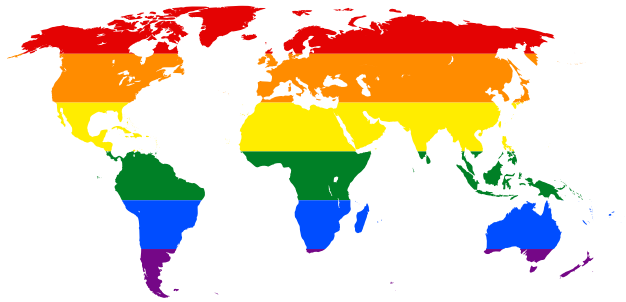


Why Study Abroad?

Studying abroad is an opportunity for all students to experience a new culture, gain new skills and expand their worldviews. For the LGBTQ+ community, studying abroad can be an opportunity to learn more about oneself and identify within the global context.

Studying abroad offers LGBTQ+ individuals the unique opportunity to:

- Understand sexuality and gender in different cultural contexts
- Gain a new perspective on their identities
- Build transnational solidarity with sexual minorities
- Connect with different social movements fighting for gender and sexual rights
- Challenge the language of LGBTQ+



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](#)

Things to Consider

Before going abroad you must be aware of the safety implications for your host country and understand how your LGBTQ+ identity may affect your experience abroad.

Concepts of identity and the way in which LGBTQ+ individuals are perceived not only vary from country to country but even between regions within the same country. Researching your host country before going abroad will help mitigate risks.

Safety

- What are the general attitudes toward LGBTQ+ people 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?

Identity

- How open will you be about your sexual orientation and gender identity?
 - Are there LGBTQ+ establishments or districts?
 - What are the laws regarding LGBTQ+ issues?
- * Keep in mind that you are subject to your host country's laws even if you feel they are discriminatory.

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+ & Gender Studies

Below is a list of UCEAP programs that have offered substantial coursework relating to the LGBTQ+ community:

- [Australian Universities](#)
- [Univ. of West Indies](#)
- [Political Science Sciences Po](#)
- [Free Univ. of Berlin](#)
- [Irish Universities](#)
- [National Autonomous Univ. of Mexico \(UNAM\)](#)
- [Utrecht Univ.](#)
- [New Zealand Universities](#)
- [Univ. of Cape Town](#)
- [Lund Univ.](#)
- [English Universities](#)

Please be aware that even though a program in a certain country may offer courses focusing on gender or LGBTQ+ studies this does not necessarily reflect the attitudes of the local community or laws of the host country.

Pride Events Around the World

- [Argentina, Buenos Aires](#)
- [Brazil, Rio de Janeiro](#)
- [Canada, Vancouver](#)
- [Denmark, Copenhagen](#)
- [Germany, Berlin](#)
- [Italy, Milan](#)
- [Ireland, Belfast](#)
- [Japan, Tokyo](#)
- [Netherlands, Amsterdam](#)
- [Poland, Warsaw](#)
- [South Africa, Cape Town](#)
- [South Korea, Seoul](#)
- [Spain, Barcelona](#)
- [United Kingdom, London](#)

Additional Pride events found at:
<http://www.gaypridecalendar.com/>

Bobcats Out in the World



“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.

Come Visit Us

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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

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

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Lambda Alliance
Email: lambdaalliance@ucmerced.edu
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LGBTQ+ Study Abroad



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