Education Abroad Annual Institute for Health, Safety, Security & Risk Management, June 2025.

Professional Service

Ashlan Andrews, Global Health & Safety Specialist

- Member, Forum on Education Abroad Annual Institute for Health, Safety, Security & Risk Management Planning Committee

Marci Heidt, Assistant Director of Advising & Programming

- Education Abroad Representative, South Carolina Association of International Educators

Morgan Morris Inabinet, Director of Education Abroad

- Chair, Women in Security Programming Subcommittee
- Chair, South Carolina Association of International Educators
- Member, CIS Abroad Advisory Board
- Member, SAI Programs Advisory Board

Haley Turner, Education Abroad Advisor & Marketing Coordinator

- Member, CEA CAPA Marketing Advisory Board



Peer Advisors

From drop-in advising to campus outreach, our Peer Advisors play a key role in supporting the Education Abroad Office and helping fellow students navigate their global education journeys.



Adrianna Delacruz

Worldstrides (ISA)

Madrid, Spain



Ben Harrison

USAC

Lyon, France



Claire O'Neill

CEA CAPA

Madrid, Spain



Ella Tocci

SAI

Sorrento, Italy



Ellis Padgett

SAI

Florence, Italy



Phoebe Fisher

USAC

Lyon, France



Luz Clarita Reyes

Worldstrides (ISA)

Seville, Spain



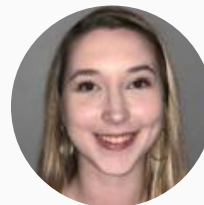
Graduate Assistants

Graduate Assistants provide vital administrative and student support to the Education Abroad Office, helping ensure the smooth operation of advising, outreach, and program processes.



Ernest Owusu Achiaw

M.Ed. Higher Education & Student Affairs



Maya Jordan

Master of International Business

Faculty and Staff Support

In addition to the many faculty and staff who lead programs and encourage their students to go abroad, the Education Abroad Office is grateful for the dedicated support and involvement of our faculty and staff committee members.

International Programs Approval Committee (IPAC)

Toward the beginning of the fall semester, IPAC reviews and offers feedback on all instructor-led program proposals scheduled to run during the upcoming academic year.

Dr. Samuel Todd, Chair

Dr. Lara Lomicka Anderson

Ashlan Andrews

Morgan Morris Inabinet

Dr. Christopher Yenkey

Dasya' Young

Student International Travel Oversight Committee (SITOC)

SITOC reviews and approves travel safety plans from students seeking university approval to travel to destinations of higher risk. Additionally, in times of incidents with global scale, SITOC makes recommendations to university leadership on whether or not the university is able to support student travel.

Dr. Samuel Todd, Chair

Dr. Robert Cox

Brian Hann

Dr. Jeff Hall

Dr. Melissa Nolan

Carla Sightler

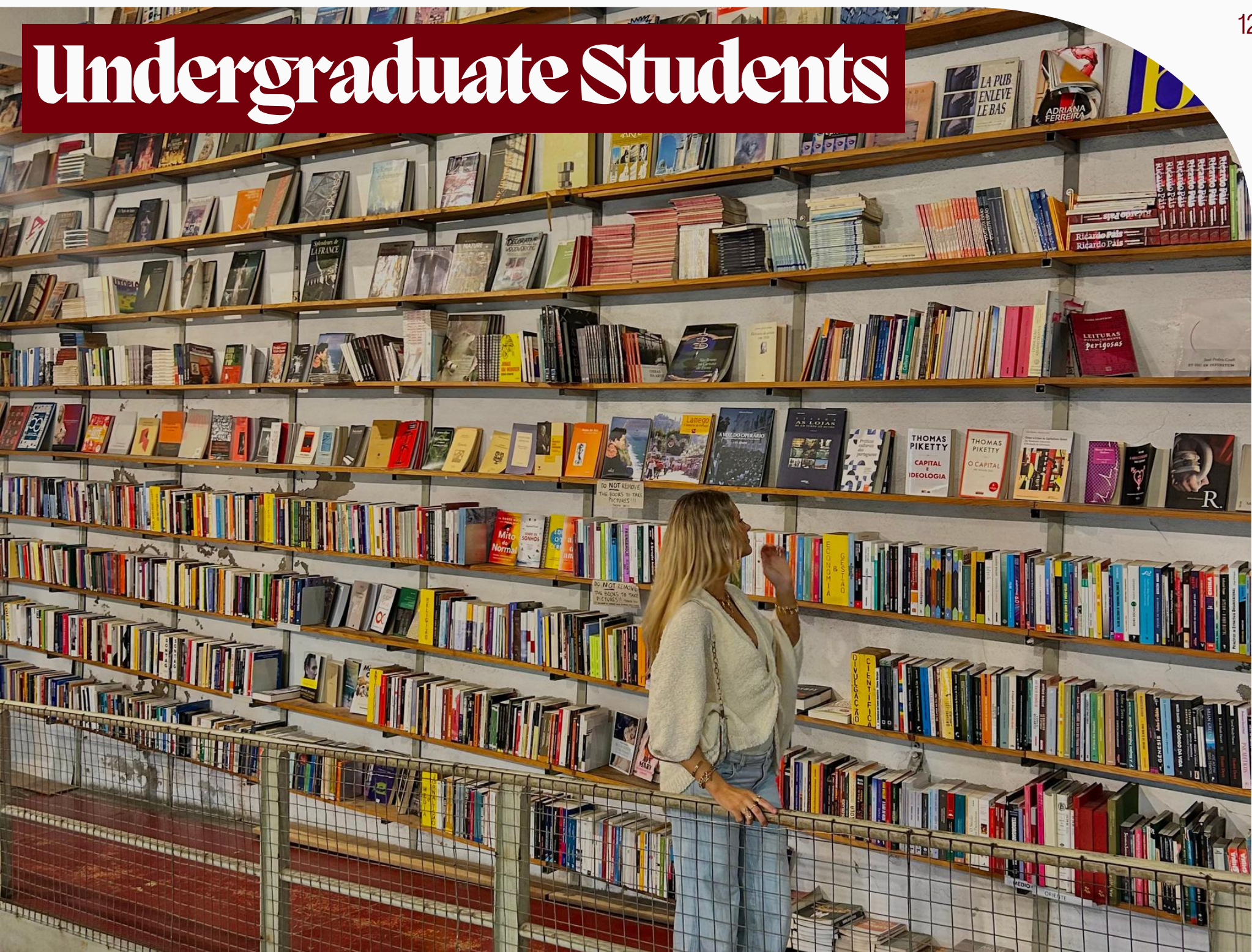
Dr. Marc Van Essen

James Patterson

Henry White

Morgan Morris Inabinet





Undergraduate Students

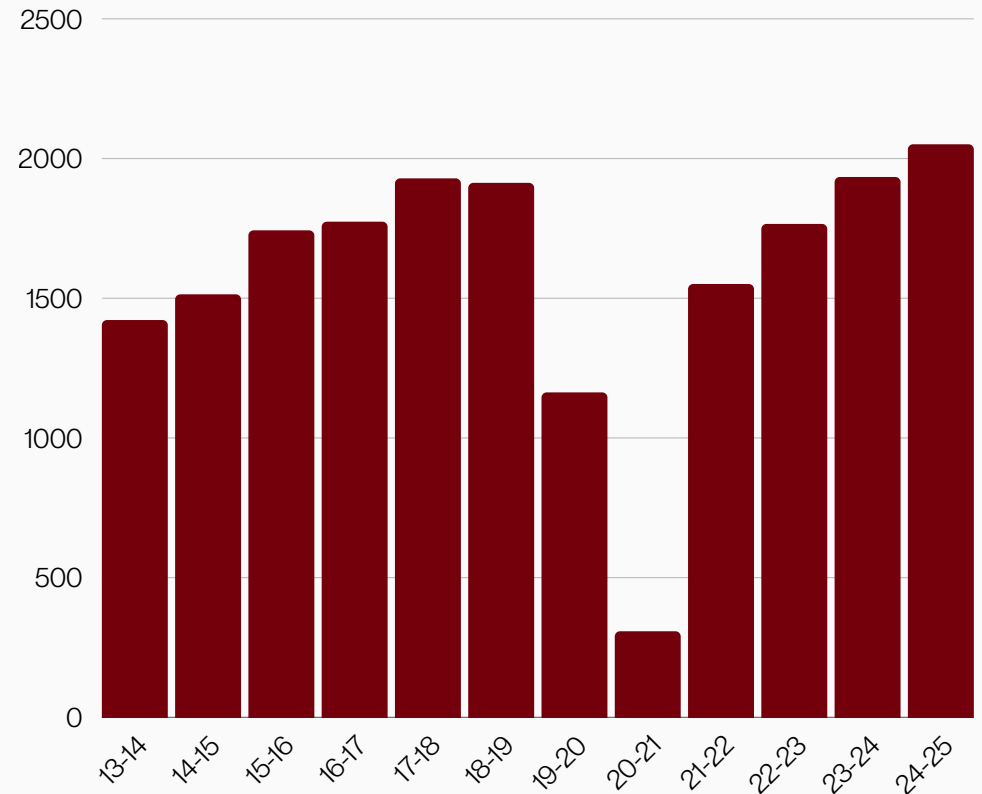
Undergraduate Enrollment by Term

The Education Abroad Office supported the following education abroad experiences, broken down by term:



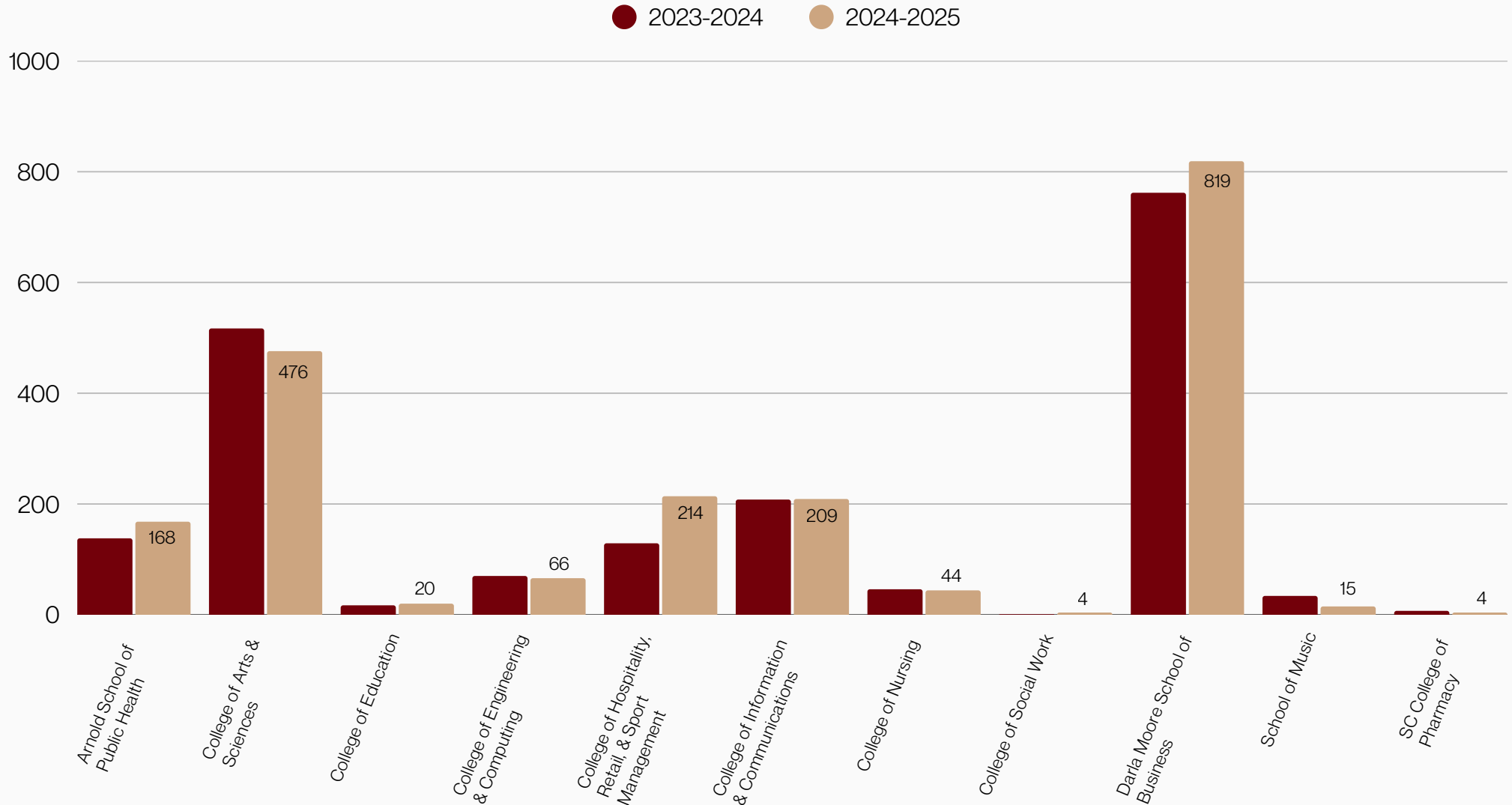
**Undergraduate Education Abroad
Participation Rates from Fall 2013 through
Spring 2025 at USC–Columbia**

Academic Year 12 ✈️	Total Students 2,051 ✈️
Spring Semester 945 ✈️	Summer 249 ✈️
	Maymester 559 ✈️
99 ✈️	152 ✈️ Spring Break
Fall Semester	19 ✈️ Winter Session
	16 ✈️ Fall Break



Undergraduate Enrollment by College

Breakdown of education abroad enrollment by school or college:



345 Honors College

230 Capstone Scholars

College Highlights

Top Sending College:

Darla Moore School of Business

(819 Students)

Colleges with Greatest Pell Recipient Representation in Study Abroad:

College of Education (25%)

College of Social Work (25%)

**Molinaroli College of Engineering
& Computing** (15%)

Colleges with Greatest First-Gen Student Representation in Study Abroad:

College of Social Work (25%)

**Molinaroli College of Engineering
& Computing** (14%)

School of Music (13%)

College with Highest Year-Over-Year Growth:

**College of Hospitality, Retail & Sport
Management** (66% Growth)

Largest Instructor-Led Program:

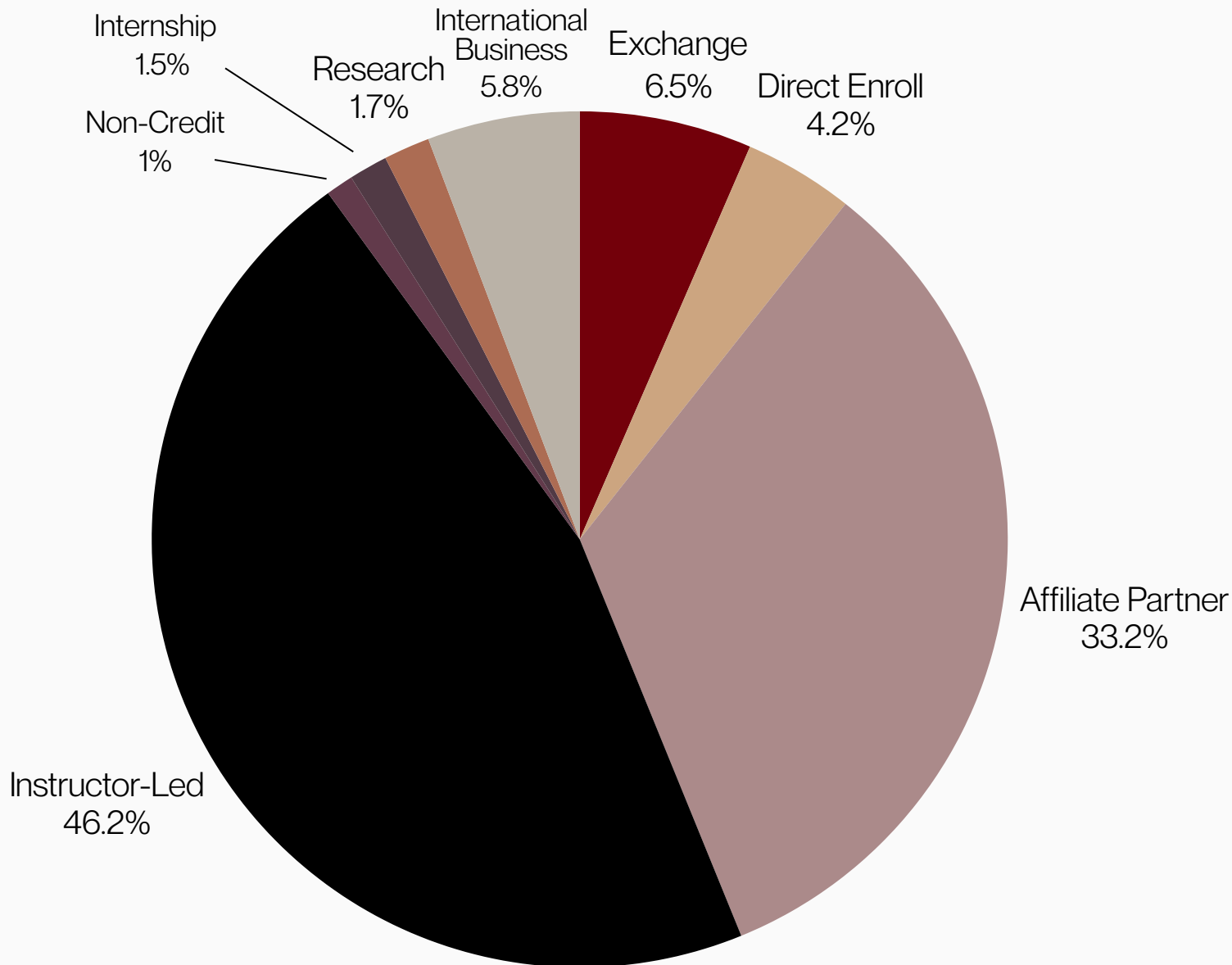
**College of Information
& Communications - Barcelona:
Beyond the Classroom**

(72 Students)



Undergraduate Enrollment by Program Type

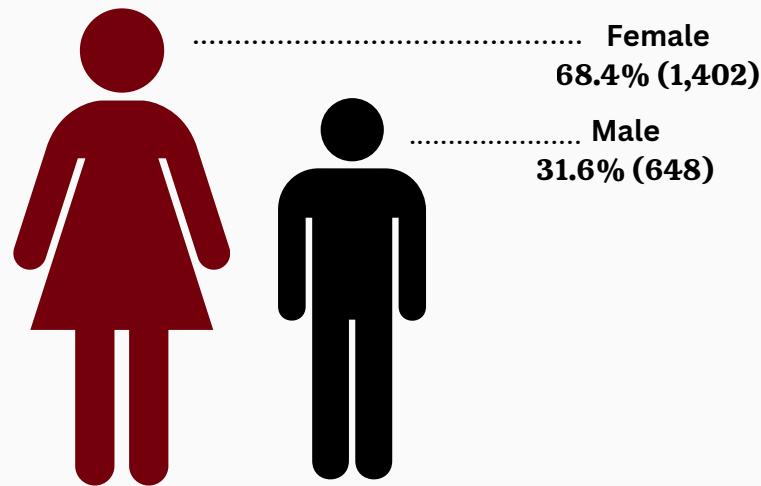
For more information about each program type, see pages 13-14.



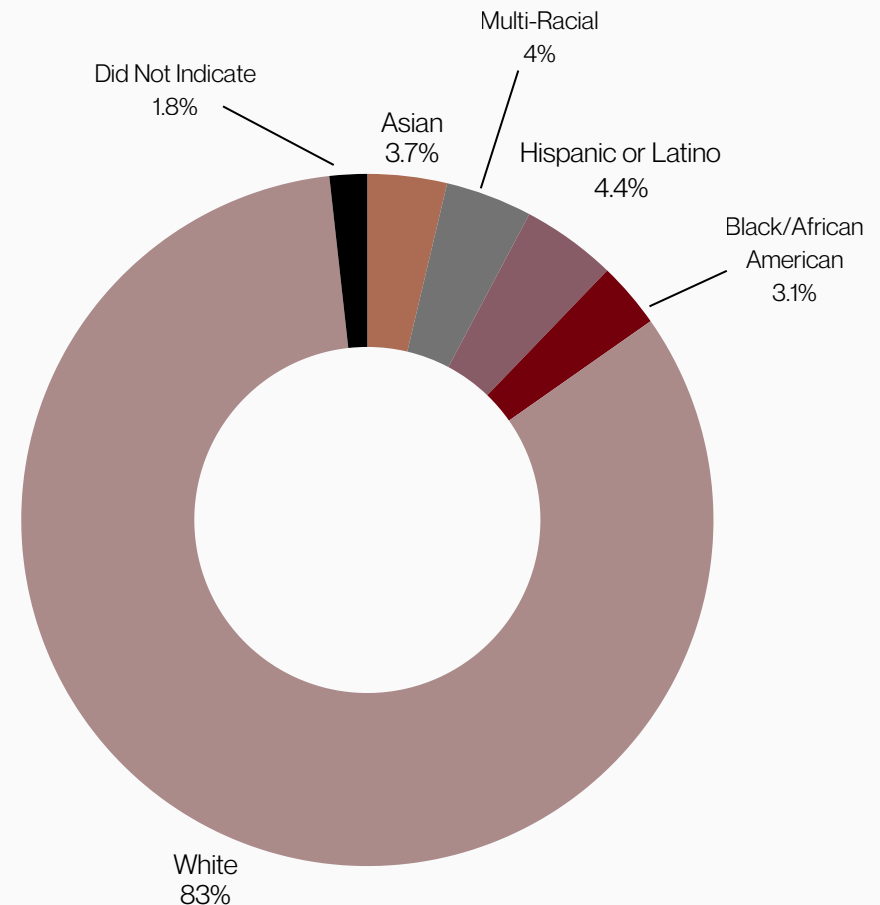
Undergraduate Demographics

17

Demographic breakdown of the 2,051 individual undergraduate participants:



The general USC undergraduate student population is 59% female and 41% male.



Ethnic Background

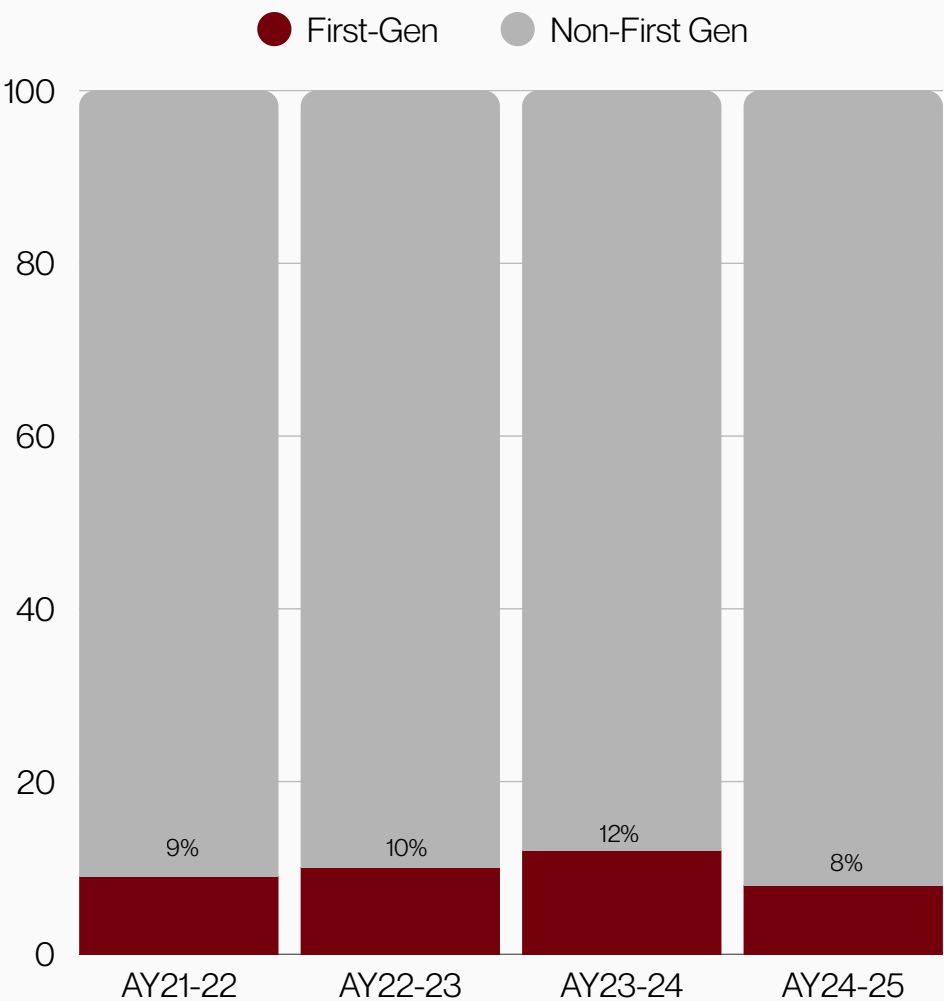
Students were asked on their education abroad applications to share their ethnic or racial identities. 15.2% of education abroad students identified themselves as a student of color; 26.2% of the general USC undergraduate population identified themselves as a student of color.



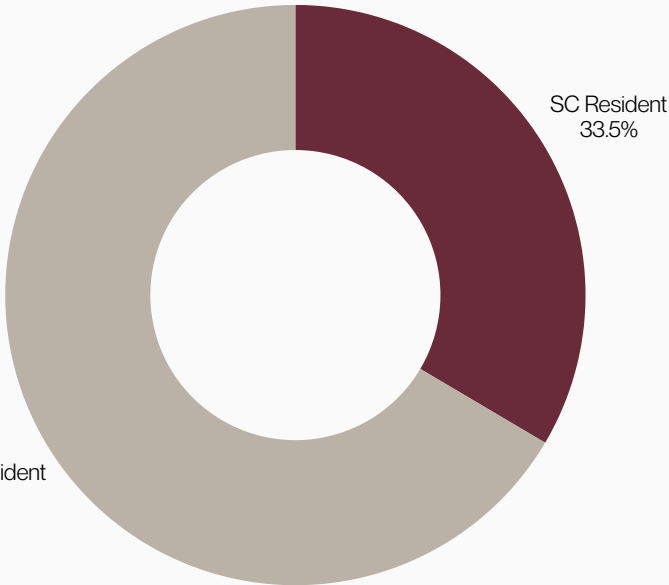
Undergraduate Demographics

Demographic breakdown of the 2,051 individual undergraduate participants:

First-Generation Student Participation



The general USC undergraduate student population was 20% First-Generation and 80% Non-First Generation in 2024-2025.



Residency Profile

The general USC undergraduate student population for 2024-2025 was 55.9% resident and 44.1% non-resident.



Undergraduate Financial Aid & Scholarships

9.97%

Pell Grant Recipients

9.97% of education abroad students identified themselves as Pell Grant recipients. In AY 24-25, 22.7% of USC undergraduates received a Pell Grant.



\$40,750

In AY 24-25, the Education Abroad Office, in collaboration with external partners including AIFS and WorldStrides, awarded \$40,750 through the Beyond Boundaries Award and Carolina Global Study Award. This figure does not include the travel grants awarded by USC colleges and other departments.

Undergraduate Destinations

20

49
Countries
Visited



Top 10 Destinations:

1. Italy
2. Spain
3. France
4. United Kingdom
5. Germany
6. Ireland
7. Switzerland
8. Australia
9. Japan
10. Greece

Argentina (5)
Aruba (16)
Australia (62)
Austria (19)
Belgium (21)
Brazil (11)
Chile (17)
China (5)
Costa Rica (27)

Czech Republic (18)
Denmark (37)
Dominican Republic (17)
Ecuador (28)
Egypt (1)
France (143)
Germany (103)
Greece (50)
Honduras (11)

Hong Kong (12)
Hungary (1)
Ireland (82)
Italy (517)
Japan (57)
Jordan (1)
Kosovo (9)
Kyrgyzstan (1)
Mexico (12)

Morocco (23)
Multi-Country (12)*
Netherlands (17)
New Zealand (13)
Norway (20)
Peru (19)
Portugal (42)
Senegal (2)
Singapore (28)
South Africa (18)

South Korea (12)
Spain (456)
Sweden (5)
Switzerland (72)
Taiwan (4)
Thailand (25)
United Arab Emirates (2)
United Kingdom (111)
Uruguay (10)
Vietnam (1)

**Some students visited multiple countries on the same experience.*

Student's counted as multi-country visited the following countries: Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Morocco, Spain, and Germany

Student Testimonials

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There's no better way to capture the impact of studying abroad than through the voices of our students—here are some of their reflections.

Michelle Ihetu

“ My time abroad truly helped me come into my own and boost my confidence to pursue new things ”



Summer 2024
Affiliate Partner Program
CEA CAPA
Seville, Spain

Izzy Intrieri

“ Studying abroad allowed me to immerse myself in new cultures, languages, and friendships while also helping me discover my passion for my career path and prepare for my future. Through this experience, I realized how much I love helping others study abroad and have the same life-changing opportunities I did. ”



Spring 2025
Affiliate Partner Program
SAI
Florence, Italy

Edy McGoldrick

“ Studying abroad expanded my perspective in ways I never could have imagined when I first planned my trip. I not only had the chance to explore a completely new place, but I also met incredible new people, and immersed myself in a different culture. I was able to get to know both Uruguay, and myself, on a deeper level and experience what life would be like living in another country. Thanks to USAC, I felt supported in my host country and had opportunities to step outside of my comfort zone in ways I would not have done alone. ”



Spring 2025
Affiliate Partner Program
USAC
Montevideo, Uruguay

Undergraduate Student Insights

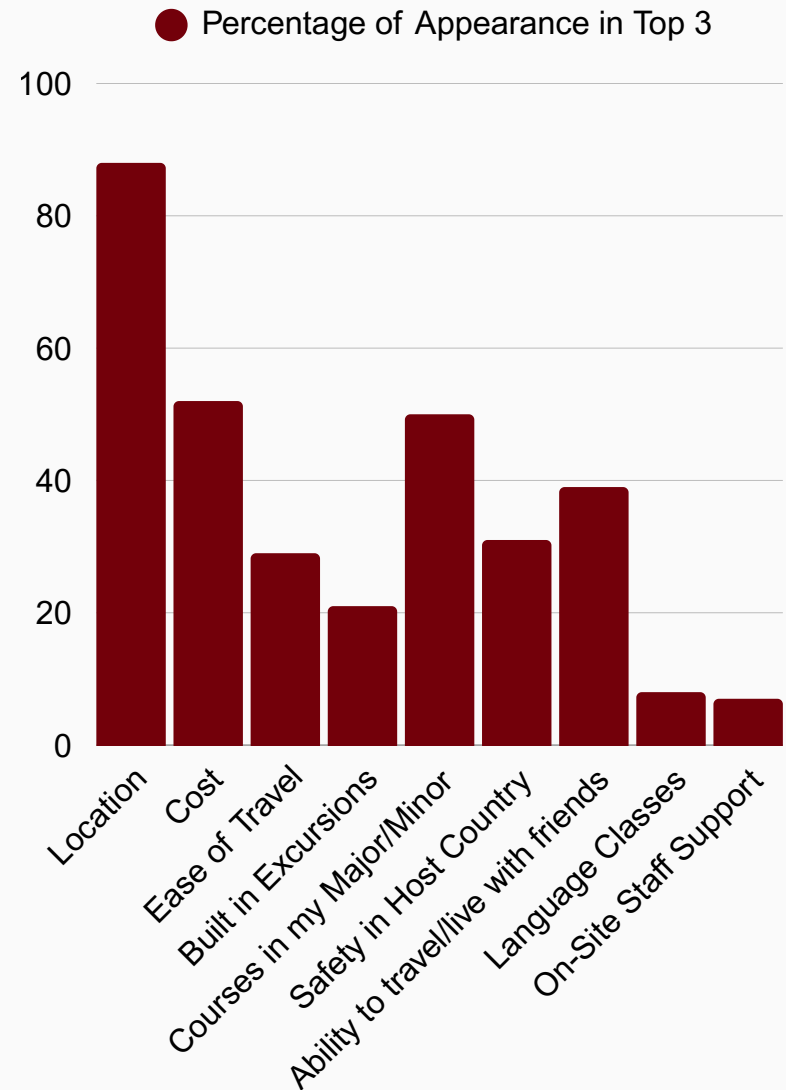
What motivates students to study abroad? One tool the EAO is using to answer that question is our education abroad profile. The first step for students in the education abroad advising process, students complete their profiles and share information about their goals and priorities for their education abroad experience. Below is a snapshot of their responses.

Student Motivations

- **Location:** 88% of profiles indicate location is a top consideration in planning their experience
- **Cost:** 52% of profiles indicate cost is a top consideration in planning their experience
- **Major/Minor Coursework:** 50% of profiles indicate the availability of major/minor specific coursework is a key consideration in planning their experience

Peer Influence

- 33% of profiles indicated they had a group of friends all seeking to study abroad together
- 33% of profiles indicated they were studying abroad at the recommendation of a friend



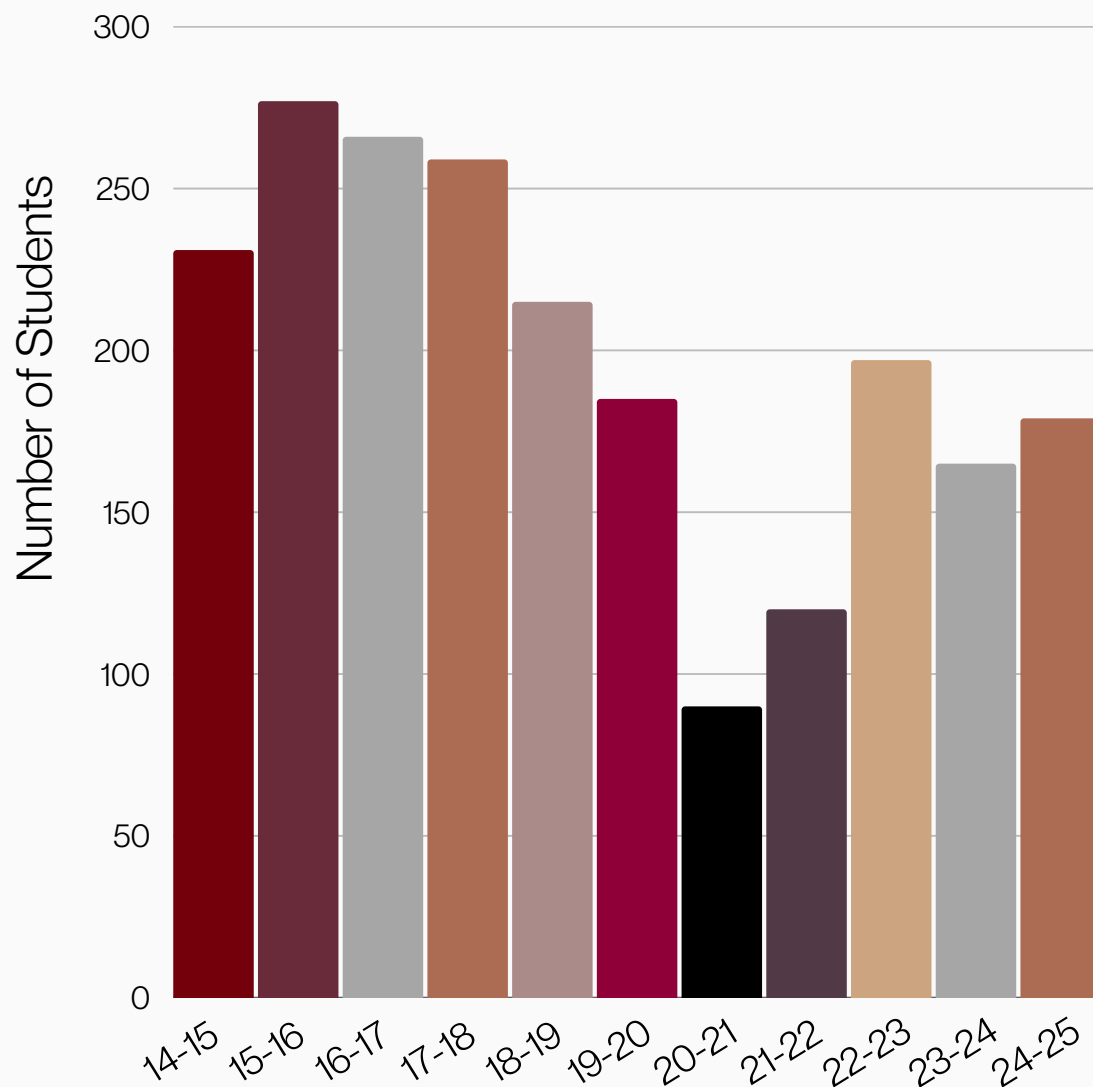
Graduate Students



Graduate Participation

Breakdown of education abroad enrollment by school or college:

Graduate Education Abroad Participation Rates from Fall 2014 through Spring 2025 at USC-Columbia



179

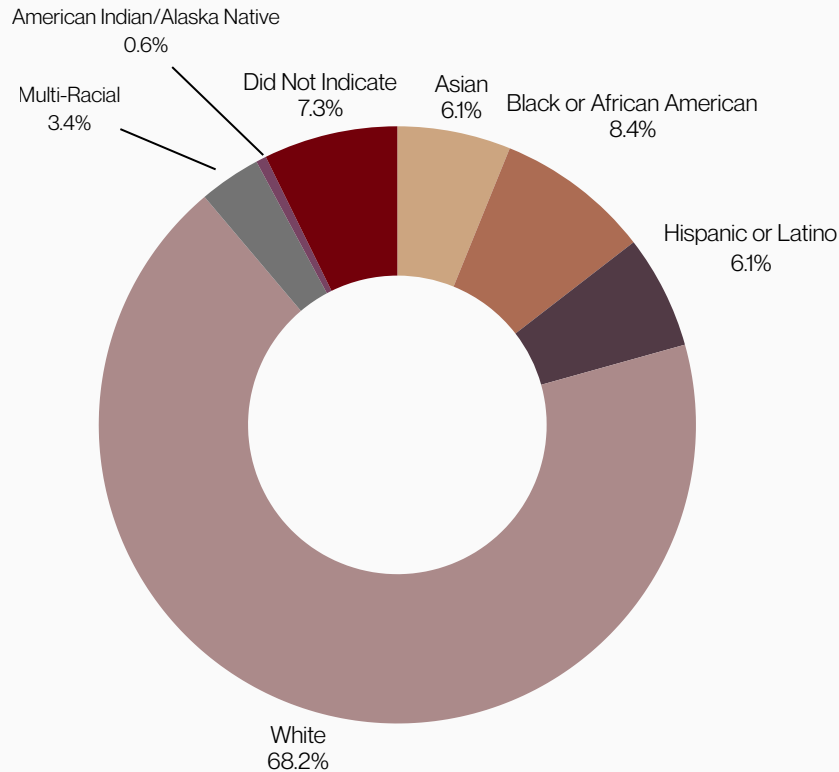
Total Students

Enrollment by College

- College of Arts & Sciences **(1)**
- Darla Moore School of Business **(100)**
- College of Education **(1)**
- College of Hospitality, Retail & Sport Management **(7)**
- College of Information & Communications **(2)**
- School of Law **(34)**
- School of Medicine **(7)**
- College of Engineering & Computing **(2)**
- School of Music **(13)**
- College of Nursing **(4)**
- SC College of Pharmacy **(4)**
- Arnold School of Public Health **(3)**
- College of Social Work **(1)**

Graduate Demographics

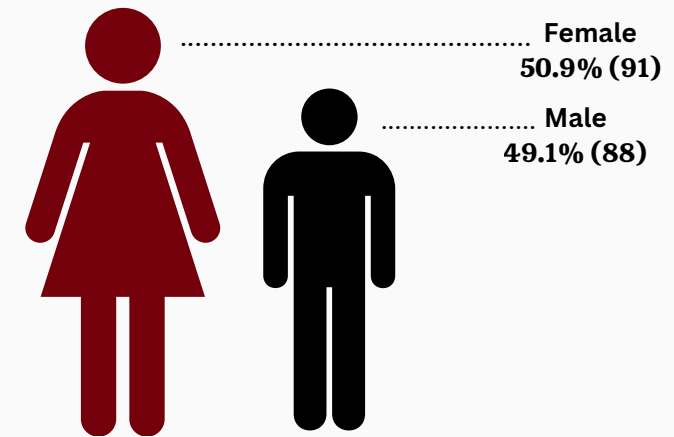
Demographic breakdown of the 179 individual graduate participants:



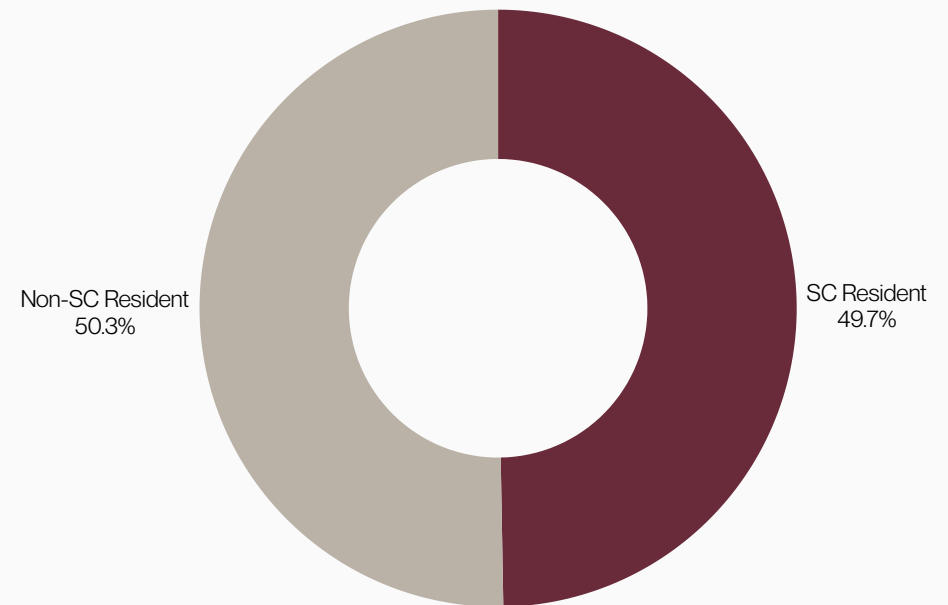
Ethnic Background

Students were asked on their education abroad applications to share their ethnic or racial identities.

24.6% of education abroad graduate students identified themselves as a student of color; 20.3% of the general USC graduate population identified themselves as a student of color.



The general USC graduate student population is 65.2% female and 34.8% male.



Residency Profile

The general USC graduate student population for 2024-2025 was 49.9% resident and 50.1% non-resident.

Graduate Destinations

26

25
Countries
Visited



Top 10 Destinations:

1. United Kingdom
2. France
3. Singapore
4. China
5. Italy
6. Spain
7. Austria
8. Germany
9. Czech Republic
10. Belgium/Bolivia/
Honduras

Argentina (1)
Austria (13)
Belgium (2)
Bolivia (2)
Canada (1)
China (15)
Costa Rica (1)
Czech Republic (8)
Dominican Republic (1)

Ethiopia (1)
France (39)
Germany (10)
Ghana (1)
Greece (1)
Honduras (2)
India (1)
Ireland (1)

Italy (14)
Japan (1)
Kenya (1)
Mexico (1)
Singapore (24)
Spain (14)
Thailand (1)
United Kingdom (53)

Some students visited multiple countries on the same experience.

Program Information



Instructor-Led Programs

Instructor-led programs run in a variety of regions and disciplines. They are broken down by term:



Countries Visited

Aruba	Italy
Australia	Japan
Austria	Kosovo
Belgium	Mexico
China	Morocco
Costa Rica	New Zealand
Czech Republic	Norway
Denmark	Peru
Dominican Republic	Portugal
Ecuador	Singapore
France	South Africa
Germany	Spain
Greece	Switzerland
Honduras	Thailand
Ireland	United Kingdom

Sponsoring Colleges/Departments

Arnold School of Public Health	Darla Moore School of Business
Capstone Scholars	First-Generation LLC
College of Arts & Sciences	LEAF LLC
College of Education	School of Law
College of Engineering & Computing	School of Medicine
College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management	School of Music
College of Information and Communications	College of Social Work
College of Nursing	Honors College

In AY 23-34, USC offered 56 Instructor-Led Programs

[illegible]

33
Countries

England (*University of Leeds*)
England (*Richmond American University London*)
France (*Institute for American Universities*)
France (*American Business School Paris*)
Germany (*Freie Universität Berlin European Studies Program*)
Germany (*University of Bamberg*)
Hong Kong (*Chinese University of Hong Kong*)
Hong Kong (*City University of Hong Kong*)
Ireland (*Maynooth University*)
Ireland (*University of Limerick*)

Italy (*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*)
Italy (*Institute for American Universities*)
Japan (*Kansai University*)
Latvia (*Learn Russian in the EU*)
Macau (*Institute for Tourism Studies*)
Mexico (*Tecnológico de Monterrey*)
Morocco (*Institute for American Universities*)
Netherlands (*University of Groningen*)
Netherlands (*Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*)
New Zealand (*University of Waikato*)
Peru (*Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas*)
Scotland (*University of Dundee*)

Scotland (*University of Strathclyde*)
South Korea (*Sogang University*)
Spain (*Universidad Carlos III de Madrid*)
Spain (*Universidad Francisco de Vitoria*)
Spain (*Institute for American Universities*)
Sweden (*Chalmers University of Technology*)
Sweden (*University of Gothenburg*)
Switzerland (*Cesar Ritz Colleges*)
Taiwan (*National Chengchi University*)
Taiwan (*National Taiwan University*)
Taiwan (*National Chung Hsing University*)
Thailand (*Chiang Mai University*)
Wales (*Swansea University*)

USC's Affiliate Partners

U.S.-based partners that operate programs abroad geared towards U.S. students. Summer, semester, and academic year options are available.

American Institute for Foreign Study (*AIFS*)

Center for International Studies (*CIS Abroad*)

Council on International Education Exchange (*CIEE*)

CEA CAPA Education Abroad (*CEA CAPA*)

International Studies Abroad (*ISA*)

SAI Programs (*SAI*)

School of Russian and Asian Studies (*SRAS*)

School for International Training (*SIT*)

Semester at Sea (*SAS*)

Sea Education Association (*SEA*)

The Education Abroad Network (*TEAN*)

University Studies Abroad Consortium (*USAC*)

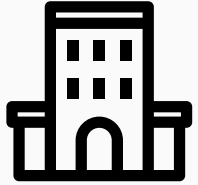


"I learned so much during my study abroad that I never would have imagined. This goes beyond the classroom. I've learned how to handle unexpected shocks, how to adjust easily to unknown circumstances, and become acquainted with people and places I never could have imagined. Without my affiliate partner program, this would not have been possible."

-Ella Tocci, Global Studies

**65 Countries
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