

UDecide

Engage in Your Community

As a student here at UD, you're in a powerful position. You control the path of your college experience by making choices (some more difficult than others) in every area of your student life. You ultimately determine how and to what extent you will engage in your community.

Engaging in your community can occur in a number of different ways and to varying extents. Are you engaging with your faculty, other students, and the UD community? Are you developing professional networks and connections in the Newark community?

Academic Engagement

Choosing a major and identifying a career path is one of the most important decisions college students make while earning a college degree. Data from the 2008 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), a study examining responses from University of Delaware freshmen and seniors and benchmarking those responses against freshmen and seniors from two peer groups of schools, shows that UD students are fully engaged in the academic community. Specifically,

- Both University of Delaware freshmen and seniors are significantly more likely than those in the two benchmark groups to have had a quality relationship with faculty.
- Both University of Delaware freshmen and seniors report more problem sets that take more than one hour to complete than those in the two benchmark groups.
- University of Delaware seniors are significantly more likely than those in the two benchmark groups to have worked with a faculty member on a research project outside of a course or program requirement.



<http://www.udel.edu/udphotos/galleries/glance/images/IR-005691.jpg>

- University of Delaware seniors are significantly more likely than those in the two benchmark groups to experience an independent study or self-designed major.
- Both University of Delaware freshmen and seniors are significantly more likely than those in the two benchmark groups to have done foreign language coursework and participated in a study abroad program.

Campus Engagement

You also determine your level of engagement outside of the classroom. Approximately 15% of UD students are involved in over 250 registered student organizations, 17% of UD students participate in over 40 fraternities and sororities, 600 athletes comprise 23 varsity teams, over 3,000 students play intramurals, and over 1,200 students comprise 33 club sports teams (Athletics, Recreation Services, and RSOs).

In addition, the University plans and hosts events for students ranging from movies, musicians, and speakers, to comedians, trips, and community service opportunities (Student Events). There are opportunities for you to engage yourself with both the University community and the surrounding community.

Community Engagement

Engaging in your living community is another way to enhance your college experience. Communities are important because they help students make connections and foster friendships. Are you involved in your community? Do you say hi to your neighbors, respect your living environment, participate in floor and building meetings, or make a positive contribution?

Community membership extends beyond the University and into the city of Newark as well. As a student, you're being held accountable for the city ordinances and Delaware state laws; make

Link Yourself to Campus

You may not have had time to go to the Fall Activities Night. (The Spring Activities Night is on Tuesday, February 9th from 7-9pm in the Trabant Center.) You may not have been able to go to an interest meeting for a certain group or organization. But that doesn't mean you can't find information! You can find out more about activities by calling 302.831.2428 or connecting yourself to information via the internet using the links provided below!

1. Academic/Co-curricular: A great way to meet students who are studying the same things as you!

Co-curricular activities are found at: <http://www.udel.edu/RSO/cocurr.html>.
Honor societies can be found at: <http://www.udel.edu/RSO/honor.html>

2. Registered Student Organizations: Are a great way to meet students who share similar interests! The website is: <http://www.udel.edu/RSO/>

3. Greek Organizations: With 15-17% of UDs undergrads involved in Greek Life, it's a great way to meet new people and make friends!

<http://www.udel.edu/student-centers/FandS/community.html>

4. Sports: There are many ways to keep active and involved in sports while on campus!

- a. Varsity: <http://www.bluehens.com>
- b. Club: <http://www.udel.edu/clubsports/>
- c. Intramural: <http://www.udel.edu/recreation/int/>

5. Multicultural: A great way to connect and make friends who have the same interests as you do!
<http://www.udel.edu/RSO/multicul.html>

6. Student Events: There is always something fun and exciting going on here on campus! Find information about events here:
<http://www.udel.edu/studentevents/#>

sure you know the expectations that the Newark community has of you.

Volunteerism

Throughout the year and especially in the upcoming holiday season there are many opportunities for you to give back to your community. Check posting places around campus or visit www.udel.edu/CSC/newbluehenjobs.html to see where you can get involved in service projects. In the greater Newark community, organizations such as the Delaware Food Bank are always looking for volunteer help.

Engagement can occur both in and out of the classroom. Opportunities to engage yourself are abundant both on and off campus. The possibilities are endless. **Only you can decide** how your participation will shape your college experience.

Be connected, Get involved!

Resources

- Athletics
<http://www.bluehens.com>
- Career Services Center
<http://www.udel.edu/CSC/newbluehenjobs.html>
- Office of Institutional Research
<http://www.udel.edu/IR>
- Student Events
<http://www.udel.edu/studentevents/#>
- Student Organizations
<http://www.udel.edu/RSO/>

University of Delaware ∴ Office of Student Conduct

Study Abroad Expectations

- Laws & Standards of Conduct

Each country has its own laws and standards (including dress, manners, morals, politics, drug use, and behavior). You should become aware of and familiar with those laws and standards as well as abide by them for your own personal well-being on your trip.

- Breaking Local or National Laws

UD has the right to terminate your program at your own expense without a refund of your program fee. You also may be subject to further student conduct action upon your return to the United States.

- Legal problems

If you do find yourself in legal problems in your host country or during your travel, you are responsible for dealing with them.

- UD's Code of Conduct

Even though you are not physically at the university, for the duration of your trip all University rules and regulations still apply to you as a student.

- Health and Safety Concerns

You are also expected to be aware of the health, safety, and legal implications of consuming alcohol or using drugs while in your host country as well as how it will affect your participating in the study abroad program.

ONLY YOU CAN DECIDE TO ENSURE YOU'RE SAFE DURING YOUR TRIP ABROAD!

Information included here taken from the Travel Programs Agreement & General Release found at: <http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad/onceaccepted/waiver-11-06.pdf>

Study Abroad

Studying abroad has been a part of the University of Delaware for 86 years. UD was the very first U.S. university to create a study abroad program in 1923. Now UD students participate in study abroad experiences in 80 different programs offered in 40 subject areas in over 45 countries (Institute for Global Studies).

Study abroad started at UD when Professor Raymond W. Kirkbride wanted to send students abroad to France in their junior year to learn from travel and cross-cultural experiences (Kochanek). Kirkbride himself had a profound experience as a World War I veteran and knew the benefits his students would receive, so he pitched his idea for a Junior Year Abroad experience to then UD president Walter S. Hulihan (Kochanek). Hulihan saw the value in the experience that Kirkbride was promoting and on July 7th, 1923 8 UD students sailed aboard the Rochambeau to Paris after completing a six week intensive language program (Kochanek). In 1948, UD discontinued its study abroad program;

this discontinuation lasted until 1970 when the program was reinstated and the winter session study abroad option was created (Kochanek). Forty percent of UD graduates have had a study abroad experience during their college career.

There are many benefits to studying abroad that may or may not be apparent. Some of those benefits are:

- Explore another part of the world.
- Be introduced and immersed in a culture, ideas, and philosophies other than your own.
- Learn more about your own culture and your cultural values.
- Become more aware of global issues
- Build self confidence in what you're able to accomplish on your own.
- Learn how to adapt to unfamiliar environments.
- Make new friends!
- Improve interactions that you may have with diverse groups of people.
- You can create your own experience. You're going to get what you want/need out of it. Take ownership and make the experience your own!

If you think that a study abroad experience is something that you would be interested participating in, **only you can decide** to explore the opportunity through the Institute for Global Studies. Scholarships are available too! Their website can be found at:

<http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad> . Information about interest meetings can be found at: <http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad/programs/interestmeeting.asp>

Study Abroad Safety Tips

Studying abroad is exciting! It is also an experience that is what you make of it. While it would be nice if students were able to plan out everything that they will encounter while on a program, there is the potential for unexpected situations and emergencies to pop up. Only you can decide how well you're going to be prepared to deal with these situations during your time abroad.

- Make sure you have given your contact information to those who are important to you, for example your parents. Also, make sure that you are aware of the time differences between your home and your study abroad country as well as how to make an international phone call.

- You and your parents might wish to look into purchasing a cellphone for you to use while on your program abroad. This would allow for them to have a direct line to you in case of an emergency or a crisis.

- Establish a regular schedule of communication via phone, e-mail, iChat or Skype. This will not only allow for you to share your amazing experiences with everyone back home but it will allow you to easily inform them of any type of situation.

- Provide your parents with information about where you may be traveling on your free time and the names of other students with whom you're traveling. This isn't to micromanage your free time, but it is rather a safety precaution.

- Remember that you're living your situation, you're immersed in the current events of the country where your program is located. Keep yourself informed of current events but also remember to keep your parents informed in your regular conversations. Remember that American media will give a different perspective than in-country media so your insight into what is going on may calm your parents' worries by providing them with a different media perspective.

Information Adapted from:

Minimizing Risk & Preparing for Crisis Overseas
Institute for Global Studies

<http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad/parents/security.html>

Resources

Kochanek, L. (1998). Study abroad celebrates 75th anniversary. UD PR Special UDelivery <http://www.udel.edu/PR/SpecialUDelivery/vol1no1/anniversary.html>
Institute for Global Studies
<http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad>

Office of Student Conduct

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