



NU IN THE WORLD

A Message from the President

t never ceases to amaze me that at the University of Nebraska, in the middle of the United States, you can visit a campus and be surrounded by the languages, cultures and incredible diversity of well over 100 countries around the world.

I think that speaks to our commitment to preparing our students to live and work in what is increasingly a global economy. And it shows me that young people today—whether from Nebraska, Japan or Rwanda—understand the value of interacting with, and learning from, people who are different from themselves.

"Indeed, our strength comes from our diversity. I've seen time and again that

personal growth comes from standing alongside someone who doesn't look or think like you."

That's why, at the University of Nebraska, we've made it a priority not just to bring the world to Nebraska, but to help our students develop a global mindset through

educational experiences abroad. Research and experience confirm: Studying abroad gives students new insights about the world around them, deepens their understanding of culture and history, and makes them more competitive in the global workforce.

More than 1,400 University of Nebraska students studied abroad during the last academic year—an improvement over time, but not as high as we'd like. We're focused on making certain every student is aware of education abroad opportunities and that we're providing support and resources to ensure they have a fulfilling experience.

As you'll see in this report, education abroad is a life-changing experience for our students. I'm proud of our progress in expanding these opportunities, and I hope you will be, too.

HANK BOUNDS

President, University of Nebraska

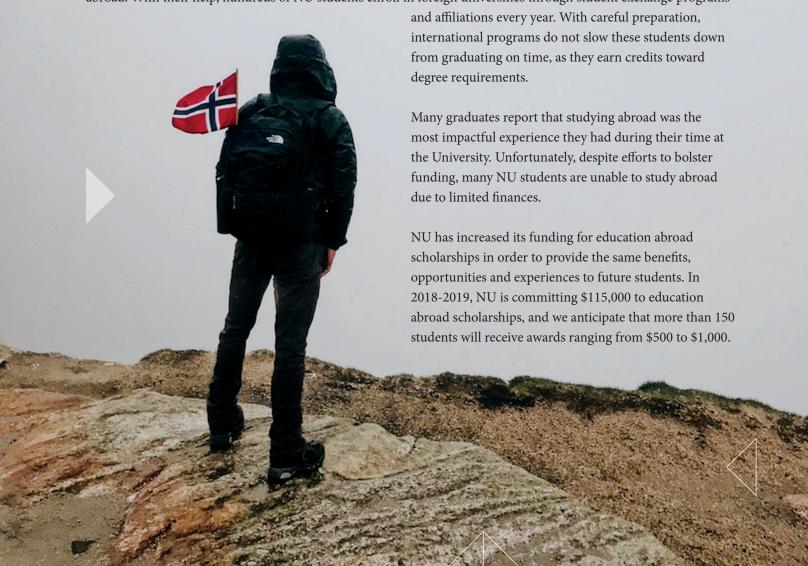
DEVELOPING A GLOBAL VILLE TO SET TO S

Through Education Abroad

There is a strong consensus across the University of Nebraska that strengthening high-impact global engagement and education abroad opportunities will improve the educational outcomes for students on all campuses.

Over the last two decades, researchers have found that students who study abroad are more engaged in their academic experience after returning to campus, have higher graduation rates and receive higher starting salaries at the start of their careers. Additionally, education abroad experiences impact students' understanding of global and regional issues and supports their development of intercultural and interpersonal communication skills within a global mindset framework—tools that are highly valued for job seekers in today's global economy.

Dozens of faculty and staff members across all four NU campuses work in support of our students to teach education abroad courses and programs, provide structure and lend support to students interested in studying abroad. With their help, hundreds of NU students enroll in foreign universities through student exchange programs



EDUCATION ABROAD—INTRO & OVERVIEW // 5

OPENING THE CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

From Kearney to Vietnam



Ambassador Kritenbrink's official portrait from the U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Vietnam.



Ambassador Kritenbrink graduating from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



Ambassador Kritenbrink was the featured speaker at UNK's May 2018 Commencement.

rowing up on a farm in Ashland, Nebraska, Daniel Kritenbrink never anticipated that he would later serve as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam. As a farm boy, he developed a strong work ethic and spirit of perseverance—but gaining first-hand experience with global issues is what helped to launch his career in public service.

After graduating from Ashland-Greenwood High School, Kritenbrink chose to attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney (then Kearney State College), where he enrolled in the Honors Program led by Dr. Richard Jussel. It was at UNK, while participating in the James E. Smith Conference on World Affairs in 1988 and 1990, that he made the decision to join the foreign service and serve his country.

AN EDUCATION ABROAD BEGINS

Studying abroad opened the world to Kritenbrink. Among his many experiences, he benefitted from a short study tour to the Soviet Union in 1989, followed by a full academic year studying at Kansai Gaidai University in Japan in 1990-91. He credits Dr. Tom Magstadt, then chairman of the UNK political science department, for encouraging him to study in Japan and expand his perspective on the world.

"Dr. Magstadt had talked to me not long after UNK set up the new exchange program with Kansai Gaidai University," Kritenbrink said. "I initially told him I wasn't interested, but after he asked a second time, I realized what a tremendous opportunity it would be for me."

The year of learning Japanese helped Kritenbrink develop keen insights into Asian cultures, as he realized the importance of speaking with others in their native languages, rather than relying solely on English. His travels to other parts of the world also helped him to hone his networking skills, communicate effectively and work collaboratively to solve problems and develop solutions.





Studying abroad also helped the future Ambassador to see Nebraska's role in the global context more clearly and understand the importance for Nebraskans to engage actively in the global economy. Kritenbrink later went on to study Mandarin Chinese, and his knowledge of the language was put to good use during his sixteen years helping U.S. citizens and companies build connections in Japan and China.

The most important moment in Kritenbrink's career came on July 27, 2017, when he was nominated as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam. He was confirmed to the role in October of the same year.

REFLECTING ON HIS TIME ABROAD

As a speaker at UNK's May 2018 commencement, Ambassador Kritenbrink encouraged UNK graduates to start locally in thinking about their connections to the world and the contributions they can make: "Be confident, proud of who you are, believe in yourself and consider carefully what you can do to contribute to society."

In reflecting on his opportunity to study abroad, Ambassador Kritenbrink believes that he can't overemphasize the importance of studying a foreign language.

"Speaking another language can be a tool and an asset. It can also serve as the key to unlocking another culture and understanding how people think and talk about themselves. It has been fun to learn Japanese and Chinese. To be able to speak another language is exhilarating."

From learning new languages and experiencing world cultures to working in economic development and public service for his country, U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kritenbrink's career—both academic and professional—shows the importance of education. And even more importantly, the many places you can go with an education abroad.







he University of Nebraska at Kearney's Education Abroad office is led by Ann Marie Park, Assistant Director of International Education in the Office of International Education (OIE). As an undergraduate, Park's experiences studying and living in Osaka and Sapporo, Japan sparked her interest in education abroad. After graduating from UNK with a bachelors degree in psychology and minors in international studies and Japanese, she returned to Tokyo, Japan for three years.

Back in Nebraska, Park began her career working in the Programs in English as a Second Language (P.I.E.S.L.) office at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Her position became a launching pad for post-graduate work at the School for International Training (S.I.T.). After earning an M.A. in international and intercultural management, she worked in Washington, D.C. for the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Park's valuable conference coordination experience and passion for international living compelled her to study at the Goethe Institute in Berlin, Germany, before joining the Office of International Education at UNK in 2001.



ANN MARIE PARK Assistant Director of International Education

During her tenure at UNK, Park's duties have included teaching in the English Language Institute, coordinating the James E. Smith Midwest Conference on World Affairs and advising International Exchange Visitors, as well as managing the Education Abroad office. Her current focus is ensuring all UNK students, staff and faculty members are aware of, able to participate in and reap the benefits from multiple international opportunities.

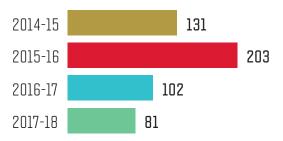
Park—and OIE—hope the lives of each study abroad participant will be positively influenced, bringing about awareness, understanding, and respect for others through available and affordable programs.





UNK TRENDS AND ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

EDUCATION ABROAD BY YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNK only)





EDUCATION ABROAD PARTICIPATION BY TERM AND YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNK only)

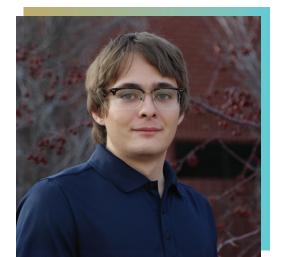
TERM	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Full Academic Year	2	2	2	4
Fall Semester	7	13	9	3
Spring Semester	57	59	51	43
Spring Break	_	_	7	_
Summer	65	129	33	31
TOTAL	131	203	102	81

TOP DESTINATIONS FOR UNK EDUCATION ABROAD STUDENTS (2017-18)



WHERE STUDY





MICHAEL GADE

FROM: SCOTTSBLUFF, NE STUDIED IN: JAPAN

I am a multimedia major with a double minor in Japanese and international studies. My interest in the Japanese language and culture led me to study abroad at Saitama University for a summer and again for a full year to obtain my minor.

UNK's strong ties with Japan contributed to my dream to become fluent in the Japanese language and eventually work abroad in Japan. Before graduating from UNK, I hope to study abroad again at Sapporo University in Japan, take the intermediate level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT 2) and search for career and graduate school opportunities in the country.



BAILEY COSLOR

FROM: ST. PAUL, NE STUDIED IN: IRELAND

I decided to study abroad because I am an international studies minor and love traveling. I studied at the University of Galway in Ireland for three months and learned so much about Irish history, literature, culture and daily life. Thanks to the opportunity to study abroad, I was able to meet people I would have never connected with and made life-long friends.

In three very short months, I learned more than I ever thought possible. Studying abroad is a great way to get out of your comfort zone and gain valuable life skills in the process. It truly was the best experience of my life.



n 1992, UNK Office of International Education director Jerry Fox helped to establish the first joint program in the University of Nebraska system located in Leuven, Belgium. The first half of the program was spent at the Irish Institute, and the second half at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. This joint program was open to students from UNK, UNL, UNO and Wayne State College.

A year later, the second half of the program moved from Prague to Olomouc, Czech Republic, and in 1999, the entire program moved to Palacky University in Olomouc. Now, more than 20 years later, the Nebraska Semester Abroad program continues to flourish and change the lives of 25 students every spring semester. Nearly 525 NU students have participated in this program since its inception in 1992.

Dr. Doug Biggs was the program's director during the Spring 2018 semester. Dr. Biggs has been instrumental in the creation of the much-needed expansion of Nebraska Semester Abroad.

Due to increased student interest, Palacky University will be the site of UNK's newest semester program addition starting in fall 2019—open to students across Nebraska. The program will be identical to the spring program in many aspects but will shift the focus of study from the Holocaust (spring) to religion (fall). The multiple programrelated experiential experiences will also be slightly altered in accordance with the shift.



PAIGE KRISTENSEN

FROM: MINDEN. NE

STUDIED IN: CZECH REPUBLIC

My decision to study abroad as part of the Nebraska Semester Abroad program dramatically changed my life. There were twenty-four of us who were courageous enough to leave everything we knew in Kearney to learn how to live in a foreign city for twelve weeks. Through this experience, I've learned things about the world that can only be explained by experiencing them.

FACULTY FEATURE



EDUCATION

- B.A. and M.A., History: lowa State University (1982, 1985)
- Ph.D., History: University of Minnesota (1996)

DR. DOUG BIGGS PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

An Ames, Iowa native, Dr. Doug Biggs earned his B.A. and M.A. in History from Iowa State, followed by a Ph.D. in Medieval English History from the University of Minnesota. As a young person, Dr. Biggs traveled abroad frequently, leading him to eventually study abroad at the University of Glasgow in the 1980s. He then traveled to Europe and the UK on an annual basis while doing research at the Public Record Office in London and giving papers at British universities.

As a faculty member at UNK, Dr. Biggs works to bring the experiences that influenced him as a young person to the students he teaches. He organized and led students abroad on a number of occasions before leading the Nebraska Semester Abroad program to the Czech Republic in spring 2018. In collaboration with his colleagues at Palacky University in Olomouc, Dr. Biggs has helped to develop UNK's newest semester program addition, which will take its first cohort of students to the Czech Republic in fall 2019.

Dr. Biggs believes that there are major benefits to students who engage in education abroad experiences:

"International travel is the best education possible. For the first time in students' lives, they are the minority. International travel teaches our students to become much more self-reliant and self-confident," he said. "These experiences greatly expand their world view and greatly changes who they are as people."

These young people become global citizens as a result of their experiences and take their first steps into a world that is larger than themselves."



stablished in 1967, Sapporo University is a private higher education institution located in Sapporo, Hokkaido Island, Japan—the site of UNK's first bilateral exchange.

UNK first established a partnership with Sapporo University in 1983 and started to exchange students the following year. Over the past 34 years, UNK and Sapporo University have exchanged nearly 100 students. In 1991, UNK created a Japanese minor tied to its partnership. To complete the minor, students must study abroad for one year at Sapporo University after earning at least ten credit hours of Japanese at UNK.

Andres Traslavina, director of Whole Foods Market's global recruitment team, studied abroad at Sapporo University as a UNK undergraduate in 2001. Andres is responsible for attracting, sourcing and recruiting quality executives for the company. He believes that his time in Japan, through the partnership, was crucial to the success he's found in his career:

*** "My study abroad experience in Japan has been the most impactful experience on my professional and personal growth. Living and being able to interact daily with people from the Japanese culture prepared me to become one of the best recruiters in retail by helping me to become more fluent in cross-cultural communication."

ANDRES TRASLAVINA Director, Whole Foods Market's global recruitment team

