



# CENTER FOR GLOBAL & CULTURAL PROGRAMS

## Golden West College Study Abroad Interest Survey Summary Report (2018)

### Abstract

Conducted in the Fall of 2018, a survey was administered to capture the current level of awareness & interest in study abroad programs among the GWC general student population. Data was collected by the GWC Office of Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness on behalf of the GWC Center for Global & Cultural Programs, Office for Study Abroad.

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## Background

The Golden West College Study Abroad Interest Survey was designed to explore students' perceptions of Study Abroad and to provide the Center for Global & Cultural Programs with data to improve college services and promotion of education abroad.

As a primer, students were provided with the following definition: ***Study abroad means taking classes in another country, either with a professor from our district, or with faculty from a study abroad organization. You may earn academic credit for those classes while exploring a new country, meeting new people, and perhaps learning a new language!***

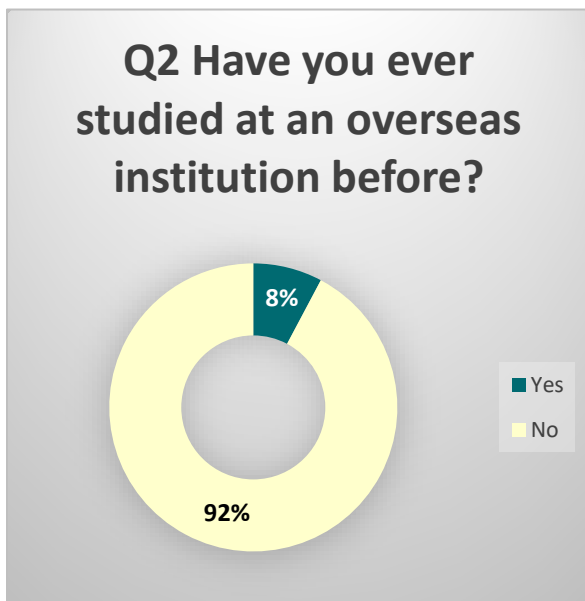
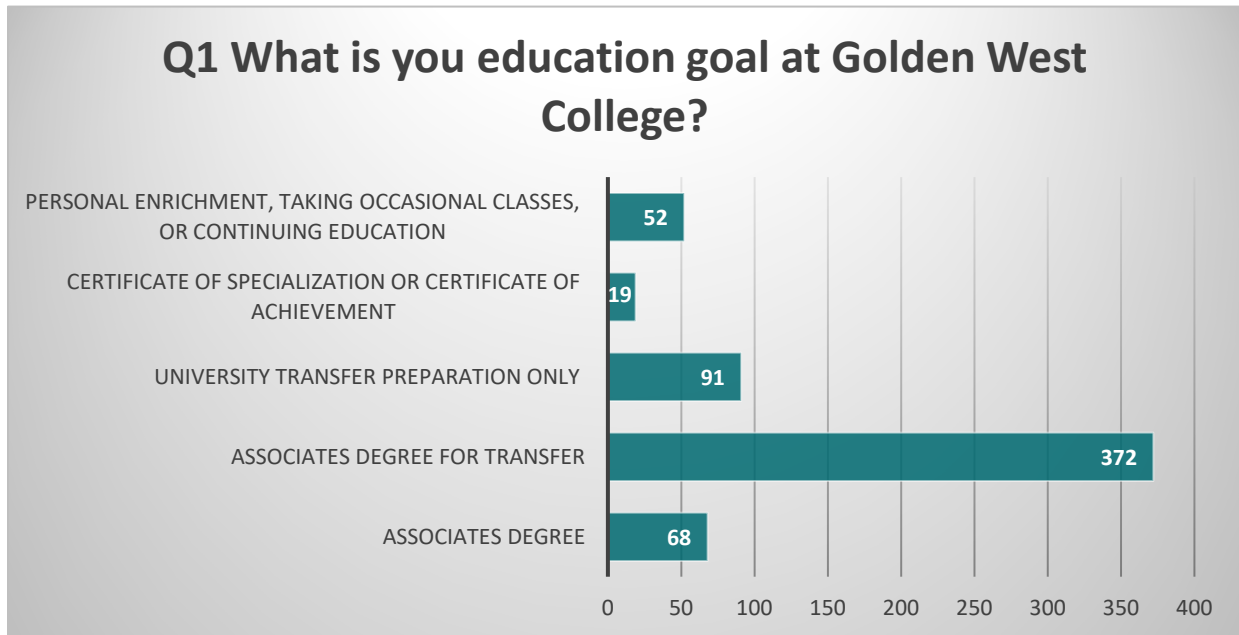
## Survey Administration

- The survey was developed in Survey Monkey by the GWC Office of Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness (ORPIE).
- The survey was administered to the enrolled student population of 11,633 during the Fall 2018 semester.
- 489 students completed the survey and 107 students submitted partial responses, totaling a response rate of 5.1%.
- An incentive of a \$150 gift card to the GWC Bookstore was awarded to one respondent who was selected at random.

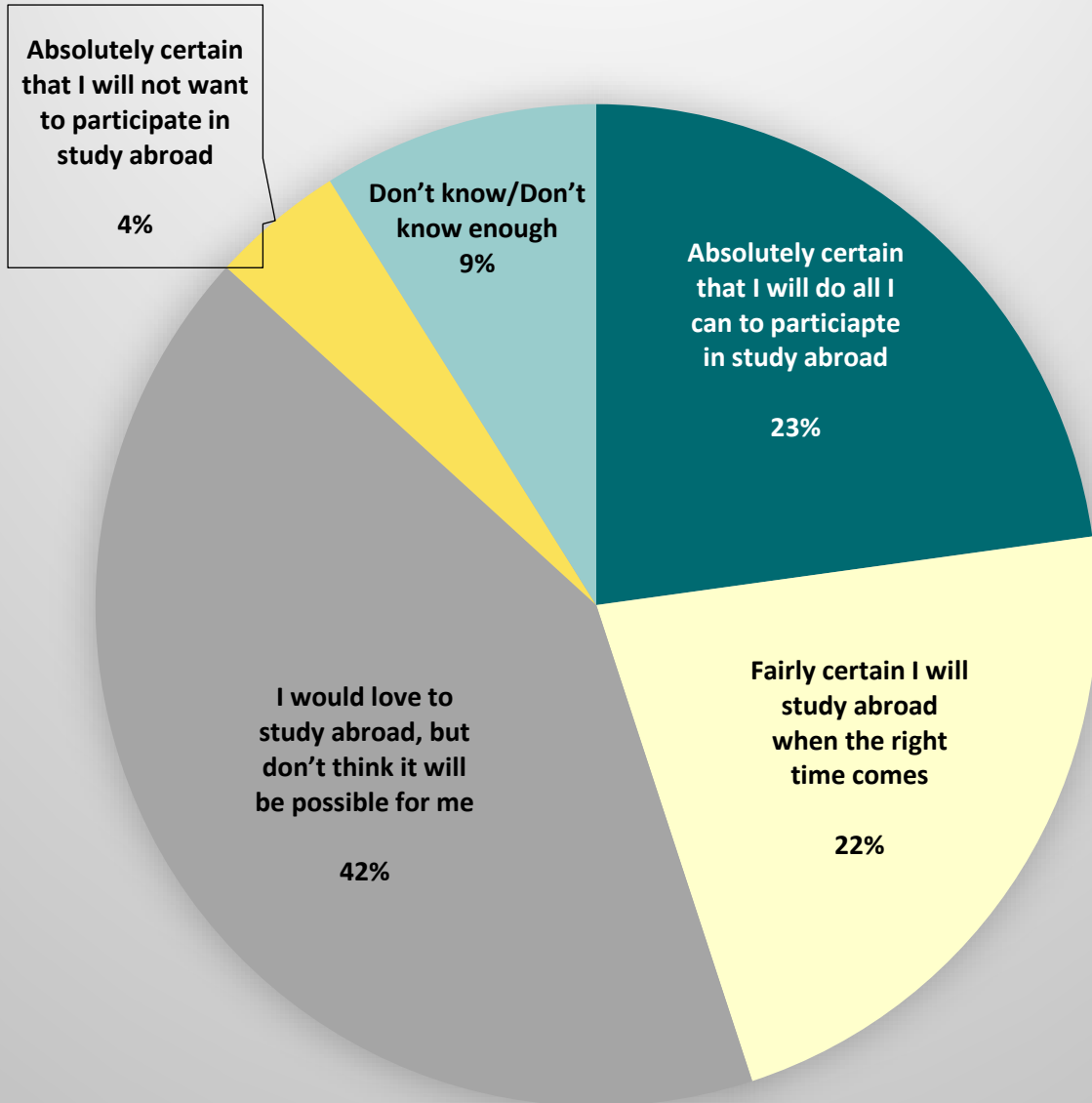
## Quick Facts

- **22.8%** of respondents indicated “Absolutely certain that I will do all I can to participate in study abroad.”
- **41.8%** of respondents indicated “I would love to study abroad, but don’t think it will be possible for me.”
- **“Worried about cost”** was selected as the top reason respondents were unsure about study abroad.
- **23%** of respondents selected “...travel and see other parts of the world” as the primary objective for studying abroad.
- **49%** of respondents would be most interested in a program with a duration of 3-4 weeks.
- **Psychology** ranked #1 as the subject area of interest.
- **France** ranked #1 as the country destination of interest.

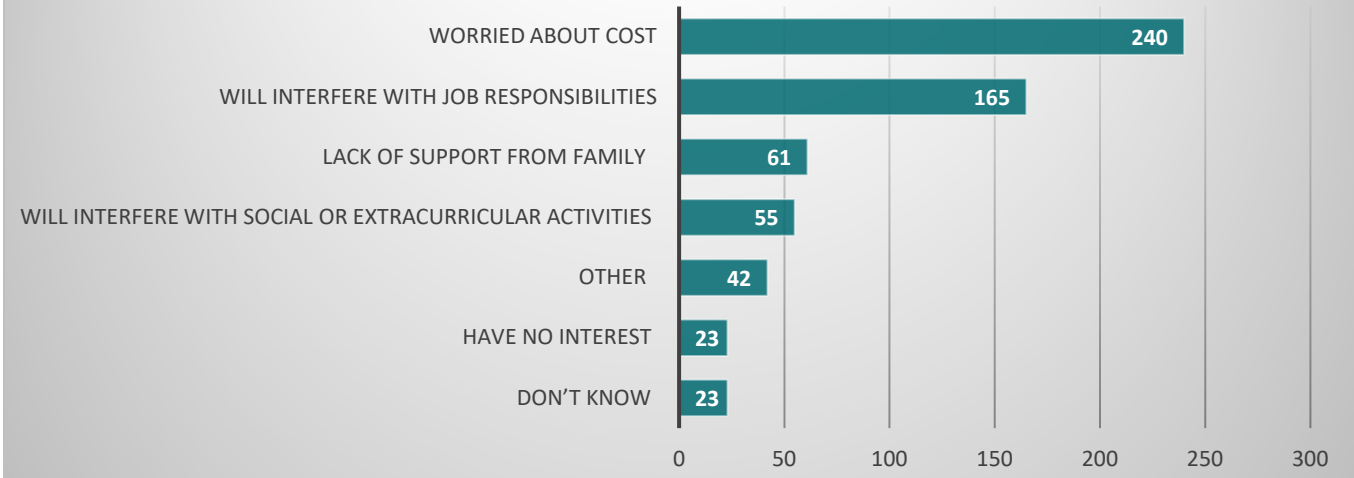
Survey Responses



### Q4 Which of the following statements best describes your feelings about participating in a study abroad program while in college?



### Q5 What are the main reasons you don't want to/are unsure about study abroad?

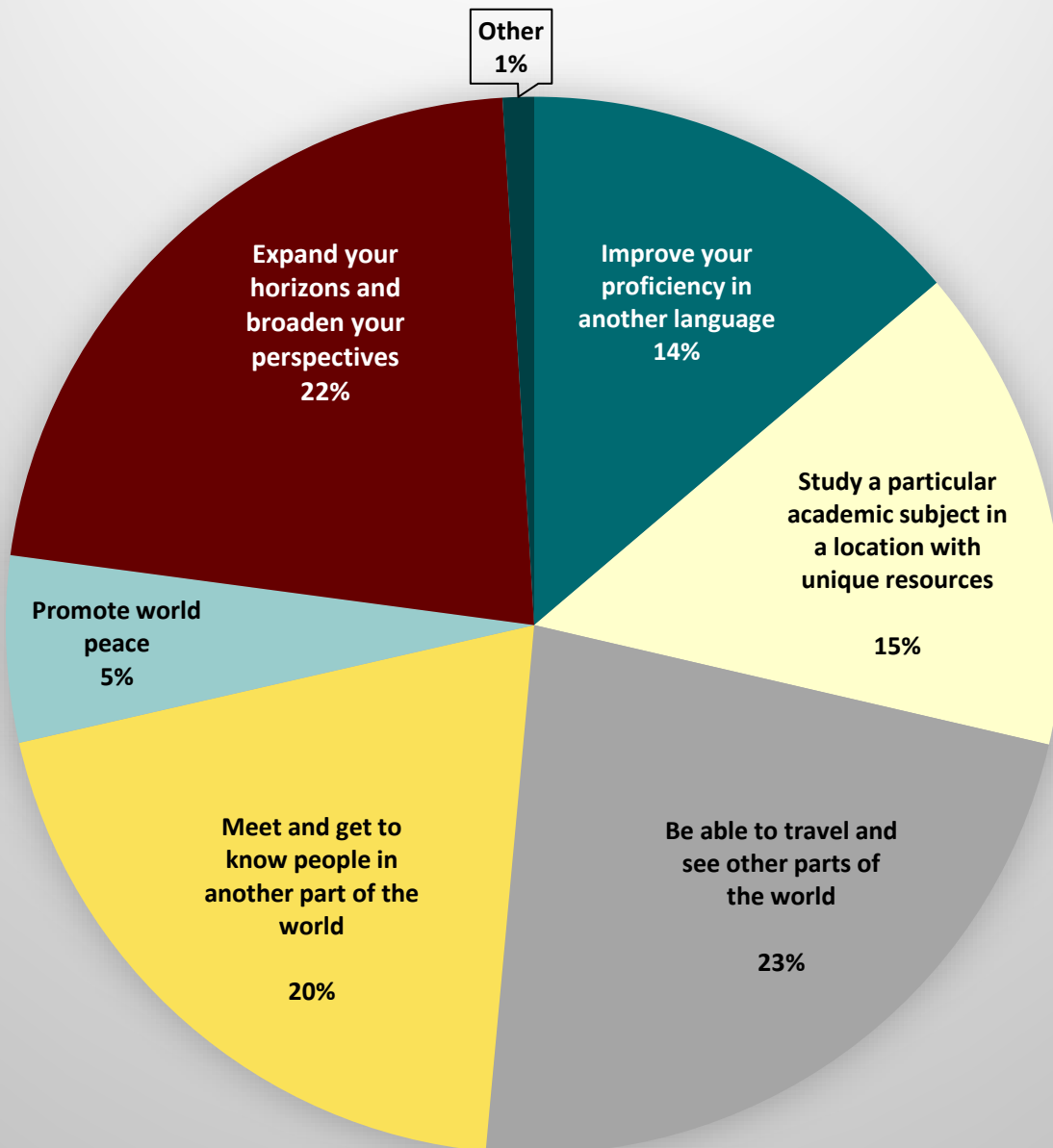


Common Themes among Responses for 'Other':



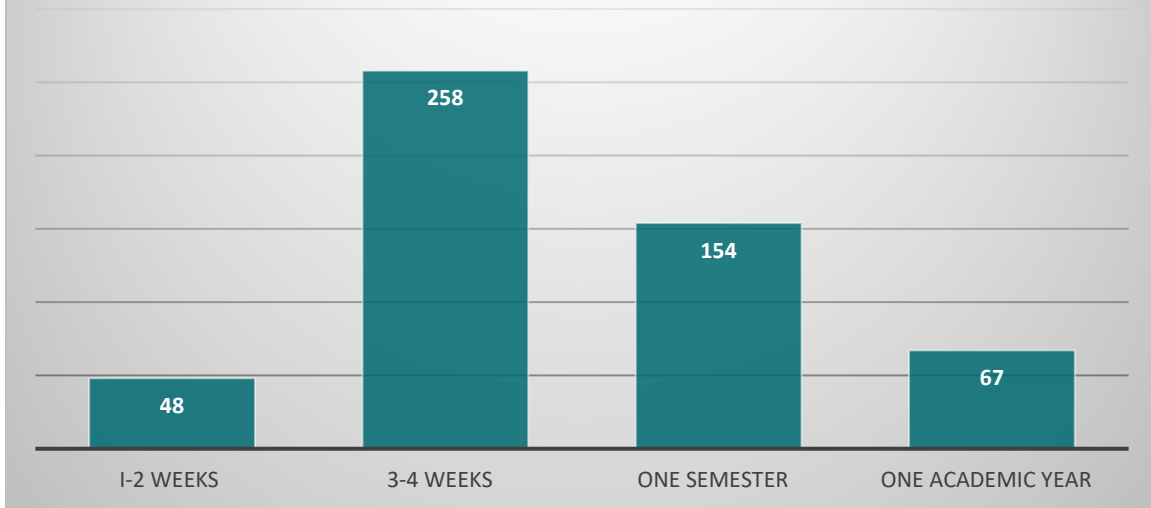
\*See Appendix A for full qualitative responses.

### Q6 If you study abroad, which of the following is your primary objective?

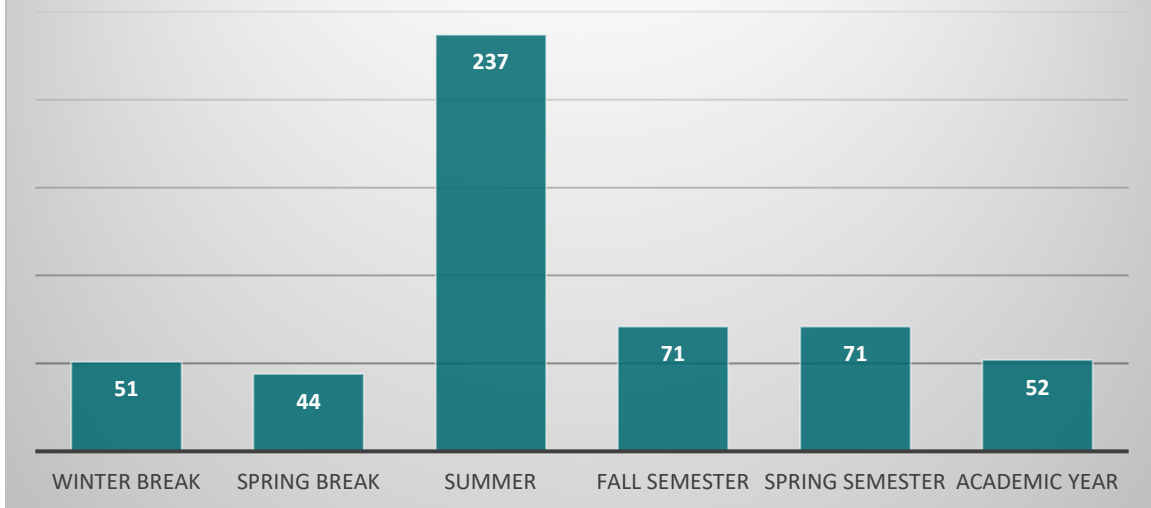


\*See Appendix A for full qualitative responses.

### Q7 If you study abroad, what program duration would be of most interest to you?

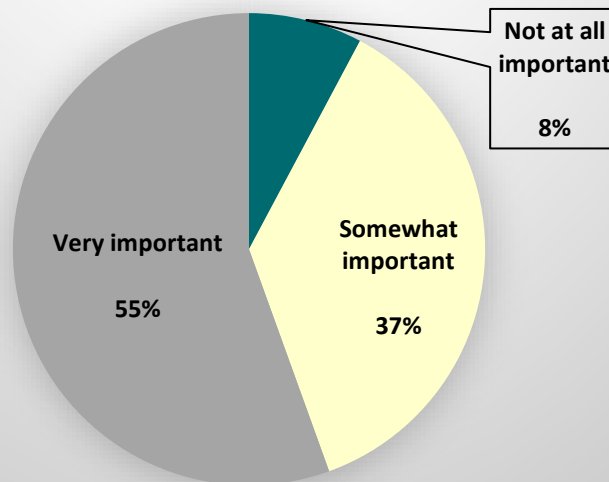


### Q8 If you study abroad, what time of the year would you most likely travel overseas?

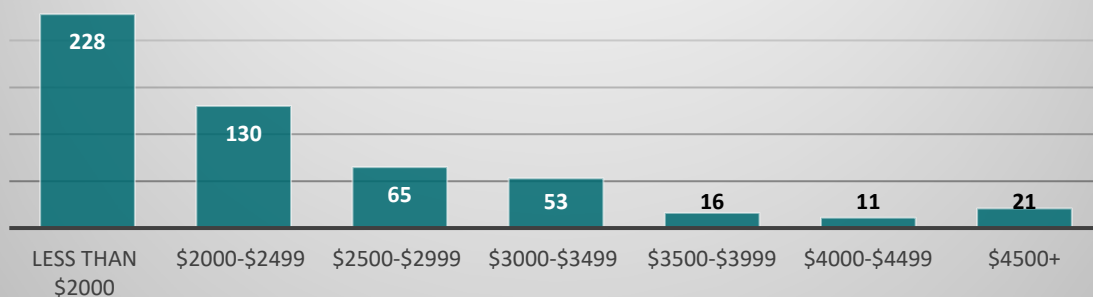


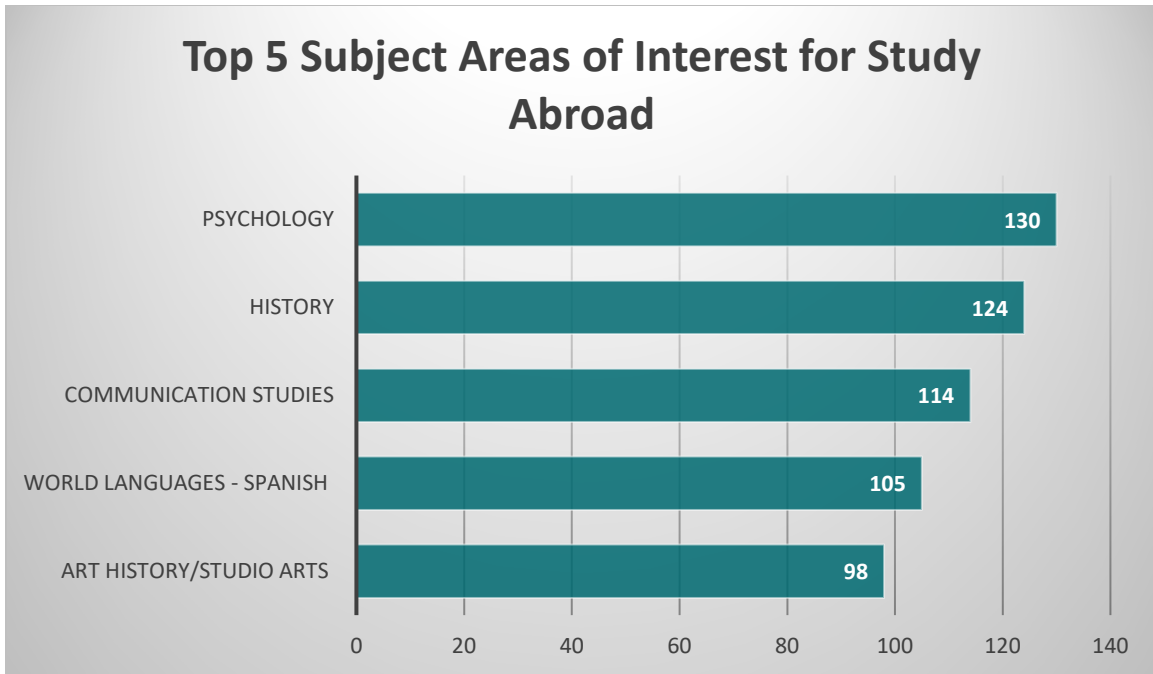


### Q9 If you study abroad, how important is it that you earn credits toward graduation?

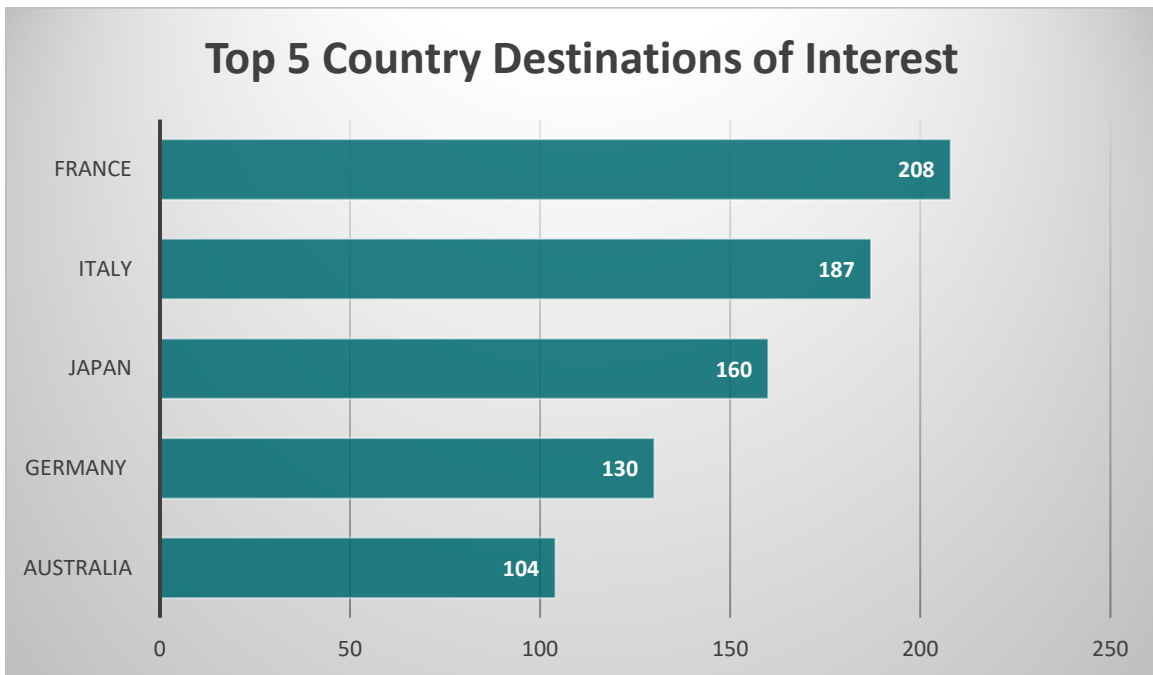


### Q10 If you had a year to plan and save and did not have any scholarship dollars, what is the maximum amount that you would be able to pay for a short-term study abroad program?





**\*See Appendix B for complete ranked list of subject areas.**



**\*See Appendix C for complete ranked list of countries.**

## Appendix A

### Full Qualitative Responses

Q5 What are the main reasons you don't want to/are unsure about study abroad? Other:

I do not know if studying abroad will help me pursue my degree.
I have 2 kids and am a single mom.
I have a toddler
Can't leave family
I am too old now to participate.
I have a family to take care of
Married and not full time student
Family
Take care of my kids
Worried it will set back my transfer schedule
Committed relationship
Kids and spouse responsibilities
I am an asylee
Single parent with dependents
Won't be needed for nursing
I'm transferring to nursing school within the next 6 months
Not enough funds to continue paying for rent while gone
I'm studying American Sign Language; I doubt studying abroad would be relevant/helpful.
don't know enough details about how it works
I have a wife and kid.
I have 3 kids and I wouldn't be able to leave them behind.
Unable to afford the cost, have to work. If the study abroad programs were shorter (3-4 weeks) it would be more doable.
I doubt they'd let my son come with me I just had him a year ago and I'm still young. Life happens.
Don't know for sure if it would be right for me
Complicated family situation(s)
I don't qualify for fafsa
Don't speak English very well
No classes for my major
Afraid of going far away from family on my own for the first time
grades?
Job
Child support
Married and have kids
Don't have the what I want to do in this program
Parent

Medical issues
Children to care for
Husband and kids at home. I have to be a mom :(
I lack motivation
Need to take leave of absence
My kids
Time restrictions due to family obligations

Q6 If you study abroad, which of the following is your primary objective? Other:

I would like to meet people that work for companies that are in the job market I plan on working in
Live for a specified amount of time in a certain country and become immersed in the culture
New Experiences
Live independently abroad, yet safely.
Speak more languages fluently
So many things..I want to see the world, experience Japan asap because I might move there in the future, and I want to test brand awareness in other countries. Specifically interested in Japan, honestly.
Learn new culture
I wonder which country could really help with programming games.
Learning about culture and cuisine
Overcome fear of flying far away
Open my social network, my likes on Facebook are low
Go under apprenticeship
Collaboration on Employee relations collaborate
Work with exotic animals that are native to that area
Learn new cultures apart from my own
Would be nice to learn and experience a new different culture be able to travel and see, feel and experience other parts of the world. Being able to represent American-Mexican culture in a different environment would be an awesome experience.

## Appendix B

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### Ranked Subject Areas of Interest for Study Abroad

<b>1</b>	PSYCHOLOGY	<b>36</b>	POLITICAL SCIENCE
<b>2</b>	HISTORY	<b>37</b>	GEOLOGY
<b>3</b>	COMMUNICATION STUDIES	<b>38</b>	COSMETOLOGY
<b>4</b>	WORLD LANGUAGES - SPANISH	<b>39</b>	AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
<b>5</b>	ART HISTORY/STUDIO ARTS	<b>40</b>	PHYSICS
<b>6</b>	NURSING	<b>41</b>	FLORAL DESIGN
<b>7</b>	BIOLOGY		
<b>8</b>	BUSINESS		
<b>8</b>	SOCIOLOGY		
<b>9</b>	WORLD LANGUAGES - FRENCH		
<b>10</b>	ENGLISH		
<b>11</b>	MUSIC		
<b>12</b>	CRIMINAL JUSTICE		
<b>13</b>	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING		
<b>14</b>	LIBERAL ARTS		
<b>15</b>	ANTHROPOLOGY		
<b>16</b>	MANAGEMENT/MARKETING		
<b>17</b>	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES		
<b>18</b>	GLOBAL STUDIES		
<b>19</b>	SOCIAL SCIENCES		
<b>20</b>	PEACE STUDIES		
<b>21</b>	DIGITAL ARTS/GRAPHIC DESIGN		
<b>22</b>	CHEMISTRY		
<b>23</b>	ECONOMICS		
<b>24</b>	DESIGN		
<b>25</b>	KINESIOLOGY		
<b>26</b>	MATHEMATICS		
<b>27</b>	PHILOSOPHY		
<b>28</b>	COMPUTER SCIENCE		
<b>29</b>	DANCE		
<b>30</b>	DIGITAL MEDIA		
<b>31</b>	WORLD LANGUAGES – VIETNAMESE		
<b>32</b>	THEATER ARTS		
<b>33</b>	ACCOUNTING		
<b>34</b>	LIBERAL STUDIES/ELEMENTARY TEACHER EDUCATION		
<b>35</b>	GEOGRAPHY		

## Appendix C

### Ranked Country Destinations of Interest

1	FRANCE	38	BELGIUM	75	TONGA
2	ITALY	39	COLOMBIA	76	UKRAINE
3	JAPAN	40	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	77	VENEZUELA
4	GERMANY	41	FINLAND		
5	AUSTRALIA	42	HONG KONG		
6	IRELAND	43	INDONESIA		
7	SPAIN	44	CROATIA		
8	CANADA	45	EGYPT		
9	GREECE	46	OMAN		
10	CHINA	47	PUERTO RICO		
11	UNITED KINGDOM	48	ROMANIA		
12	MEXICO	49	BAHAMAS		
13	SOUTH KOREA	50	BELIZE		
14	SWITZERLAND	51	CAMBODIA		
15	VIETNAM	52	GREENLAND		
16	BRAZIL	53	NEPAL		
17	NEW ZEALAND	54	TURKEY		
18	SWEDEN	55	ARMENIA		
19	THAILAND	56	BHUTAN		
20	NETHERLANDS	57	BOLIVIA		
21	COSTA RICA	58	BOTSWANA		
22	RUSSIA	59	BULGARIA		
23	SINGAPORE	60	FIJI		
24	NORWAY	61	GHANA		
25	INDIA	62	GUAM		
26	PORTUGAL	63	GUATEMALA		
27	DENMARK	64	HUNGARY		
28	ICELAND	65	JORDAN		
29	PERU	66	KENYA		
30	SOUTH AFRICA	67	MALTA		
31	TAIWAN	68	MOLDOVA		
32	ARGENTINA	69	MOROCCO		
33	ISRAEL	70	NAMIBIA		
34	PHILIPPINES	71	NICARAGUA		
35	POLAND	72	NIGERIA		
36	CUBA	73	PAKISTAN		
37	AUSTRIA	74	PANAMA		

## Appendix D

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### Survey Copy

Email Subject: Tell Us Your Thoughts on Study Abroad for a Chance to Win a \$150 Gift Card!

Email body:

We want to hear from you!

The Study Abroad Office in the Center for Global & Cultural Programs is expanding study abroad programs for GWC students, and we want to know more about what you'd like to study and where you'd like to go!

Study abroad means taking classes in another country, either with a professor from our district, or with faculty from a study abroad organization. You may earn academic credit for those classes while exploring a new country, meeting new people, and perhaps learning a new language! The Study Abroad Office helps students select and apply for programs, find funding like scholarships, and make the most of their experiences.

Thank you for completing this brief (5 min) survey so we can offer study abroad options that best serve you! One respondent to the survey will win a \$150 gift card to the GWC Bookstore! The winner will be notified by email.

1. What is your educational goal at Golden West College? **[Radio buttons]**
  - a. Associate's degree
  - b. Associate's degree or certificate *and* transfer to a 4-year school
  - c. University transfer preparation only (no degree or certificate)
  - d. Certificate of Specialization or Certificate of Achievement
  - e. Personal enrichment, taking occasional classes, or continuing education
2. Are you receiving financial aid? **[Radio buttons]**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
3. Have you ever studied in an overseas institution before? **[Radio buttons]**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
4. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings about participating in a study abroad program while in college? Do you feel... **[Radio buttons]**
  - a. Absolutely certain that I will do all I can to participate in study abroad
  - b. Fairly certain that I will study abroad when the right time comes
  - c. I would love to study abroad, but I don't think it will be possible for me
  - d. Absolutely certain that I will not want to participate in study abroad
  - e. Don't know/don't know enough
5. Logic Question if C, D, or E were previously selected: What are the main reasons you (don't want to/are unsure whether you want to) study abroad? **[Check all that apply]**
  - a. Worried about cost
  - b. Will interfere with social or extracurricular activities
  - c. Will interfere with job responsibilities
  - d. Have no interest

- e. Lack of support from family
  - f. Don't know
  - g. Other (please specify)
6. If you study abroad, which of the following is your primary objective?
- a. Improve your proficiency in another language
  - b. Study a particular academic subject in a location with unique resources
  - c. Be able to travel and see other parts of the world
  - d. Meet and get to know people in another part of the world
  - e. Promote world peace
  - f. Expand your horizons and broaden your perspectives
  - g. Other (please specify)
7. If you study abroad, what program duration would be of most interest to you? **[Radio buttons]**
- a. 1-2 weeks
  - b. 3-4 weeks
  - c. One Semester
  - d. One Academic Year
8. If you study abroad, what time of the year would you most likely travel overseas? **[Radio buttons]**
- a. Winter break
  - b. Spring break
  - c. Summer
  - d. Fall Semester
  - e. Spring Semester
  - f. Academic Year
9. If you study abroad, how important is it that you earn credits toward graduation? **[Radio buttons]**
- a. Not at all important
  - b. Somewhat important
  - c. Very important
10. If you study abroad, pick the **top five [5]** subjects/areas of study you would want to study. **[check all that apply]**
- ACCOUNTING
  - AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING
  - ANTHROPOLOGY
  - ART HISTORY/STUDIO ARTS
  - AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
  - BIOLOGY
  - BUSINESS
  - CHEMISTRY
  - COMMUNICATION STUDIES
  - COMPUTER SCIENCE
  - COSMETOLOGY
  - CRIMINAL JUSTICE
  - DANCE
  - DESIGN
  - DIGITAL ARTS/GRAPHIC DESIGN
  - DIGITAL MEDIA
  - ECONOMICS



- ENGLISH
- ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
- FLORAL DESIGN
- GEOGRAPHY
- GEOLOGY
- GLOBAL STUDIES
- HISTORY
- KINESIOLOGY
- LIBERAL ARTS
- LIBERAL STUDIES/ELEMENTARY TEACHER EDUCATION
- MANAGEMENT/MARKETING
- MATHEMATICS
- MUSIC
- NURSING
- PEACE STUDIES
- PHILOSOPHY
- PHYSICS
- POLITICAL SCIENCE
- PSYCHOLOGY
- SOCIAL SCIENCES
- SOCIOLOGY
- THEATER ARTS
- WORLD LANGUAGES - FRENCH
- WORLD LANGUAGES - SPANISH
- WORLD LANGUAGES – VIETNAMESE

11. If you study abroad, what are the top 5 country destinations you would consider?

a. **[Short-answer]**

12. If you had a year to plan and save and did not have any scholarship dollars, what is the maximum amount that you would be able to pay for a short-term study abroad program? **[Drop-down]**

- a. Less than \$2000
- b. \$2000-\$2499
- c. \$2500-\$2999
- d. \$3000-\$3499
- e. \$3500-\$3999
- f. \$4000-\$4499
- g. \$4500+

13. Do you have any questions about study abroad that you would like an answer to?

a. **[Short-answer]**

Thank you for completing this survey! You can learn more about study abroad options, scholarships, financial aid, and how to plan for study abroad at: [www.goldenwestcollege.edu/studyabroad](http://www.goldenwestcollege.edu/studyabroad)

For news and updates, check out our Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GWCStudyAbroad](http://www.facebook.com/GWCStudyAbroad)