**Why Study Abroad?**

Studying abroad offers LGBTQ+ individuals the unique opportunity to:
- understand sexuality and gender in different cultural contexts
- gain a new perspective on their multiple identities and perspectives
- build transnational solidarity with sexual minorities
- connect with different social movements fighting for gender and sexual rights
- challenge the language of LGBTQ+

**Things to Consider**

Before going abroad you must be aware of how the expression of your sexuality or gender may affect your study abroad experience.

**Identity**

- How open will you be about your sexual orientation and gender identity with those that you meet?
- What are the general attitudes toward LGBTQ+ people in the host culture?
- Are there LGBTQ+ establishments or districts?

**Safety**

- What are the laws regarding LGBTQ+ issues in the host country?
- Will you be staying with a host family who may or may not be accepting of your gender or sexual identity?
- Where can you find LGBTQ+ inclusive medical care in your host country?

* Reminder that you are subject to your host country’s laws even if you feel they are discriminatory.

**Scholarships**

- Rainbow Scholarship
- PFLAG National Scholarships
- Pride Foundation Scholarships
- Stonewall Foundation Scholarships
- Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship
- The Point Foundation LGBTQ Scholarship
- Asia Pacific Islander Queer Women and Transgender Community Scholarship

**Back in the U.S.**

Before returning to the U.S. you must take time to reflect on your experience abroad and evaluate if your relationships back home will be affected. If you chose to come out while abroad, how will that affect your family and friend relationships? Will you have to find a different supportive community?

**LGBTQ+ Friendly Programs**

- University of Sussex
  - Class: Sophomore, Junior, Senior
  - Cumulative GPA: 2.0
  - Term: Summer
- UC Center, Mexico City
  - Class: Sophomore, Junior, Senior
  - Cumulative GPA: 2.5
  - Term: Summer
- University of Copenhagen
  - Class: Junior, Senior, Graduate
  - Cumulative GPA: 2.85
  - Term: Fall, Spring, Year

And many more!

**Pride Events Around the World**

- Argentina, Buenos Aires
- Brazil, Rio de Janeiro
  - [http://www.gaypridebrazil.org/rio-de-janeiro/](http://www.gaypridebrazil.org/rio-de-janeiro/)
- Canada, Vancouver
  - [http://vancouverpride.ca](http://vancouverpride.ca)
- Germany, Berlin
  - [http://csd-berlin.de/](http://csd-berlin.de/)
- Italy, Milan
  - [http://www.milanopride.it/](http://www.milanopride.it/)
- Japan, Tokyo
  - [http://tokyorainbowpride.com/](http://tokyorainbowpride.com/)
- Netherlands, Amsterdam
  - [http://www.amsterdamgaypride.nl/](http://www.amsterdamgaypride.nl/)
- Spain, Barcelona
- United Kingdom, London
  - [http://prideinlondon.org/](http://prideinlondon.org/)

Additional Pride events found at:
- [http://www.gaypridecalendar.com/](http://www.gaypridecalendar.com/)
Bobcats Out in the World

Come Visit Us

LGBTQ+ Study Abroad

International Center
Kolligian Library 101
Monday – Thursday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Phone: (209) 228.4722
Email: international@ucmerced.edu
Website: studyabroad.ucmerced.edu

Angi Baxter
Women’s Programs &
LGBTQ+ Initiatives Coordinator
Office of Student Life
Phone: (209) 228.2250
Email: abaxter3@ucmerced.edu

Lambda Alliance
Email: lambdaalliance@ucmerced.edu
Facebook: Lambda Alliance at UC Merced

“Studying abroad at UNAM in Mexico City, Mexico had a major impact on my life. I was able to attend one of Latin America’s most prestigious universities with students from all over the world, visit numerous prehistoric landmarks and pueblo magicos, eat and drink the best Mexican cuisine, and enjoy the night life in Mexico’s capital. Mexico City also known as DF is a progressive city with an overall friendly LGBTQ+ vibe, there are plenty of bars and anthros in La Zona Rosa but my favorite were located in Centro Historico. Even though those spaces weren’t “LGBTQ+” spaces we were not discriminated because of our sexuality and/or gender identity. I met the most amazing people while studying abroad in Mexico and I now have transnational friendships with queers around the world that I frequently chat with. I highly recommend LGBTQ+ and allies to study abroad, it allows us to get out of our comfort and explore ourselves.

- Jovita, UCEAP Mexico: 2014-15

If you identify as LGBTQ+ and would like to share your personal experience studying abroad, please email us at: international@ucmerced.edu with the subject: LGBTQ+ Study Abroad Testimonials.