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Heels Abroad

Faculty-led study abroad programs
at UNC Chapel Hill



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Introduction

Study Abroad Office Staff

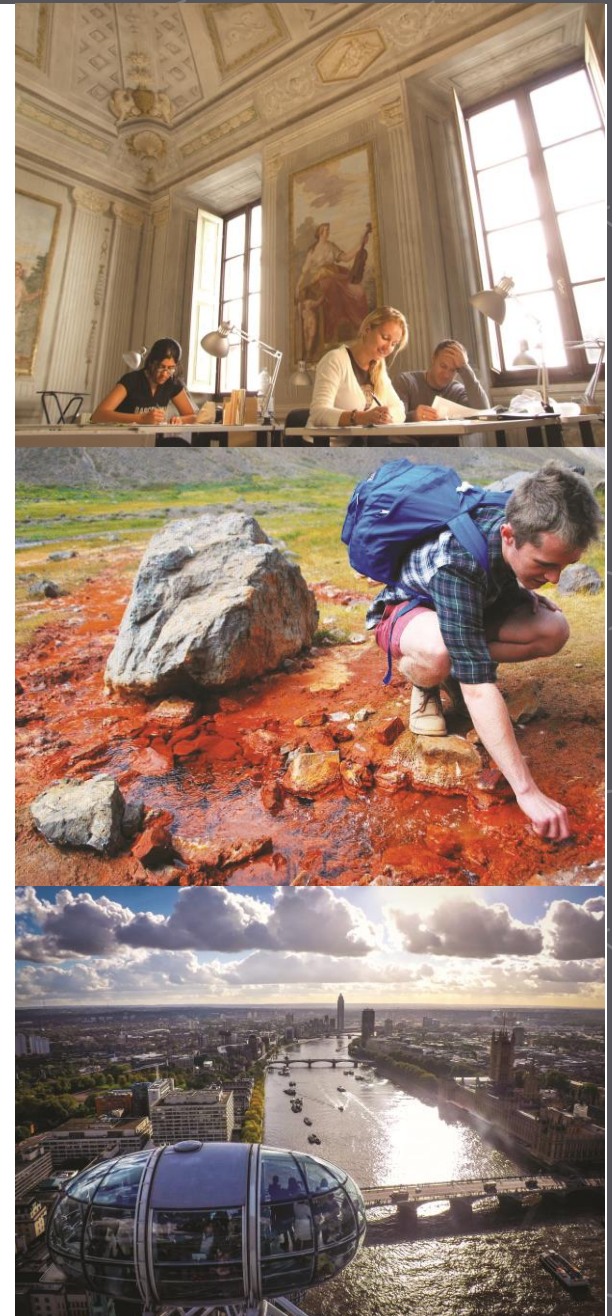
- Bob Noffsinger, Program Director
- Ken Nesbett, Program Director

Study Abroad at UNC

- Credit-bearing programs abroad plus risk management support for non-credit abroad activities
- Over 500 programs, 70+ countries
- Approximately 1700 students abroad annually through SAO
- All terms, including Breaks
- Exchange, Partner Provider, Signature, & Faculty-led

Snapshot of Faculty-led Programs at UNC

- 60+ faculty-led programs
- Variety of locations and fields of study
- 500+ students served per year





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Study Abroad Office (SAO) Staff

SAO Staff

UNC Chapel Hill Study Abroad Contact Information

Types of inquiries that Program Directors & Advisors handle within their region

Program Director: Overall partnership, exchange balance, agreement & program development, partner provider administration | **Advisor:** outgoing UNC student questions

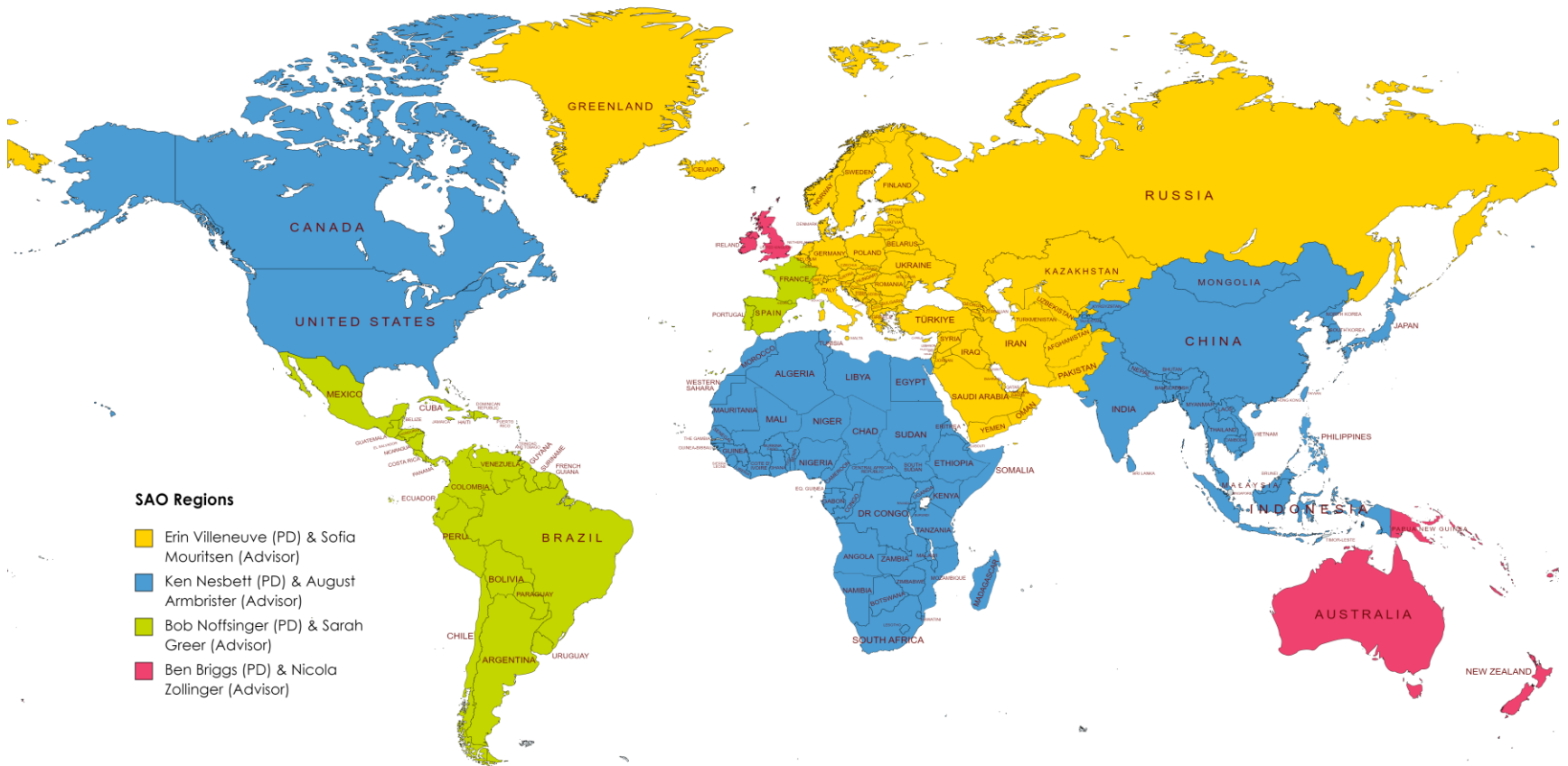
Region or other responsibility	Name, Role	Email
Africa, Asia, Canada, and domestic programs Partner provider programs worldwide: CET Academic Programs, SFS (School for Field Studies), and SIT (School for International Training).	Ken Nesbett, Program Director	knesbett@unc.edu
	August Armbrister, Regional Advisor	august@unc.edu
Spain, France, Portugal, Central & South America, the non-US Caribbean Partner provider: IES Abroad worldwide	Bob Noffsinger, Program Director	rpnoff@email.unc.edu
	Sarah Greer, Regional Advisor	sagree@unc.edu
Oceania, Ireland & the UK API Programs worldwide, Semester at Sea, SEA Programs, General partner provider inquiries	Ben Briggs, Program Director	bbriggs@email.unc.edu
	Nicola Zollinger, Regional Advisor	@email.unc.edu
Continental Europe (except France, Portugal, and Spain), Scandinavia, & the Middle East. Partner provider programs worldwide: Advanced Russian Language & Area Studies Program (ACTR), AMIDEAST, College Year in Athens (CYA), and Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS).	Erin Villeneuve, Program Director	ekeeler@email.unc.edu
	Sofia Mouritsen, Regional Advisor	sofae@unc.edu
Incoming Exchange Students	N. Nicole Cobb, Exchange Student Advisor	nncobb@unc.edu
Finance: Questions about billing	Finance Team	finance.studyabroad@unc.edu
Scholarships & Student Aid: Questions about aid package or how a specific program will work financially	Sharon Hudik, Assistant Director	FA_studyabroad@unc.edu
Communications/Marketing: media inquiries like DTH, promotional material requests, requests from Admissions, New Student & Family Programs	Mallory Minnehan, Communication & Marketing Manager	minnehan@unc.edu
Events: requests to add events to calendar, create social media, request space in the building, etc.	Complete Request Form	
Credit	Credit Team	credit_abroad@unc.edu

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SAO Staff



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Faculty-led Programs

Faculty-led Programs

What is a faculty-led program?

- UNC course taught abroad by a UNC professor
- Typically offered during the summer, but options for Spring Break, semester
- Stand alone UNC courses or packaged together with courses offered by host institution
- Targeted to specific majors/minors or open to all students
- Can be at an existing location or a completely new site
- Designed to be offered by same faculty or rotate across a department
- First Year Seminar
- Can include experiential options (internships, research, service-learning)

Benefits of Faculty-led Programs

Benefits for faculty

- Opportunity to teach abroad
- Use the location as an extension of the classroom
- Smaller class size
- International networking
- Explore future research opportunities

Benefits for students

- UNC courses in an international context
- Access to resources not available on campus
- UNC graded credit courses
- Smaller, more intimate classes
- Additional support



How can faculty teach abroad?

1. Develop a new program
2. Add a course to an established program
3. Join a rotation on existing programs
 - 3a. Work with coordinator who oversees these



Faculty-led Programs

Preference in Program Selection

- Clear academic connection to the location
- Encourages student exposure to the host culture
- Allows students to fulfill major or minor requirements
- Addresses curricular needs not already offered in portfolio
- Contributes to goal of increasing diversity of participants
- Creates opportunities in non-traditional locations

Program Viability

- Academic fit
- Diversity
- Location
- Timing
- Long-term offering
- Cost
- Meet minimum enrollment numbers



A Partnership

Faculty role

Program Development

- Write and submit the program proposal
- Assist with program development (academics)

Pre-departure

- Promote the program and recruit students
- Review student applications
- Facilitate student pre-departure orientation
- Attend pre-departure faculty training

While abroad

- Teach
- Attend program related events and activities
- Student welfare support
- Emergency response

Upon return

- Debrief with Program Director
- Submit expense report
- Plan for next year

SAO role

Program Development

- Review program proposal
- Guide program development (logistics)

Pre-departure

- Coordinate logistics, including budgets & contracts
- Support program promotion – webpage, flyer, fair
- Prepare students– advising, orientation, handbook
- Prepare faculty – workshop, handbook

While abroad

- Available 24/7!
- Support emergency response

Upon return

- Debrief
- Plan for next year
- Reconcile expenses



Program Structure

- Timing of programs:
 - Summer
 - 2+ weeks, 3 credits
 - 5+ weeks, 6 credits
 - Does not need to align with UNC Summer School sessions
 - Semester
 - Breaks
 - Travel embedded in an on-campus course
- Program Contact Hours
 - 12.5 contact hours per 1 credit, including class time and course related activities

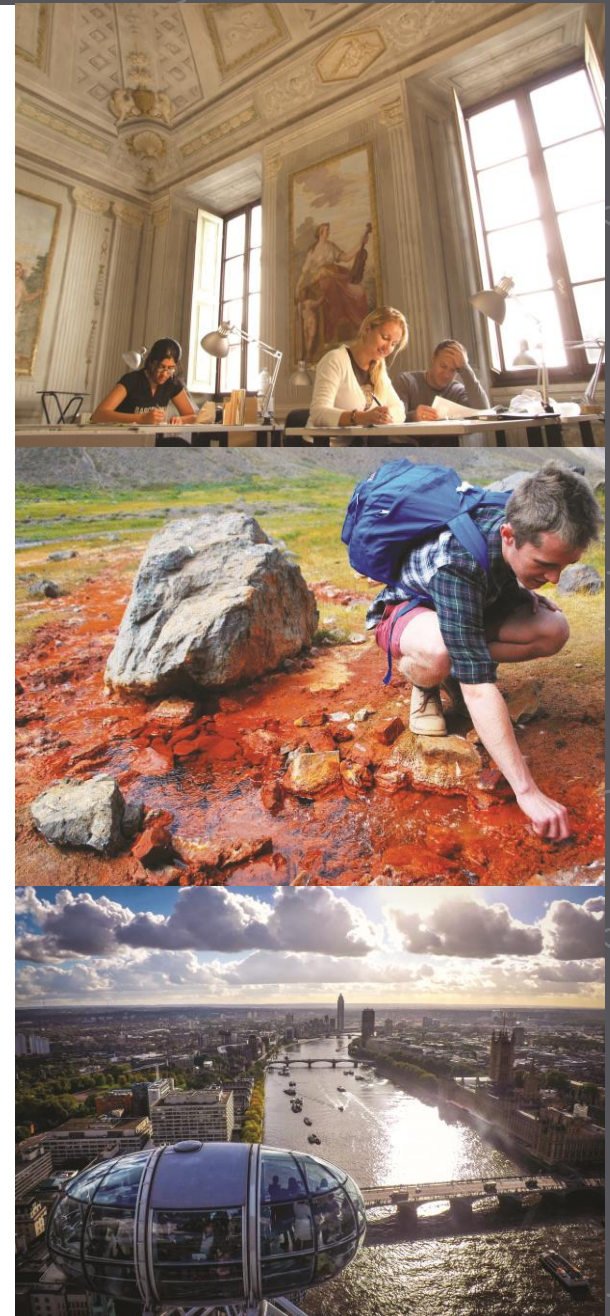




Infrastructure

- Programs must be based at a partner institution or coordinated by a partner provider organization
- SAO works with host to arrange onsite logistics – housing, classroom space, excursions, transportation, risk management support, etc.

SAO has partnerships and contacts in over 70 countries!





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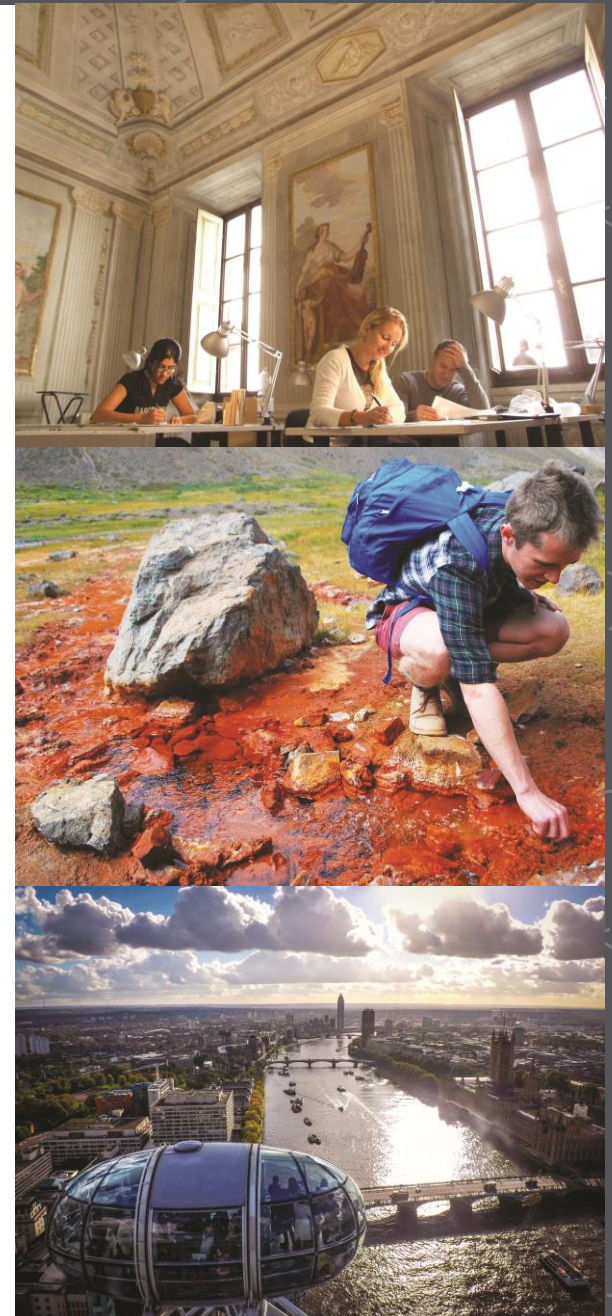
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Programs & Finances

Program Budgets

Programs are self-supporting – all costs associated with the program are passed along to the student as a program fee

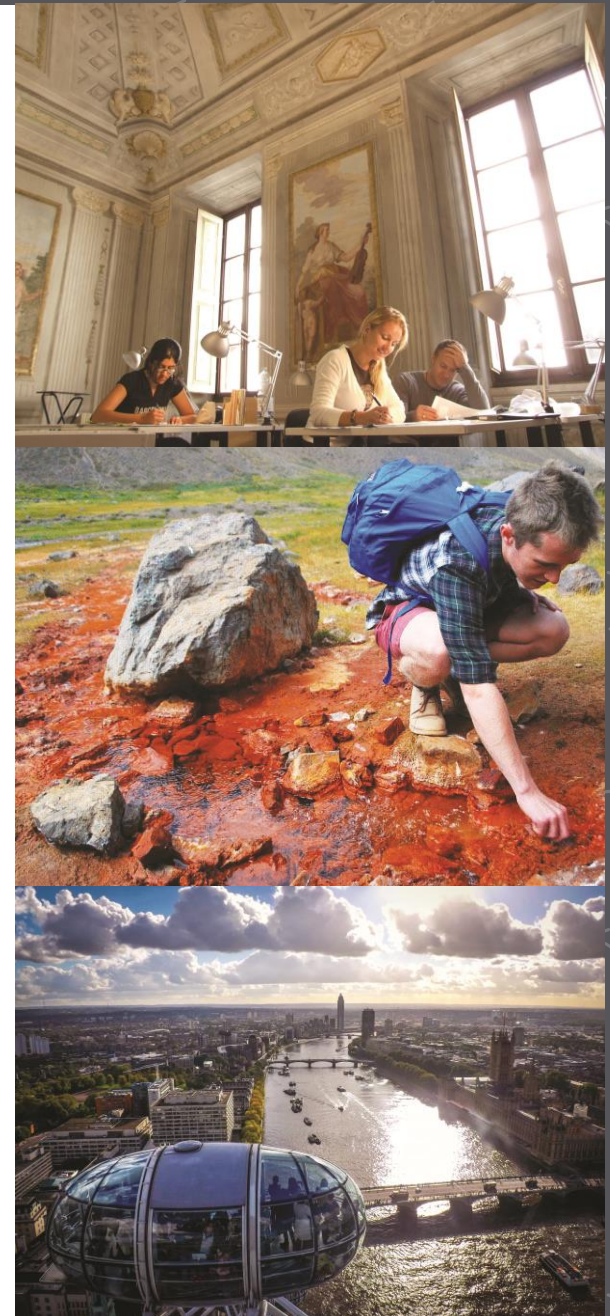
- Classroom rental
- Student housing
- Program activities and excursions
- Administrative fees abroad
- Student insurance
- Faculty expenses



Faculty Expenses

Program related faculty expenses are covered by the program budget:

- Stipend and benefits
- Round trip airline ticket to program destination
- Housing
- Meals
- International health insurance
- Mobile phone usage
- Transportation
- Visa (if applicable)
- Does NOT include personal or family expenses





Student Finances

Average cost of a 6-week summer faculty-led program is \$8-10K

- Program fee
 - Faculty expenses, facilities and admin support abroad, housing, excursions
- International health insurance
- Airfare
- Visa (if applicable)
- Personal expenses, meals, etc

Summer term is ineligible for federal financial aid. Available funding through Office of Scholarships and Student Aid (OSSA) includes

- SAO scholarships
- External scholarships
- Loans and scholarships





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Proposing a Program

Program Proposal

Components of a program proposal

- Program information
 - Dates
 - Rationale
 - Learning objectives
 - Audience
- Academics
 - Course name and description
 - Course eligibility
 - Syllabus
 - Itinerary
 - Activities and excursions
- Location info
- Faculty background
 - Bio
 - Relevant experience
- Health and Safety info
- Letter of support from Department Chair
- Faculty Program Director Agreement

Proposal Approval Process

1. Faculty submits proposal (2025 & beyond): November 1
2. SAO selects viable proposals
3. Study Abroad Advisory Board approval
4. College of Arts and Sciences Administrative Board approval
5. SAO and Faculty finalize program development



Next Steps

- Review our website:
<https://studyabroad.unc.edu/faculty-staff/program-development/>
- Reach out to SAO Staff:
 - Ken Nesbett, Program Director - knesbett@unc.edu
 - Bob Noffsinger, Program Director – rpnoff@email.unc.edu





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General Q&A

studyabroad.unc.edu