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Office of International Admissions & Program

STATEMENT

On behalf of the Office of International Admissions & Programs, the 2020 Global Learning and Strategy Summer Institute Student Ambassador Program has been an amazing experience for students and staff. Through research, understanding student mobility, creating ambassador blogs, and connecting with prospective buddy students are only a few initiatives that our team has enjoyed engaging with our international summer ambassadors. We know this experience has been transformative and developed our ambassadors as the next generation leaders.

- Dr. Johna McClendon

Director, International Admissions & Student Services
## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AMBASSADOR

### STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS

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DIGITAL PORTFOLIOS
My professional journey has been a leap of faith. I decided to go back to college after an 8 year break. I did not know what I was getting myself into. College demands hard work and discipline, and going back to college after 8 years required even more determination on top of everything else. It was a decision I wrestled with and questioned myself if I was up for it.

My journey started at Lee College with an associates in computer science. It was a period of readjusting, sacrificing and soul searching. Being in computer science program, the first semester was tough as I had to catch up on my math skills after being away for a long time. It was also when I was at Lee college that my wife and I were blessed with two sons. I had to balance being a young father, husband and a student. There were a lot of sleepless nights and a lot of coffee drinking to function, but I was so determined to follow my dream. With hard work and perseverance, I was Lee College Computer Science Honor Student - class of 2014. While pursuing my associates degree, I also got the following awards and scholarships:

• Dr. Mary Hood Texas Region Scholar 2013
• Lee College Foundation Scholarship for 2013-2014: Doug and Inta Walker award
• Lee College Foundation Scholarship for 2013-2014: Thaman Textbook Scholarships,
• T-STEM Challenge Scholarship 2013.

Upon graduating at Lee College, I worked at Fry’s Electronics as Tech Team Supervisor while doing my OPT. It was a rewarding experience as the skills I learned at college became to life. Among some of my duties as a Tech Team Supervisor were to;

• Coordinated and supervise technicians
• Managed repair reports
• Customer service
• Server Management
• Supervise IT technicians for the store
• Shipping
• Process Fry’s Warranty
• Coordinate with administrators

In 2015 I decided to transfer to University of Houston Clear Lake to pursue a bachelors degree in computer science and cyber security. I had a great experience during my study at UHCL. I made so many friends and connections. The most exciting experience was working on my senior project, Sky High Wi-Fi (Project Detail below).

When I graduated at UHCL in 2018, Frys Electronics hired me back as Tech Team Specialist. My duties included:
• Troubleshooting
• Supervise technicians
• Assign jobs to technicians
• Customized computer system building
• Computer repair
• Customer service

Utilizing the skills I gained at UHCL, in 2019 I embarked on a personal project, Pa Msika (Project details below). This is an Android and OIS mobile advertising platform app.

In fall 2019, I decided to go back to UHCL to do my masters in computer science with Cybersecurity Specialization. As with my bachelors degree, my graduate student experience and UHCL has been so fantastic. I have made many friends and try to be involved in campus life.

I am an international Student Advisory Board member, under the office of Student Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. As board members, our duty is to offer solutions and insights on then challenges international students face at University of Houston Clear Lake

This summer I was selected to be a student ambassador for the 2020 UHCL global summer institute.

My journey still continues, the sky is the limit. Through my associates, bachelors and graduate journey, I have experienced some of the best Texas and USA has to offer. I have had a chance to fulfill one of my bucket list item by going for skydiving at skydive speland in Houston. It was a thrilling experience. I rekindled my passion for bicycle riding and Houston does not disappoint with beautiful bike trails. When I have to decompress from college stress, Keegans bayou bike trail offers such a refreshing scenery. While in college, I also picked up swimming as a hobby.

I have had a privilege to travel to some states which as an International student is a rewarding experience. Being a tv news fanatic, my tour to CNN studios in Atlanta was a highlight of my
international student experience. I have also had opportunities to visit Time Square, New York, the White House, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington DC, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Richmond, Virginia.

Through this journey I have a great team that supports me and help me to reach this far. I have my family and friends that have made my journey possible and I am so thankful for their support. The leap of faith I took to go back to college has rewarded me in so many ways. Not only is my life enriched with academic growth but also my professional and personal life experiences. Looking back now, going back to college was one of the best decisions I have ever made.
I am Zein, an international student from Mali and the boy on the right side of the picture above. Initially, I thought I would come to the US for 4 years and go back to Mali, but it has been 5 years now that I am here. I spent 4 years in Maryland studying Electrical engineering for 2 years. I then studied literature and art for another 2 years, but my heart was always tilting toward Physics, hence I looked for schools with the major of Physics with a specialization in engineering. There I found UHCL.

I thus moved to Houston during the summer 2019 to attend UHCL where I am perusing a Bachelor in Physics Engineering. I feel like it is the best preparation I could get to transfer somewhere else for a Master or Doctorate in a branch of engineering like mechanical at the University of Texas Austin for instance.

Additionally, I have met many people at UHCL and build incredible relationships with my professors. The research and internship opportunities are what I’m the most grateful for. I had the chance to learn about my physics’ professor on neutron stars and I am even to work with her on the research next semester. Also, I had the chance to help other students as a math tutor under one of my math professor’s supervision. There I met lifelong friends.
My Experience in Houston...

Coming to UHCL gave me the chance to experience one of the best cities in the country. Houston has so much culinary and architectural variety, it feels like you’re taking a trip on each step.

Each day and night I’d go out to experience the city, I'd meet intriguingly interesting individuals. For instance, I had the chance to go to River Oaks Country Club on many occasion and I'd meet ex governors, CEOs, or celebrities. Also, as the last example illustrates, I would go to fascinating places. Finally, the hot weather of Houston just makes the winter a season I do not avoid looking forward to, like it used to be in the Est.
UHCL Campus...

https://youtu.be/9rYkTfjiTqc

3 - Here is a quick tour of the UHCL campus and facilities. My favorite part of the campus is the Fitness zone!

Moulaye Zein Haidara

Physics Engineering B.S.

HaidaraM9773@UHCL.edu
Growing up as a millennial, I have had the opportunity to observe the advancement of technology to the way we see it today, the incredible pace of this transformation and the promise it holds for the future continues to captivate me every day.

I have always aimed to excel in academics and produce consistent results as is evidenced by my grades. I am ranked among the top 10 consistently across my institution and stood third overall towards the
graduating semester. Also, I was honored to be ranked among the top 20 students across the discipline in a statewide comparison in my final semester at school.

I started my professional career with the IBM India Pvt. Ltd as a Data Analyst. I have handled a variety of essential IBM projects during my tenure till date. IBM has exposed me to the magnitude of information out there while offering lots of opportunities for individual, learning and growth.

I believe in continuous self-improvement and habitual learning and always learn from all the different aspects of life. I enjoy actively participating in various school and college events like cricket tournaments and cultural festivals. Apart from my love for technology, I like to focus on fitness. I also enjoy swimming, playing badminton and chess. Apart from these, I volunteered at a charitable organization called Save The Children Foundation which help provide basic education, food, medical assistance and other essentials for the orphans.

Why I Chose MIS as My Major?
In a recent Data Mining and Data Analytics session conducted by IBM I found out that 90% of the world’s data has been created in last two years, out of which 80% is unstructured and only 20% of data is available for traditional systems to leverage. We are surrounded by an ocean of data and I am keen on pursuing a course of study to gain deeper knowledge of strategies used to convert unstructured data into information and contribute to adding context to make the data out there usable.

My quest to seek key influences for the development of technology led me to discover the crucial role played by Management Information Systems in processing unstructured data into information by giving it context and consequently enable critical decision making. Further, having witnessed companies, small and big, which have successfully incorporated MIS solutions to hold a competitive edge over the competition has motivated me to choose this field as my major.

**Personal Testimonial**

I have been a student at University of Houston-Clear Lake past one year and from what I have experienced, I can tell you it is a great school. The teachers are very reasonable and fair. The staff is excellent and the rules help keep the school safe and in order. There is an equal balance of learning and reviewing information so that everyone gets what is to be done and there’s tutoring if we need it. There are many opportunities for UHCL students. I like that UHCL has many activities available for students which will be like a stress buster for students.

Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar | Management Information Systems
International junior student at the University of Houston - Clear Lake, Houston, TX, seeking a bachelor of Life Sciences with concentration in prehealth

My Experience in the US
1 - First Rodeo Experience at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo at the NRG Stadium in Houston, TX.

#HLSR2018

2 - My first time ever at an NBA match live at the Toyota Center in Houston, TX.

#GoRockets #RunAsOne
3 - Houston Natural Museum of Science at Hermann Park.

4 - Houston Zoo with mom.

Seeing flamingos is breathtaking!

5 - A visit to NASA Space Center with my family.
#OutOfThisWorld

6 - Game Time!

Dallas Cowboys at Houston Texans!
Representing San Jacinto College at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research at the Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, GA.

#NCUR2019
9 - California trip with my uncle’s family.

#Disneyland

10 - with Mickey and my little brother!
Testimonial

Coming to the US has not been just studying all the time. Anyone can still have a lot of fun during winter and summer breaks. From museums to annual events, the US in general and Houston in particular offer so many to try at least once in your lifetime! In addition, Houston is full of different cuisines from around the world. You can have lunch for example at a Mexican restaurant and then have dinner at a Vietnamese restaurant, and both can be found near each other.

CONTACT

ABDALLAH MOUHAMAD | International Student Ambassador

mouhamada9507@uhcl.edu

1mailto:mouhamada9507@uhcl.edu
My First time in USA

- I was the first person in my family to come to the USA, you can imagine my excitement when I received my acceptance letter from UCA (University of Central Arkansas).

- It was my first time to see the snow which a bit was difficult for me to get out of the house because of the cold, but I took some pictures and sent them to my siblings.
2 - My first experience here was amazing because I had a host family. They were so nice with me, they took care of me like their own child.

3 -

- I had a good time at the University of Central Arkansas. As an International Student, I was able to get a part-time job on campus where I worked with inspiring and awesome people, supervisors, and managers at Aramark. I learned many things with them. Aramark gave me a catering experience.

- One of the supervisors was like a mom for us especially International Students. As you can see in the picture, during Thanksgiving she invited us to her home.
5 - During UCA’s Homecoming at work too!
What I like the most in this country is the Fact that they have many **volunteering opportunities** which help us being involved in the community, meet new friends and develop our leadership.
ACHIEVEMENTS

As you can see in the pictures, I got my BBA in Finance at UCA On December 2018 and was so happy because this was the first reason why I came here. After getting my diploma, I applied for OPT (Optional Practical Training) and decided to move to Texas but at this time I was not sure about my choice.
Two weeks later I received an acceptance letter from UHCL and I was happy because my roommate told me that UHCL is a good University, They have many opportunities for students like scholarships and so on.

What I like the most at UHCL is the fact that Classes are not full which give students the chance to interact with professors and help the professors know their students’ names.

My free time in Houston

As you can see in the pictures, during my free time, I usually cook. Most of my afternoons I go to the lake close to my apartment and sometimes I go to the cinema with my friends.
BEING A STUDENT AT UHCL IS A CHANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND LIVING IN HOUSTON IS AMAZING.

AIDA NCHO | MBA Student
My Experiences At UHCL

First Things:

The best thing about the houston is the climate its just as my home country and houston has a diversified culture where you could see people from all countries.

At UHCL the computer science major has the latest cutting edge technological courses which get me updated with all the latest trends and really love the classes and labs in the delta building they are unique and advanced.
1 - My First Day at Orientation made some great friends who made me feel comfortable in United States

https://s3wy.office.com/Yrvv115Qa5e75piG#content=wsy0vBnaxDY%E

2 - Orientation Challenge Fun
Visit to Mayor Assistant Office in Downtown Houston was my first official visit in United States of America where I learned lot of things regarding the workflow and career opportunities and a perfect workplace example in this great country.
Kranthi Ramasayam

I have joined UHCL in Fall 2019 to pursue my master’s in Computer Science. I am from India, the most populous democracy in the world. I have experience of 2 and a half years as a Dotnet Software Developer. This experience helped my transition to Computer Science as my bachelors was in Electronics.

I have shared my experiences here in Houston and the University of Houston -- Clear Lake.

Houston
2 - Japanese Garden
Houston has peculiar weather, it may rain anytime, too hot in summer, feel the humidity in the air & too cold for me in winter. The good thing about this is you get to experience all of them in the same place. Note: Carry an umbrella if you walk anywhere.

You have places to visit in and around the area, pick perfect weather and place and enjoy. I have been to beaches near the University, enjoyed a trip to San Antonio (a City in TX) in fall semester break, Galveston - Bolivar Ferry is a unique experience to me.

We have a park (Bay Area Park) near the University, I often visit the place when I feel bored or need a place to relax.
UHCL provides us with all the required student services, facilities, and resources. If you need a place to study, you have many options here on campus. I mostly spend my time at University at Delta Building as this is the place where all my courses are conducted and where I work.

I work with Dr. Abeysekera and we had a gathering for Graduate Assistants at Dr. Hall’s place, this is where I have met with all the professors of my department and enjoyed their friendly conversations.

All the professors here at Delta are friendly, considerate, and helping. Apart from the professors, the person I see the most is Caroline Johnson. She is the most active person in Delta Building, It is good to have a person like her in the campus.
Professional Experience

I have two years of experience as a Software Developer, where my skills and interest in application development is significantly improved. This knowledge and passion for software have earned me a Research assistant position in the College of Science and Engineering department. My job is technical and I definitely enjoy the challenges that come in it.

In addition to this, I have been granted a position as Student Ambassador where I can help the new intake students to get acquainted with the University and the place. And also train me to become a better professional.
"A place to create your future. A wonderful environment to learn, work and have fun.

My university has made my life here easy and comfortable.

Thanks for being there for us."

#UHCL #CSE

- Kranthi Ramasayam
Experience of Houston

The Houston Museum of Natural Science houses the Burke Baker Planetarium, Wortham Giant Screen Theatre, Cockrell Butterfly Center, and over a dozen permanent exhibit areas that examine astronomy, space, science, Native Americans, paleontology, energy, chemistry, gems and minerals, seashells, Texas wildlife, and more.
2 - NASA

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, an agency of the US Federal government for aerodynamics space and research. The Johnson Space Center located in Houston is an excellent facility for people interested in the space research program. My favorite is the NASA tram tour where you can see the behind the scenes of a human space exploration.

3 - Kemah Boardwalk

The Kemah Boardwalk\(^1\) is built entirely along the shores of Galveston Bay\(^2\) and Clear Lake\(^3\) and is considered among the premier boardwalks in the United States. It’s very pleasant as it is located on the shore, nice for long walks. I love to go there with my friends, I love that it is so close to the UHCL campus and is easy access.

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**Personal Testimonial**

When you start to make your future plans on your own without following the Mundane routine your community people follow, you will have so many doubts and questions whether this is a proper plan or goal, you will need something to reassure you that what you have chosen is correct. That "something" should have all the aspects to pillar your dream, the point when you start making your plans come true,

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\(^1\)[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boardwalk]

\(^2\)[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galveston_Bay]

\(^3\)[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clear_Lake_City_(Greater_Houston)]
you will know that you have made the right choice. UHCL is that "something" for me, a 5-month stay in the United States of America has taught me a lot, personally coming to UHCL is out of my comfort zone, but after seeing the Houston weather, the academics offered and especially the beautiful campus I am now Comfortable.

MY UHCL EXPERIENCE
Professional Experience

[Image of Wipro logo]

[Image of a building with the Wipro logo]

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STUDENT BLOGS
Global Learning and Strategy Student Ambassador Blog
UHCL allows collaborating with peers and professors to gain knowledge. The student-faculty ratio is 14:1, where a student can talk to professors and it also gives a greater chance of learning. It is known for its student clubs, engagement programs; it has got diverse student groups. It is one of the universities in Texas with state of the art facilities. #IHeartUHCL#HuntertheHawk

-Vyshnavi Itapu

When people ask me why University of Houston Clear Lake?

I reply, why not University of Houston Clear Lake? I see UHCL as a holy grail of education offering the impressive intellectual and technical resources of a prestigious research university. UHCL provides me the confidence of knowing that I would be getting the most forward focused education. With the high factuly to student ratio it ensures that a lot of attention is given to each student.

#UHCLFOREVER

- Rohan Khedkar

To me, UHCL is a great school surrounded by a beautiful and tranquil landscape. Some of the reasons why I chose the University of Houston - Clear Lake to pursue my master's degree are as follows:

First of all, UHCL offers small class sizes leading to more one-on-one interaction with professors and classmates. It is easier for us to get the attention from the professors, get to know other classmates, take part in in-class discussions and driven to express opinions.

In addition, UHCL has a nice, cozy patio cafe, a well-equipped recreation center and a newly built on-campus living community - Hunter Hall, making for us a great campus experience, especially for our international students.

Finally, the tuition fee here is more affordable than other universities in Texas. UHCL also offers a lot of scholarships for students in general and for international students in particular. Luckily, I was awarded a Hawks Scholars scholarship for the 2018 - 2020 academic years and was eligible to pay in-state tuition fee, making my education life in the US much more easier.

#WeAreHawks #GoHawks #IHeartUHCL

- Thao Tran
I chose UHCL because of the many opportunities it has given me to connect and learn with other international students from many other nations. Being an international student myself, UHCL has absolutely given me a welcoming and exciting experience abroad and has immensely helped me with adapting to an independent university life overseas.

#TheChoiceIsClear

- Duc Le

Because we are hawks! At least we are made to believe we are hawks until we actually become hawks. That’s how this campus works its magic on you. For me, it was just two months in this country and on this campus. UHCL has accepted me as part of their large and diverse family. I knew I would go for this university when I was awarded the hawks scholarship as the recognition of my scholarly achievements in Academics. It was not about the scholarship, but it simply shows that if you are talented, you will be appreciated and celebrated here. The campus is not only equipped with high tech facilities and resources but also considered to be the safest campus because of the on-campus police department. What more an international student can ask for! We are taught to coexist with nature here.

I can proudly say that I share my campus with thousands of trees, deers (my favorite part of the campus) and crocodiles. It’s like the ancient Indian Ashrams where schools were in the jungle. Here the jungle has all the facilities you can ask for, where you can relax, study, play in the lap of nature.

#TheChoiceIsAlwaysClear

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

1 - In the lap of nature!

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL
2 - The Kissing Stone! 🧡UHCL #Esthetics #Architecture

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

3 - Owl Always Be Here If You Need Me! (I hope you get my pun 😁)

#PunIsFun

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL
4 - Tell me again was it, love, at first sight
when I walked by and you caught my eye.

Didn't you know love could shine this bright?

Well, smile because you're the deer in the headlights.

-Deer In the headlight (Song by the OwlCity)

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

5 - Choosing UHCL is one of the best decision ever made as it has most diversified course structure with latest cutting edge courses in all streams and great International Community with eco-friendly campus and great alumni network.

#GoHawks @uhclearlake-Sudheer Kumar Nyalam

Why UHCL? There are many reasons why I choose UHCL over other universities but few reasons why I was sure that UHCL is where I want to study was the curriculum of UHCL which exactly sank with my area of interest. Other reason was that UHCL provides various opportunities for international students
where they can get different scholarships which helps students a lot. UCHL students and faculties are
kind and friendly. UHCL made me feel like home!! #ChoiceIsClear #HawksItIs

- Foram Nisar

UHCL has some excellent programs for international students. You have diverse international
community here at UHCL which will make you feel home. - Chakravarthi Thoutreddy

I chose University of Houston-Clear Lake for many reasons. But the one most important one to me was
how the faculty members and academic advisors took their time to explain the degree curriculum to me
during the open house made me feel like I was going to be in good hands. It made me feel at
home. #UHCL #GLS #GoHawks - Ni’imat Giza

The attraction to my eyes was tailor programs UHCL is providing since 45 years. Moreover, various
scholarships for international students so finance is never a problem at UHCL. When I visited the campus
for the first time, I fell in love with amazing natural views. #UHCL #ChoiceIsClear #GoHawks

-Dhruviben Patel
I chose University of Houston-Clear Lake because of its great faculty. Faculty in UHCL are experts in their field, Motivated and they build good connections with the students. The course Structure, Infrastructure, and Research at UHCL seem to be parallel to my Interests. UHCL has diverse Graduate students which help to share our knowledge. I can really appreciate the admission office, student services, and all other offices as they are very quick in response to our issues. I felt UHCL is the best choice for pursuing masters. **#The choice is clear #GoHawks**-Maithri Kodakandla.
The main reason I chose UHCL was because of the location. Coming from the East's cold winters, Houston's weather and job opportunities beat my other choices. UHCL was the best choice in Houston because of the affordability and involvement with the international community. - Zein

Everyone will be thriving and will have the desire to pursue masters in a place which involves some of the aspects such as diversity, rich infrastructure, career opportunities. If you talk about diversity, UHCL is one of the culturally diversified campuses in the Texas where you will find students from various regions. Additionally, UHCL offers Hawks scholarships to the students for the masters program which made me forget the myth "Doing masters in USA is very expensive for an international student". The quietest and beautiful green lawns in the campus has attracted me to spend my leisure time. - Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu
I chose UHCL because it offers a wide range of electives & core courses which helps me to prepare for a career in the industry of my choice. My interest in recommending UCHL to my known Master's incoming students further strengthened when I came across programs like Student Ambassador Buddy Program and GLS Programs for International students. #UHCL #CareerGoals #GoHawks - Himaja Muppavarapu

The decision for choosing UHCL for pursuing graduate studies was influenced by various reasons. The University campus has an exclusive infrastructure with coexisting wildlife which attracted my attention. The faculty at UHCL is highly experienced and motivated. UHCL is a confluence of people with different cultures and varied ideologies which provides exposure to diverse influences. The various activities around campus keeps connected to the UHCL community. **Joining UHCL is certainly the best choice which I have ever made.** #UHCL #GoHawks #GLS #Choiceisclear -- Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed

The very first reason for me to choose UHCL was the campus environment and secondly the course work offered for my major. It offers a wide range of courses and MIS is known as the best course work offered in UHCL. Apart from these two reasons UHCL is one such university where they conduct a lot of activities to keep the campus lively. Time and again I feel that I have made a right choice by choosing UHCL. #GoHawks --- Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar
I chose UHCL because of the excellent course curriculum and industry experienced faculty. The tuition is more affordable and the school system cares for each student’s individuality. The campus is culturally diverse and surrounded by open nature which automatically makes one feel at peace.

#UHCL #GoHawks - Initha Annamalai Sharavananan

9 - The Initial attraction was certainly because of its Campus, the green fields close to beautiful tall buildings, the “UHCL” letters in Alumni Plaza, the views are like no other. I chose UHCL for all the amazing things it has to offer, like the excellent education from experienced professors, diverse campus involvements and I am a big fan of its new top of the class recreational center. A campus which feels like home not only for me but also for tons of natural wildlife. The Best choice I made in my life.

#ProudHawks #Collegelife #Choiceisclear – Aravindhakshan Valagurunathan
“My choice is clear” why selecting UHCL for my masters because of its faculty and its diversified culture and global exposure and UHCL provided me with hawks scholarship which made my fees into instate. - Sudheer Godugu

The 2020 Global Learning and Strategy Summer Institute is underway! Looking forward to a successful summer! #UHCL #GLS #SummerInstitute - Dr. McClendon

I chose UHCL for many reasons. One of them is because it is so close, only 5 min driving away from my house. The other is that the university includes different cultures from around the world. And another reason is that the campus is much like a natural reserve for wildlife, which is simply amazing! #UHCL #UHCLHawks #SummerInstitute - Abdallah Mouhamad

The eye catching point about "UHCL" is that it offers interdisciplinary course called "Computer Engineering" which combines both Electrical Engineering and Computer Science programs. Adding to it, the Books written by Dr. Harman on robotics are attention drawing, and my department chair, Dr. Koc's research work on Memory Optimization is remarkable. Being a second year graduate student, I can say that "Choosing UHCL is best decision that I have taken in my life". #Student Ambassador #Career Goals #UHCL - Sumanth Nacharam

10 - I chose the University of Houston - Clear Lake because it respects the value of diversity. I love to be a part of a diverse group of people and share our knowledge, culture, and tradition. Moreover, UHCL provided Hawks Scholarship even to International Students which was an added advantage, and for the fact that the university campus is located on a wildlife and nature preserve in the heart of the clear lake. #UHCL #GLS #SummerInstitute #GoHawks - Divya Shivaprakashan
I had no clue about what college it will be, when I first started searching for it. Of course being a GRAD student, I was sure about my academic expectations but choosing a college in the US was not easy for me. I ultimately chose UHCL, though I was not sure if it was the right decision until I started my journey. When I first visited the campus I was amazed to see the campus environment. The coexistence of animals and humans is a super cool concept here. Extremely cooperative faculties of UHCL made my transition easy and smooth. Great professors and the great curriculum makes me proud of my decision - Anupama Dash

I made the decision to be a part of UHCL since its motto of thriving in a competitive environment along with making meaningful contributions, while simultaneously promoting critical thinking really aligned with my interests.

#UHCL #Community

-Steve Fernandes

UHCL has diverse graduation students. University provides international students with many opportunities and support to make them feel home here in the United States. - Kranthi Ramasayam
I chose UHCL because it has one of the best Computer Science programs. I also liked the diversity of the students. Last but not least, I fell in love with the campus, its environment and surroundings. Go Hawks!!! - James Yobe

I chose UHCL mainly because of its diverse graduate students. Also, the university is surrounded by nature and is really close to NASA which was a plus. The Hawk Scholarship which was given to me helped me more in choosing UHCL. I was still unsure when I attended my first day of orientation but I gradually fell in love with the place. Go Hawks!!!!!

- Harshith Sathyaprakash

I chose University of Houston-Clear Lake because of its Computer Science Program. Computer Science program’s curriculum matches with my interests and the faculty to student ratio per classroom is very impressive. Location-Texas is also a main reason for choosing this university (which is similar to my place) which provides huge opportunities for the international students along with excellent program of study.

-Sushma Koneru
Tips For Thriving In Your First Semester
Here are some tips that would help you to thrive:
• Network a lot! I know we stress the importance of studies and research in the first semester but networking and meeting people within your field/university is just as important

• Find out about the services available to you like Career services is one of the most useful things, even it is your first semester it is not too early to start your resume, this would be of great help!

• Embrace the campus culture and university social life

• Don’t miss attending two day orientation, talk to advisors at the end of orientation, and take their advice, don’t overload yourself on courses.

• On-campus Jobs are of greater help; upload your resume on Handshake

-Vyshnavi Itapu

To most of you, this first semester will be the first time you’ll have ever lived alone, it can get tough and can prove to be a challenge but it is something that I believe you all can break through and succeed. The following few tips are ones that will not only help you thrive in your first UHCL semester but also just adult life in general.

1. **Prioritize your health and wellbeing:** Maintaining proper physical and mental health will give you the chance to perform at your peak on a daily basis. Incorporating a healthy diet and regular exercise is also a major aspect of helping you succeed.

2. **Find your people:** Luckily at UHCL, we have students from all over the world which makes it possible for almost any student to find someone from their own home town or country in general. Getting to know people and making friends is important in helping you succeed during your university experience as you will be able to assist each other along the way and form bonds that last way past your time as a student.

3. **Plan and adapt:** It is almost always beneficial to have a battle plan or some type of goal that you want to achieve, not only to give you the motivation to go forward but also a sense of direction and makes your journey easier. But as plans do not always come to be, you must be willing to adapt and go with the flow of what is to come.

4. **Have Fun:** This is the second most important tip. Remember that you are not only here to study and read books until you faint, this is your time to connect and make friends and make memories. If you can learn to enjoy your time in university, the whole journey will become much smoother.

-Duc Le

Adapting to a whole new education system could be tough but it's not impossible. Below are few tips to thrive in your first semester.
• **Stay in touch with your Advisor:** Always stay in touch with the advisor so that you take classes that you need to graduate on time. Take good notes of their advice.

• **Take advantage of the office hours:** College instructors have office hours during which they’re available to students. In case if you didn’t understand a topic in the case take the advantage of the office hours to clarify your doubts and they will always be happy to help.

• **Focus on every assignment and Respect the deadlines:** Complete the assignment, give your best shot and always make sure to never miss the submission deadline.

• **Find your people:** One of the most exciting parts of your first semester of college is meeting new people and encountering a whole new range of ideas. It can also feel lonely at first, and that’s okay. It takes a bit of time to find your place at a new school, but you can start to build strong relationships by checking out clubs, intramural sports, and elective courses where you’re likely to meet people who share your interests and ideals.

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**Rohan Khedkar**

**Some tips to have a thriving first semester:**

1. **Attend any new comer orientation and meet your department staff!** I can not stress how much that was a game changer for me. Building a great relationship with the teachers in the Physics department pushed me to pass my limit and have a sort of organic accountability system, since the teachers know what you are capable of and if you create an open communication channel between you, you are sure to get useful feedback. Not only that, I also had a lot of job and research opportunities just by being friendly and clear on the expectations with my professors and other staff; of course respecting those expectations goes without saying.

2. **Attend all class meetings if possible and respect deadlines.** You do not want to be just "a student", you want to become a reference for your teachers. If possible, push yourself to get a 4.0 GPA on your first semester, that will give you the optimum momentum to stay on top of your game.

3. **Take regular break from studies.** No matter how consuming your degree may be, you can always make some room to chill and cool down. Personally, after acing a test, I will go to public gatherings and socialize like I do not have any friends, or just stay home with a buddy and play some video games or watch something. Also, I enjoy self development books. But, however you spend that time, do something that builds you to be a better person outside of school. Paradoxically, bettering yourself outside of school will double if not triple your results in school.

I hope you find these tips somehow useful. #OIAP - Moulaye Zein Haidara

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*International students entering graduate school in the US may be overwhelming, but it’s just a different way of teaching style here; It’s more interesting than what you did back home. Each professor has his/her own way of teaching and operating, to know what they are, you just have to attend their first class; definitely don’t miss it. And other things just go on.*
13 - Tips for thriving in your first semester:

- NEVER think you have too much time on your hands. The difference between high school and university is that nobody will be monitoring you. Therefore, you have to make sure you keep up with your studies if not by the time the first exam comes you’ll be lost.
  - Try to have the best grades you can because it will set up the rest of your curriculum.

- GET INVOLVED at school!! This will help you settle in nicely. Not only will you get the opportunity to make friends for life, but also you’ll meet people that will change your career, and maybe even offer you your first job.

- Use the RESOURCES UHCL has made available for you. There are so many that students aren’t even aware of.
  - ENJOY your experience, those are the best memories you’ll create.

By Harry Jodelle Kamgaing
First, I would like to congratulate you on entering graduate school and all the best for your future. UHCL will be more exciting and you will be having a lot of fun here.

Here are some tips for your first semester:

• Attend the orientation and get involved in many activities, games, etc. so that you will be interacting with new students which will help to make new friends.

• Be in touch with your International Advisor, your advisor will help you if you have any doubts and he can also guide in selecting subjects for your first semester.

• Try to take 3 subjects in the first semester as it’s just a beginner you must get used to balancing all the things.

• Prepare a good resume and keep applying for On-Campus jobs. You can take the help of career services for preparing a resume.
• Be in touch with your professors, get to know their office hours to meet them if needed.

• Stay Healthy and active. As you adjust to your new routine, be sure to include time to exercise as well.

• Get to know your people. It takes a bit of time to find your place at a new university, but you can start to build strong relationships by interacting with people at the university.

• There are many services available on campus. Like career services, writing center, recreational center, Student success center, Gym, Counselling Services, library, and many more.

#GoHawks #UHCL #Internationalstudents#OIAP

--Maithri kodakandla

• Starting your First Semester in UHCL as an International student can be a bit challenging compared to other semesters as you would have to get adapted to the new environment. But that is a good thing as you would be independent, make decisions by you self, and most importantly you will come out of your comfort zone. I am going to share my experience and tips which I believe can be useful.

• Get adapted to the education system here, learn how the classes are conducted, assignments, and blackboards knowledge, these will definitely help you.

• Start working hard from the beginning of the semester, know your deadlines, seek help if required, talk to your advisor and seniors. Once you start seeing good progress, this will give confidence which will help you to thrive in your first semester.

• Learn what are the facilities available in the campus, apart from your academics it’s important for you to involve in other campus activities. State of the art recreational center, Library, art gallery, and Bayou theatre are some examples.

• There are a lot of Student organizations available inside the campus, research, and join the one which suits your interests. It a great way to meet new people and also will fulfill your interest.

• Keep in mind that you have already taken a big step in your life, hence once you start your semester don’t be hard on yourself and take one step at a time. Never hesitate to ask for help as “HAWKS don’t hesitate to ask for help”.

• Stay positive and indulge in college life in UHCL as this is going to be a great journey for you.

#GoHawks #UHCL #Choiceisclear
Here are a few tips which helped me to flourish in my first semester as an international student.

• Firstly, don’t be shy, talk to every person you meet, maybe they will turn out to be your best friend or roommate. College life is a new journey for everyone.

• Secondly, time management and organization play a crucial role in balancing life. so, don’t procrastinate assignments and whenever possible, cook together with your housemates or plan your meals in advance.

• Always seek advice from your academic and international advisors regarding any doubts you have, they are generous and supportive.

• Furthermore, be a part of some organization or participate in various activities arranged by them and use campus resources.

• I would strongly recommend attending orientation, it helps understand the US education pattern, great opportunity to meet faculty members and get to know about the basic lifestyle of the US.

• Last but not the list, take advantage of student discounts like on textbooks, groceries, shopping and so on.

#UHCL #Staypositive

-Dhruviben Patel
The tips that I can give is what I followed and implemented in my first semester:

To get ready for international exposure is to make friends and contact your seniors on social media before you arrive at your college.

Attending all orientations is the most important thing that is the way you can make new friends from all over the world and where you will meet your advisors and faculty.
For every student, there will be homesickness the only way to evaporate is to get involved in on-campus student organizations and clubs.

The people you live with, most of whom are going through similar experiences and emotions, are your main safety net -- not only this semester, next semester also make right roommates.

Take advantage of on-campus study resources like digital library and labs and find an ideal place to study.

Be sure you set aside some time for activities that help you relax and take the stress out of your day or week. Whether it’s yoga, watching your favorite television shows, jogging, or writing in a journal, be good to yourself. And give your brain a break.

Never neglect your studies and always complete assignments on time to get feedback from your professors.

Finally, I conclude that be in the moment and stay healthy and have fun in college because college days are the best memories in your life.

#OIAP #StudentAmbassador

------------- Sudheer Godugu-------------

First semester is the trickiest. It requires a lot of discipline. There is so much getting used to and finding your way.

I believe the first key to surviving the first semester is to pick the right courses. Do not be over enthusiastic or over ambitious and get more that you can handle. Remember this is your discovery semester. Try to find the 'easiest' courses so that you do not mess up your GPA.

Secondly, learn to manage your time. Start your semester running once you hit the ground. Do not procrastinate. Assignments have a way of creeping up on you. If you can work ahead, do it.

Use the free school resources available to you; academic coaching, writing center, TA etc. There are so many resources to help you succeed.

Prepare for your classes. I remember one of my professors used to say - prepare as if you are going to teach the class.

Lastly, have fun. Make friends. Do not be hard on yourself. You are not in competition with anyone but yourself. Disappointments and failure are part of student life. Fail fast and and learn from it. It is not how low you fall that matters, but how much you rise when you fall.

James Yobe

#OIAP #UHCL #InternationalStudents

Here are my tips for the 1st semester-
• Take no more than 3 subjects (if you are a GRAD student.) The reason is: you are starting a new type of course structure in a new type of environment. Allow yourself to take time and understand the pattern.

• Make a schedule and act accordingly. So many things will happen simultaneously that you may miss them.

• Focus on your individualism. This is your degree. Do what "YOU" want to do.

• Now take a deep breath and relax. You have made it till here and you will make through it. Have confidence and ROCK.

---Anupama Dash-----

Attending the University for the first time as an international student would be exciting. However, there will be a sense that whether you would be able to get through the new environment. You need to consider a few things when you arrive at the campus that would help to thrive at the campus.

• Try to make friends before coming to the campus. There would be WhatsApp and Facebook groups created by the prospective students who are going to join University with you. That way you can make new friends before even arriving at the campus.

• Attend the two-day Orientation and get to know the campus buildings and various services offered on campus.

• Speak with your academic advisor and get to know your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS) and select the subjects which you feel are easier for you in the first semester because you need to get adjusted.

• Get to know regarding the scholarships and financial aid offered as most of the new students miss on the scholarship awards as they were not aware of it.

• Connect with students who are already studying your program and discuss it with them regarding the subjects.

• Professors are very helpful and responsive. Do not hesitate to ask anything you don’t understand to the professors. They will guide you in the best possible way.

• Try to have fun at the campus. Get involved in various activities around campus. You can make new friends and connections.

• Manage your time efficiently. Submit your assignment and work within time as it will impact your Grades.

• We have a vast library with some of the good resources.

Have fun Hawks! #UHCL #InternationalStudents

-- Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed
To be honest first and foremost thing you must do is decide to have fun! Yes, you and only you can decide that for yourself and nobody else can. Few other tips you might want to consider to fully live your first semester and NOT JUST MERELY SURVIVE.

- Connect with your seniors from the same educational background and ask them about the curriculum. Enroll for classes that are easier for you to grasp based on your academic background. Don’t be afraid of taking prerequisites. Those are for your strong foundation.

- Connect with people going from your university (even with different academic backgrounds) via social media LinkedIn, WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, etc. You will find a lot of social groups like that. This will help you in the future if you need any help.

- Be in contact with your international adviser. He/she can guide you with your academics and study-related questions.

- Do not hesitate to ask questions in class or via email. Professors are here to help. They will guide you better.

- You must attend the orientation if you want to know deeply about your university. You will be given an introduction to various groups, counseling services, Amenities, etc. You will learn whom to approach for help and how you should proceed. Also, orientation is great for making friends and interacting with people from different cultures.

- Use the library for your textbooks. You don’t have to buy anything. You can use printing facilities available on campus if you want a copy of a specific chapter for reading.

- Live near campus so you can use most of the amazing things it has to offer. Like the writing center, shuttle service, student success center, counseling service, recreational center, gym, etc

- Apply for scholarships and other financial aids. UHCL has one of the best support systems for international students.

- Have a study schedule and try to finish assignments in advance. Have a study group and discuss ideas and projects. Learn new things every day.

- Try and apply for an on-campus job. Have your resume reviewed by career services. Even if you don’t get a job in your first semester takers you will have experience of the whole process. After all university life is all about experiences and experiments! #GoHawks #UHCL

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

Being an international student myself I did face some of the challenges initially as it was altogether a new experience for me. But trust me I really like our campus. It has given me immense opportunities since my very 1st semester. I do have a few things to share that really helped me in my 1st semester:

- Do attend the 2-day orientation that is given by the campus, it really helped me to get in contact with new students and also with the students already attending the campus. They gave us information regarding different departments, offices, libraries, recreation center so that you can get familiar with the campus.
- Be in contact with your advisors as they help us with our course curriculum and information related to it.

- Involve yourself in the campus activities be it games, fairs, etc.

- We have some best professors, to be honest, during class I was comfortable enough to ask doubts from them, so whenever in doubt ask questions.

Lastly, I’ll say be active and enjoy as much as you can on the campus.

-Himani Saxena

Being a college student on its own is already challenging, for an international student, it is much more challenging because they are in a whole new country with no friends or family. I have experienced it, and here are a few tips to help make your first semester easier.

- Make sure you make use of the international student WhatsApp group created by the International student office, you might be able to make friends before you get to the United States and that can help you with the anxiety of feeling alone.

- Try and apply for scholarships before the beginning of the semester, international student tuition is costly and UHCL offers a lot of opportunities to help make your experience easier.

- Contact your academic advisor. They will help you decide what classes to take and how best to get through your degree plan.

- Attend the international student orientation, you will get to meet a lot of your classmates, and they will also provide you with a lot of information about UHCL and United States as a whole.

- Make use of all the services provided by the college. Like the writing center, student success center, counseling service and lastly the tutors.

- Complete your assignment and reading assignments on time. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask your professor and TA.

- Have a friend or study pattern in all your classes.

- And lastly, have fun and enjoy the whole experience!

#UHCL

-Ni’imat Giza

It is undeniable that international students may face different kinds of challenges while studying overseas including new culture, language, homesickness, etc, especially in the first semester. Below are some tips which helped me survive and thrive in my first semester at UHCL.

- Meet your academic advisor: Discuss with your academic advisor about your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS), an ideal plan to take courses to make sure you meet prerequisites before registering, how to add and drop courses, how to resolve any academic issues or conflicts and so on.
- Carefully read your syllabuses: Study the syllabuses provided by your professors to have a big picture about their expectations, requirements and deadlines for your homework, assignments, projects, teamwork... After that, you can record due dates on your own calendar for keeping up with and meeting all deadlines.

- Be proactive: Email or directly meet your professors; or discuss with your classmates/teammates to get extra help understanding class materials.

- Get involved on campus: Get to know and stay connected with your classmates, roommates and organizations on campus to help you overcome challenges abroad like homesickness.

@GigiDo @avp

#UHCL #IHeartUHCL #StudyAbroad #InternationalStudents

- Thao Tran

University life can be overwhelming, not to mention if you are an international student and this is your first semester. Here are some tips that can aid you thrive in your first semester:

- Make a detailed, weekly schedule that includes your class time, study time, and free time.

- Do not procrastinate. It is not a good idea to leave all of your homework or reviews until the due date.

- Keep in touch with your advisors and professors. If you have any question, do not hesitate to ask them.

- Start planning group review sessions for exams with other classmates who you feel comfortable with.

#UHCL #InternationalStudents

- Abdallah Mouhamad

- University life is all about leaving your comfort zone and challenge yourself everyday.

- Make sure to make some quality friends who will contribute to your development as well as themselves.

- Complete the assignments well in advance, so that you have a clear understanding of your time management.

- Building a good reputation with your professor goes without saying.

- Last but not the least, Always try to be better than yesterday.

#UHCL #InternationalStudents

-Steve Fernandes
As far as First year students are concerned Transition, Adopting, Evolving are three major steps which they have to undergo. No matter what the challenge is, "University always helps you to face and draw the solution to the Problem. Here are some the Tips:

- Get familiar with the Campus/ offices.
- Make a habit of checking your mails, E-Services, Black Board, Handshake.
- Work on your Candidate Plan of Study and meet your Academic Advisor.
- Reach out Career Center for your resume check and mock Interviews.
- Complete your assignments within deadlines.
- Be the first in knowing the resources on Campus.

Transition to UHCL should be the best one in your life#Freshers#CareerGoals#UHCL#HereWeGo.
-Sumanth Nacharam

Starting university is an extremely exciting time, but the transition, especially for an International student feels overwhelming. Here are few tips that would help you not only to survive the adjustment, but thrive:

- Know about the campus, resources and the facilities in UHCL. Take a campus tour and get familiar with different buildings and offices in each building.
- Reach out to Student Assistant Center (SAC) to get your student ID card and SAC primarily addresses student inquiries, so they can assist you if you have any queries.
- Participate in all the campus events and activities so that you will get a chance to meet other students and expand your network.
- Make sure you have enrolled for the courses as per your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS) and if you have any queries, discuss with your academic advisor and get it resolved.
- Manage your time and be on top of deadlines for the project/assignment submissions. Organize your calendar by prioritizing your coursework.
- Talk to professors if you don’t understand anything covered in class or in the course materials, ask for additional help or information. They really appreciate questions and clarify your doubts then and there.
- Grades do count for international students – will be helpful to get scholarship if you don’t have one already.
- Make use of Handshake to find an on-campus job.
- Join student organizations, student clubs and volunteer for events - that will help you meet new people and build a network within campus community.

Have fun in the process of learning!!
- **Initha Annamalai Sharavan nan**

The first semester for me as an international student who came from a country that the original language is not English was very tough. But after the first day of school, I found some friends in my classes that help me to improve my speaking English. Also, I had to work hard and more than others to compensate for my gap. Now after a year when I think about that moments I proud of myself that I have continued my way and did not abandon. Here are some tips that can help you thrive in your first semester:

- Make your classes your top priority.
- See your professor as your advocate. And don’t ever let yourself be intimidated by your professor.
- Meet with your academic advisor at least twice each semester.
- Actively participate in at least one organized extra-curricular activity. You can meet your classmates and other people in these activities that aid you make your own network.
- Realize that every person you meet in college has something to offer you.

#UHCL #InternationalStudents

**Ali Beheshti**

The fist semester is always super exciting!! As an international student you have to go through with so much of hassle and after such an hard work you finally achieve what you deserve. You will not even come to know when your first semester will come and when does it goes. It is that fast. Here are some tips that can help you thrive in your first semester:

- Attend all your classes from day 1
- Do all your home works and assignment by your self. If you find difficultly you can always see k a help from a TA or Professor.
- Ask questions if you don’t understand anything. Don’t be shy!
- Attend all events and resource fairs. They are really fun!
- Study everyday! This will help you to clear your concepts and during midterms and final exam you won’t have to face a load to study.
- First semester is always a best chance to get good GPA as course will be easier than the next semester.
- Make new friends!!
- Talk to people if you face any issues. Here in UHCL everyone is ready to help each other.
Lastly, Have fun! Don't be hard on your self. There are ups and downs but once you get that degree everything will be worth! Make the most awesome memories. You'll miss UHCL once you graduate.

Good Luck!!  #UHCL  #InternationalStudents

-Foram Nisar

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Lastly, have fun. Make friends. Do not be hard on yourself. You are not in competition with anyone but yourself. Disappointments and failure are part of student life.

-Harshith Sathyaprakash

Work closely with your assigned academic advisor on your plan of study. Networking is key to succeed professionally or academically to gather as much information as possible and to get help when in need. Participate in campus activities to have fun, gain leadership and team working skills. #UHCL #OIAP #CareerGoals #GoHawks - Himaja Muppavarapu

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#UHCL  #InternationalStudents

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• Make sure you have enrolled for the courses as per your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS) and if you have any queries, discuss with your academic advisor and get it resolved.

• Manage your time and be on top of deadlines for the project/assignment submissions. Organize your calendar by prioritizing your coursework.

• Talk to professors if you don’t understand anything covered in class or in the course materials, ask for additional help or information. They really appreciate questions and clarify your doubts then and there.

• Grades do count for international students – will be helpful to get scholarship if you don’t have one already.

• Make use of Handshake to find an on-campus job.

• Join student organizations, student clubs and volunteer for events - that will help you meet new people and build a network within campus community.

Have fun in the process of learning!!

- Initha Annamalai Sharavanan

University life is all about leaving your comfort zone and challenge yourself everyday.

Make sure to make some quality friends who will contribute to your development as well as themselves.

Complete the assignments well in advance, so that you have a clear understanding of your time management.

Building a good reputation with your professor goes without saying.

Last but not the least, Always try to be better than yesterday.

#UHCL  #InternationalStudents

-Steve Fernandes

University life can be overwhelming, not to mention if you are an international student and this is your first semester. Here are some tips that can aid you thrive in your first semester:

• Make a detailed, weekly schedule that includes your class time, study time, and free time.

• Do not procrastinate. It is not a good idea to leave all of your homework or reviews until the due date.

• Keep in touch with your advisors and professors. If you have any question, do not hesitate to ask them.

• Start planning group review sessions for exams with other classmates who you feel comfortable with.
It is undeniable that international students may face different kinds of challenges while studying overseas including new culture, language, homesickness, etc, especially in the first semester. Below are some tips which helped me survive and thrive in my first semester at UHCL.

- Meet your academic advisor: Discuss with your academic advisor about your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS), an ideal plan to take courses to make sure you meet prerequisites before registering, how to add and drop courses, how to resolve any academic issues or conflicts and so on.

- Carefully read your syllabuses: Study the syllabuses provided by your professors to have a big pictures about their expectations, requirements and deadlines for your homework, assignments, projects, teamwork... After that, you can record due dates on your own calendar for keeping up with and meeting all deadlines.

- Be proactive: Email or directly meet your professors; or discuss with your classmates/teammates to get extra help understanding class materials.

- Get involved on campus: Get to know and stay connected with your classmates, roommates and organizations on campus to help you overcome challenges abroad like homesickness and isolation.

#UHCL #IHeartUHCL #StudyAbroad #InternationalStudents #OIAP

- Thao Tran

Being a college student on its own is already challenging, for an international student, it is much more challenging because they are in a whole new country with no friends or family. I have experienced it, and here are a few tips to help make your first semester easier.

- Make sure you make use of the international student WhatsApp group created by the International student office, you might be able to make friends before you get to the United States and that can help you with the anxiety of feeling alone.

- Try and apply for scholarships before the beginning of the semester, international student tuition is costly and UHCL offers a lot of opportunities to help make your experience easier.

- Contact your academic advisor. They will help you decide what classes to take and how best to get through your degree plan.

- Attend the international student orientation, you will get to meet a lot of your classmates, and they will also provide you with a lot of information about UHCL and United States as a whole.

- Make use of all the services provided by the college. Like the writing center, student success center, counseling service and lastly the tutors.

- Complete your assignment and reading assignments on time. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask your professor and TA.
• Have a friend or study pattern in all your classes.
• And lastly, have fun and enjoy the whole experience!

#UHCL
-Ni‘imat Giza

Being an international student myself I did face some of the challenges initially as it was altogether a new experience for me. But trust me I really like our campus. It has given me immense opportunities since my very 1st semester. I do have a few things to share that really helped me in my 1st semester:

• Do attend the 2-day orientation that is given by the campus, it really helped me to get in contact with new students and also with the students already attending the campus. They gave us information regarding different departments, offices, libraries, recreation center so that you can get familiar with the campus.
• Be in contact with your advisors as they help us with our course curriculum and information related to it.
• Involve yourself in the campus activities be it games, fairs, etc.
• We have some best professors, to be honest, during class I was comfortable enough to ask doubts from them, so whenever in doubt ask questions.

Lastly, I’ll say be active and enjoy as much as you can on the campus.

-Himani Saxena

Attending the University for the first time as an international student would be exciting. However, there will be a sense that whether you would be able to get through the new environment. You need to consider a few things when you arrive at the campus that would help to thrive at the campus.

• Try to make friends before coming to the campus. There would be WhatsApp and Facebook groups created by the prospective students who are going to join University with you. That way you can make new friends before even arriving at the campus.
• Attend the two-day Orientation and get to know the campus buildings and various services offered on campus.

• Speak with your academic advisor and get to know your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS) and select the subjects which you feel are easier for you in the first semester because you need to get adjusted.

• Get to know regarding the scholarships and financial aid offered as most of the new students miss on the scholarship awards as they were not aware of it.

• Connect with students who are already studying your program and discuss it with them regarding the subjects.

• Professors are very helpful and responsive. Do not hesitate to ask anything you don’t understand to the professors. They will guide you in the best possible way.

• Try to have fun at the campus. Get involved in various activities around campus. You can make new friends and connections.

• Manage your time efficiently. Submit your assignment and work within time as it will impact your Grades.

• We have a vast library with some of the good resources.

**Have fun Hawks! #UHCL #InternationalStudents**

-- Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed

Here are my tips for the 1st semester-

• Take no more than 3 subjects (if you are a GRAD student.) The reason is: you are starting a new type of course structure in a new type of environment. Allow yourself to take time and understand the pattern.

• Make a schedule and act accordingly. So many things will happen simultaneously that you may miss them.

• Focus on your individualism. This is your degree. Do what "YOU" want do do.

• Now take a deep breath and relax. You have made it till here and you will make through it. Have confidence and ROCK.

--- Anupama Dash-----
First semester as an International student will always be challenging. Its alright, You will be learning everything through active listening and observing.

You might not have all the information you need. Its OK to ask questions. Ask!

Don’t doubt yourself before doing anything and take the initiation on tasks you love to do. - Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu

As far as First year students are concerned Transition, Adopting , Evolving are three major steps which they have to undergo. No matter what the challenge is, “University always helps you to face and draw the solution to the Problem. Here are some the Tips :

- Get familiar with the Campus/ offices.
- Make a habit of checking your mails, E-Services, Black Board, Handshake.
- Work on your Candidate Plan of Study and meet your Academic Advisor.
- Reach out Career Center for your resume check and mock Interviews.
  - Complete your assignments within deadlines.
  - Be the first in knowing the resources on Campus.

Transition to UHCL should be the best one in your life#Freshers#CareerGoals#UHCL#HereWeGo.

-Sumanth Nacharam

The first semester is always super exciting!! As an international student you have to go through with so much of hassle and after such an hard work you finally achieve what you deserve.

- Participate in all the campus events and activities so that you will get a chance to meet other students and expand your network.
• Make sure you have enrolled for the courses as per your Candidate Plan of Study (CPS) and if you have any queries, discuss with your academic advisor and get it resolved.

• Manage your time and be on top of deadlines for the project/assignment submissions. Organize your calendar by prioritizing your coursework.

• Make a schedule and act accordingly. So many things will happen simultaneously that you may miss them. Focus on your individualism.

This is your degree. Do what "YOU" want do do.

Lastly, have fun. Make friends. Do not be hard on yourself. You are not in competition with anyone but yourself. Disappointments and failure are part of student life.

1: Get Organized: Remember that college academics are an entirely different game from high school academics. Professors expect you to be well prepared. They expect you to follow the course outline and deadlines typically given at the beginning of the semester.

2: Develop and Nurture On-Campus Relationships: In addition to befriending other freshmen, build relationships with the professional group as well

3: Re-evaluate the Balance Between Social and Academic Activities, but with school now in full swing, you may find you are struggling to balance academics and social commitments.

4: Get Involved: Taking advantage of extra-curricular opportunities can combat homesickness and introduce you to life-long friends, relieve stress, and help with time management. In addition, clubs and volunteer organizations can provide leadership and networking opportunities that pave the way for internships and employment.

5: Seek Online Support: The UHCL offers free one-to-one advising from professionally trained online advisers and often provides real-time answers to questions. The extensive resource center answers virtually every question about college, such as dealing with a difficult roommate, time management, and effective studying strategies. Online communities also enable students to chat, exchange ideas, and share information.

The decisions you make during your first semester of college will likely have a major impact on the rest of your college experience and beyond.

BE WISE!!! HAVE FUN !!!!

GO HAWKS!!! #UHCL #SummerInstitute

- Divya Shivaprakshan

Coming a long way from home, It may be tough for most of us to settle in. But UHCL has done its part by organizing a 2 or 3 day orientation. Participating in International student orientation is the best way in getting to know the services offered by the university, knowing the campus and making friends. Join an organization or take part in an activity to accustom yourself within the campus. Keep in touch with the university as much as possible during your first semester.

You have come a long way. You have everything to get through this!!!!
For an international student, the first semester is the most challenging phase as it will be a major transition period.

- Enroll in the courses as earlier as possible and make sure about the important dates.
- Explore the campus and learn about the opportunities.
- Interact with others as much as possible especially in the initial days and have a diverse network of connections.
- Focus on each and every point which is explained in the Orientation sessions which will be needed later. Try to make note of everything possible.
- Interact with faculty beforehand, express your research interests and your future plans.
- Participate in the events conducted on-campus.

SUSHMA KONERU

If you could make it until here its awesome and congratulations as an international student starting the studies in the other country is a difficult one not for the entire duration but the initial months as the new curriculum and new way the education is wrapped up in the host country i would like to share some of the useful things which helped me excel in my first semester

- Attend orientation and get to know all the things about the campus and make new friends.
- The subjects you choose in the first semester are crucial and try to choose which are the foundation courses to get used to the curriculum as i had two prerequisites i just finished those as the course work would be easy and make the transition simple.
- Make a perfect plan for the studies to finish the assignments duly on time and study the course content accordingly and make some time for visiting new places.
- Make good and great friends this would surely help as we are away from the family it help to avoid the homesick and would greatly help is the group studies and academics.
- Plan your free time in the most effective way join various associations on camps and GetInvolved as much as you can and interact with the local students and make some good network and use the services like Library, Math Center, Counselling Center and Writing Center for your development.
- Finally everything would be great and this time would even will pass on life will flourish.

-CHAKRAVARTHI THOOUTREDDY

#OIAP #GoHawks#UHCL#Summer2020Institute.
As a first semester student there a lot of things a student has to cope up with. Among those these are the most important things a student has to work on to succeed in the first semester.

- Get to know your coursework and professors. Introduce yourself to the professor.
- Spend a lot of time on-campus. Get to know your seniors ask them tips regarding the subjects you have enrolled for the first semester.
- Revise the topics covered in class on the same day and prepare a bit for the next class so that you wont fall behind for the next class.
- Work on your assignments seriously. If you are stuck meet the teaching assistant to guide you.
- Concentrate on every chapter understand the topics thoroughly. Try out new things apart from the given assignment so that it will be a trail and error way of exploring more about that subject.
- Clear your doubts during or after the class.

#UHCL #GoHawks -- Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar
I transferred to UHCL during Summer 2019. I was coming from Texas Tech in Lubbock, TX. I was able to find my pace right away. I’ve had such a great experience with professors and advisors so far. There is one in particular that I cherish: my international advisor Ms. Stephanie Holleran. Whenever I had an issue with something, she’ll always go out of her way to help me and make sure my status remains. These are the type of actions that made me love UHCL even more. Professors are also very nice, and take the time to explain materials to students who approach them. I’ll forever be grateful for my experience here.

Harry Jodelle Kamgaing

I am pursuing a master’s in management information science with UHCL. Studying at UHCL was one of the best decisions I have made. The university has given me the best learning environment. Professors have helped me immensely not only with my studies, but they also used to suggest to us the best places to visit as I was new to the country. The professors have always encouraged me to stay on track and have always motivated me to explore new sections of our courses. Our campus is full of scenic landscapes and beautiful wildlife. I am glad that I am part of such an esteemed university.

-Himani Saxena
In my 2.5 years of dental practice, I realized that to improve the quality of treatment not only excellent treatment is crucial, but also patient’s overall hospital experience plays a significant role. To strengthen
my skills and knowledge in healthcare management, I am pursuing Master’s in Healthcare Administration from the University of Houston - Clear Lake. The attraction to my eyes was tailor programs UHCL is providing since 45 years. UHCL awarded me hawks scholarship as an appreciation for my academic achievements. Moreover, MHA course is taught at Texas Medical Center - the world’s largest Medical Center, the best place to acquire a knowledge of healthcare management. It’s been 6 months now since I came to the USA and so far, my experience is amazing. I am fascinated by how UHCL celebrates many events to stay connected with each other. Also, in this current scenario of COVID-19, UHCL organized virtual programs such as virtual beach party. I admire how Houston is a diverse city in terms of people, culture and food. People are polite and welcoming here. I am learning new skills and growing as a person every day and I am thankful for that.

-Dhruviben Patel
Initially, I thought I would come to the US for 4 years of education and go back to Mali, but it has been 5 years now that I am here. I spent 4 years in Maryland and moved to Houston during the summer 2019 to attend UHCL. I am pursuing a Bachelor in Physics Engineering at UHCL. I feel like it is the best preparation I could get to transfer somewhere else for a Master or Doctorate in a branch of engineering like mechanical or electrical. Additionally, I have met so many people at UHCL and build incredible relationships with my professors. The research and internship opportunities are what I’m the most grateful for. Finally, coming to UHCL gave me the chance to experience one of the best cities in the country. Houston has so much culinary and architectural variety, it feels like you’re taking a trip on each step. I don’t regret the choice of UHCL at all. Go Hawks!

Moulaye Zein Haidara

I came to the United States solely to get an education, but in the six years I have been here, UHCL has contributed to my growth, the faculty and staff have helped make my experience more comfortable. UHCL is not just great when it comes to academics, but they also offer a variety of ways for you to have fun outside of class and relax. They provide student organizations which help students develop their interest and also have fun at the same time while meeting new people. You can also attend events and extracurricular at school with friends. You can also get discounts in a lot of places in Houston using your student id, places like the movie theater, Houston zoo and aquarium.

-Ni’imat Giza
I am pursuing a master's in management information system at the University of Houston - Clear Lake. I have been a student here for less than a year now from spring 2020. I am glad I chose this university. First of all the campus is nice and has everything you need. It has a wellness center with basketball, volleyball, and badminton courts (the building is huge). It is well maintained. They have many weekly events and many student organizations. Academically I am beyond pleased, every professor I’ve had so far have been really good; every office I have gone to for help (financial aid, college of business advising, career services, the office of international admissions, etc), have been extremely helpful and nice, they don’t make you feel like you are an inconvenience. They host many events where they give giveaways like t-shirts, glasses, hats, etc but due to the present situation of COVID-19, most of the events could not be conducted. Still, UHCL made sure to interact and connect with students through webinars #GoHawks#GLS. 

- Divya Shivaprakahan
25 - I have just finished my first semester at UHCL and although it did not finish as I would hope because of the pandemic, the first two months were wonderful. Staff and professors are always giving their best to help students. There also has been a number of events on campus, and they were really fun to attend. Plus, coming to the US has not been just studying all the time. Anyone can still have a lot of fun during winter and summer breaks. From museums to annual events, the US in general and Houston in particular offer so many things to try at least once in your lifetime! In addition, Houston is full of different cuisines from around the world. You can have lunch for example at a Mexican restaurant and then have Vietnamese for dinner, and both can be found near each other.

- Abdallah Mouhamad

I have been a student at University of Houston-Clear Lake past one year and from what I have experienced, I can tell you it is a great school. The teachers are very reasonable and fair. The staff is excellent and the rules help keep the school safe and in order. There is an equal balance of learning and reviewing information so that everyone gets what is to be done and there’s tutoring if we need it. There are many opportunities for UHCL students. I like that UHCL has many activities available for students which will be like a stress buster for students.

-Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar

I am a second year graduate Student in University of Houston-Clear Lake. In my one year of journey with UHCL, nothing has disappointed me whether it is academics wise or resources wise. I think UHCL is known for its resources and events, every resource and event is unique and have a potential to drive students expectations. These are features that can be hardly seen in any other School. Most importantly the wild life on campus shows its interest over conservation of various animal species.

US is regarded as a land of opportunities, besides I would like to say UHCL is a "University of Opportunities". My experience in the USA as well as in most diverse city "Houston" has been wonderful.

- Sumanth Nacharam
It's been a year now since I have entered USA. As an international student I can say that USA is very welcoming country. Living far away from my family was intimidating but UHCL become my family. Not just UHCL but the entire country has a lot of things to offer. Living here had made me a different person now. I have gained many new skills. I have grown as a person. Apart from self improvement, I have experienced travelling to different places like Yosemite, Lake Tahoe, New Orleans, Austin. Apart from travelling, I have made many new friends from different culture, Have shared our experiences and thoughts. I will cherish this phase of my life forever!!! #LifeIsGood!!!!

--Foram Nisar
27 - I completed my bachelors in Automobile engineering and worked for Amazon for 2 years, then in an hunt to pursue my masters, I choose UHCL as my first priority. Currently I am pursuing my masters in Engineering management. I completed my first semester recently and the experience has been one of a kind. Even though in pandemic situation UHCL provided world class knowledge in the subjects, all the professors and the staff at UHCL are very helpful and kind. The international exposure so far has been great. Houston is a very welcoming city. And I am sure that I will get the most forward focused education at UHCL.
- Rohan Khedkar

28 - Hello Everyone and Welcome to my world of possibilities. I am Anupama Dash and I am a current Student Ambassador in UHCL. My life has been a roller coaster ride 2 years back when i prepared my mind to pursue my Masters in US. I had no idea where i would end up but i kept my research on priority and ended up in the perfect school.

I have close to 8 years of professional experience in India as a Business Intelligence Developer with various visualization tools and working for Fortune 500 companies like Wells Fargo-EGS, CGI and GE. I chose to pursue my Masters which will boost up my career miles ahead from where i was standing 2 years back.
Well, I had to go through the same process of GRE and IELTS as an international student but my transition to UHCL was the smoothest, all thanks to the faculties of OIAP who take every student as their responsibility and consider each student as an Asset.

Well, I started my Masters in UHCL in Spring 2020 and had a smooth semester until COVID-19 hit the world. It was the most shocking event of my life which turned my American dream into uncertainty. UHCL helped me to gather my dreams together and made me realize I am not alone, they are with us on this path of Success.

Anupama Dash

29 - I did my bachelor's degree in computer science at UHCL and it was an awesome experience. No wonder UHCL was my number one choice for my graduate studies. I had fallen in love UHCL when I came for open house during my associates degree. I liked computer science program they have. The campus environment was my other big attraction. My transfer to UHCL was so smooth, I was never let down on my expectations. I enjoyed my studies and made so many friends. My first year of graduate school reinforced what I already knew. It has been exciting and rewarding. I would recommend UHCL to anyone who would want to study at a great university with awesome environment!!!

James Yobe
I worked as a software engineer in India for three years and wanted to pursue my future studies in the United States. UHCL was the best choice I have ever made for it because its cutting edge curriculum and friendly professors have made my choices for the future clear and put me on the right path such that it's been a great and exciting journey until at UHCL and made my dream for a great abroad studies come true.

-Sudheer Kumar Nyalam

It has been more than a year since I came to the USA and joined the University of Houston, Clear Lake. UHCL is an awesome place to find yourself. I'm pursuing a master's in Computer Engineering. The faculty and staff in UHCL are very responsible and helpful. They solve our issues very smoothly. I have an amazing experience with UHCL and Houston. There are many activities to participate in UHCL, those activities are like stress busters. The campus is very peaceful to study and spend time. University is providing many resources available for students which helps to gain knowledge. Houston's weather is great, I will be enjoying winter more.

-- Maithri Kodakandla

I studied dentistry from India and practiced as a dentist for three incredible years. The journey was great but deep down I knew something is missing in our healthcare system, so I decided to pursue MHA from UHCL. The choice was clear as UHCL provides the opportunity to learn from the world's largest medical center Texas Medical Center. When I first came to the USA I was very apprehensive about my experiences but now I can say that the campus, the city, and the people are welcoming. The campus is a peaceful place to study and enjoy life. People in Houston are diverse in many ways and especially the food culture here is really rich. Different associations of students come forward to help you to navigate your life at UHCL and they really make you feel home. I love how this experience of staying in Houston...
and studying at UHCL has made me more open and less apprehensive towards new experiences. I love how this place has made me feel and for that, I will forever be grateful.

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

I hold a bachelor’s in mechanical engineering and have worked for three years in various domains as a mechanical engineer and material specialist in Dubai. I was looking for a program that provides managerial skills backed by the technical aspect and came across Engineering Management. UHCL offers the perfect curriculum which I was looking for. It has been 6 months since I am enrolled at UHCL and nothing has disappointed me. I think I have made the best decision by choosing UHCL for pursuing my graduate studies. The campus has everything to offer for an international student. The well-equipped labs and library, recreation center, and the various services offered by University. I have finished the first semester and it was fascinating studying at UHCL. The faculty is very capable and motivated. I look forward to being proud alumni of UHCL. Houston is a great place to live with a lot of diversity and cultural experiences.

-Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed
I have been in the United states for a year now, UHCL has played a major role in shaping my idea and perspective of not only Houston, Texas but also the country as a whole. There are a wide range of Clubs and activities to be done on the campus. The Recreational center is pretty good too. In Houston you can get many student discounts if inquired properly. The wildlife on campus shows its interest over conservation of various animal species. Houston is one of the cities to have the most diverse culture and I consider myself to be grateful that I could be a part of it.

-Steve Fernandes
I am actually doing my MBA with a concentration in Finance at UHCL. I have been in the United States for three amazing years. I am the first person in my family to be in USA and being a student at UHCL is a great opportunity for me. My roommate convinced me to choose this University because it is a good one, she said they have many opportunities for students like scholarships, internships and so on. What I like the most about UHCL is the fact that Classes are not full which give students the chance to interact with professors. Houston is a beautiful city and UHCL is the right place to study.

--Aida Ncho
Coming to UHCL in spring 2020 there aren’t many experiences for me to share at UHCL. But from what I have seen I can say that UHCL has pretty decent Labs, a very good recreational centre and diverse clubs to organise events. Even in this pandemic UHCL empathized with students especially the international students and came up with some great schemes to help us. Be it the Summer Institute 2020, Hawk Emergency funds, providing electronics and providing mental support. I am grateful for all of those who came up with these plans to help international students. Proud to be a part of UHCL.

-Chakravarthi Thooutreddy
I am pursuing a master's in Engineering Management at the University of Houston - Clear Lake. It’s about one year since I have entered the USA and UHCL. It was an amazing one year that I have ever experienced in my life. The campus of UHCL is really beautiful and when you coming to school you think you are in a wonderful jungle with various wildlife. You can see the deer’s around the campus early in the morning and also around the fountain! There are a lot of international students who are studying at UHCL from four corners of the world that means you can find many different associations and events at UHCL. For me, Houston city is a wonderful place for experiencing new foods. There are a lot of international restaurants in Houston which means you need years to experience all of them!

#GoHawks#GLS
***Ali Beheshti***

I am a sophomore at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, pursuing a Bachelors in business and embarking on a journey of self development and learning. Going into university-life was a very drastic change for me and my first few months back in the states was pretty shocking, it all went smoothly after being able to meet the wonderful staff and advisors at our school. It became especially smooth when I got to know fellow students that are also studying in the same field and share the same interests as me. My transition from being a high school student living at home to an independent college student happened naturally thanks to the amazing people that surround me at UHCL. There is nothing else that can describe the unique experiences that I have had at UHCL and those experiences has taught me how to take on tasks and adapt in a more efficient manner. With the beautiful campus surrounded by beautiful scenery, with well maintained equipment and supplies, UHCL truly is a perfect campus. I hope UHCL suits you as much as it suits me.

I am a second-year graduate student at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. In my one year of journey with UHCL, nothing has disappointed me whether it is academics wise or resources wise. I think UHCL is known for its resources and events, every resource and event is unique and has the potential to drive student’s expectations. Academically I am beyond pleased, every professor I’ve had so far have been really good; every office I have gone to for help (financial aid, college of business advising, career services, the office of international admissions, etc), have been extremely helpful and nice, they don’t make you feel like you are an inconvenience. There are many activities to participate in UHCL, those activities are like stress busters. The campus is very peaceful to study and spend time with. University is providing many resources available for students which helps to gain knowledge. Houston’s weather is great, I will be enjoying winter more.

-Harshith Sathyaprakash

#TheChoiceIsClear

- Duc Le
It's been a year I came to the USA to pursue a master’s in management information systems at UHCL. With my professional experience, I was able to strengthen my technical skills and understand a little bit on software development life cycle but I would like to enhance my knowledge on program design and system architecture so I decided to pursue my masters in MIS which has a complete blend of technical and managerial course and UHCL seemed to be the best fit. The faculty and staff are very helpful, and they guide the students in every way possible. UHCL is full of opportunities and it provides on-campus jobs, scholarships, student organizations, activities, and events. I am overwhelmed with the resources and services they provide to the students. There are many student organizations that encourage students to build their professional skills. University campus is pleasant as it is surrounded by beautiful nature. Houston is a great place for international students to live because of its diverse culture, food, and people. So far, I had a great experience studying at UHCL in Houston and I would strongly recommend UHCL future aspirants.

- Initha

Annamalai Sharavanan
It's been close to a year since I came to the United States to pursue Masters at UHCL. The environment here is sociable and many of my classmates have become friends. I additionally like that Houston is the most secure spot to stay and live and the best thing about UHCL is you meet such a large number of people who are having similar experiences. - **Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu**
"A place to create your future. A wonderful environment to learn, work, and have fun.

My university has made my life here easy and comfortable.

Thanks for being there for us."

#UHCL #CSE

- Kranthi Ramasayam
When you start to make your future plans on your own without following the Mundane routine your community people follow, you will have so many doubts and questions whether this is a proper plan or goal, you will need something to reassure you that what you have chosen is correct. That “something” should have all the aspects to pillar your dream, the point when you start making your plans come true, you will know that you have made the right choice. UHCL is that “something” for me, a 5-month stay in the United States of America has taught me a lot, personally coming to UHCL is out of my comfort zone, but after seeing the Houston weather, the academics offered and especially the beautiful campus I am now Comfortable. #TakeTheStep

-Arvindhakshan Valagurunathan

I chose to study in the US for several reasons. The most important one was that I knew the education I would receive was not only what I could learn from the textbook and in class, but also the dots I could connect with the real world professional fields. The culture here and the way people approach a problem in the US are very different than my home country, and I thought I could also learn to use an alternative method or a totally different perspective to look at things. And by doing so, it could possibly help me get to a better and more well-rounded solution when facing a problem in the future. #USA - Himaja Muppavarapu
I am a Second year graduate student in software engineering at University of Houston-Clear Lake. I like the fact that the student to faculty ratio is 14:1, and can easily mingle with professors for an in-person experience. I have learned many new ideas and skills coming from highly experienced professors. The library is of more significant help! The environment here is friendly, and it is known for its diverse student groups. It encourages students to participate in many events and also helps to improve their professional skills.

-Vyshnavi Itapu
My name is Thao Tran – an international student from Viet Nam. I have just finished my MBA program in May 2020 and I will be pursuing a Master of Information Systems program for the Fall 2020 semester at UHCL.

I enjoy organizing, arranging flowers, spending time with my family and friends, and travelling. One of the reasons I came to the US to continue studying is to fulfill my travelling desire to discover new things, places and broaden my horizon.

To me, UHCL is a great school surrounded by a beautiful and tranquil landscape. What I like most about UHCL is small class sizes leading to more one-on-one interaction with professors and classmates.

The importance of networking as an international student for future enhancement and tips on how to do it effectively while studying at UHCL.

Networking is the best way to acquire valuable advice. It will always be an important way to enhance our careers. Networking is vital as it allows you to connect with experienced professionals and build a knowledge base for the transition from student to professional.

University is an incredible spot to start building a strong network of individuals that can assist you with your future career path. It is important to improve our professional development on campus.
Joining LinkedIn, maintaining a good profile on it, attending Job fairs in the university, networking with seniors help us a lot to fabricate our future way.

Don't hesitate to ask if we don't ask we don't get it. It's always okay to make the first move.

University's career center is of great help; they guide us to explore different ways to improve our job prospects.

Talk to professors; they give us some valuable advice on our career.

#IHeartUHCL #GoHawks

Vyshnavi Itapu

Networking for an international student in the US is probably the most important thing. As strangers in this country, we don't always get the same opportunities and not everybody is open to different culture. Therefore, networking is a way to broadcast your behavior, your culture, thus giving the opportunity to others to appreciate you for who you are. I personally have had an internship opportunity through networking at UHCL.

Tips on how to practice networking at UHCL:

- students should get involved in one or more organization
- Students should sign up for volunteering around the campus
- Students should find a job on campus if possible. A job will permit you to meet people in charge and give you access to well-known professors, chairmen and more.
- Students should attend all career fairs. This is very important. You are able to meet business' owners, and recruiters who can help you once you’re looking for a job or an internship.

By Harry Jodelle Kamgaing

Networking is a tool that students can use to meet different people who pose similar interests. It's not necessarily that we should network for job opportunities, you can network even to find similar interest people. As an international student, you will have to break the cultural barrier and interact to show that you also have something to bring to the table. You will also develop your knowledge, get new information, and most importantly meet new people. Some tips for effective networking:

1. Student Organisations and Campus involvement are excellent sources for networking, you will learn so many things, meet people in your organizations. There are more than 100 student organizations in UHCL focusing on different interests, a valuable platform for networking.

2. Network for learning and growing together, hence avoid sales pitches during networking. The idea is to get the conversation started. People are more apt to partner with – people whose company they enjoy.

3. Professional networking will help you grow in your academics and career, people who network with their classmates, professors, and experts in their fields can grow professionally. A fresh out
of the college student and a person with more experience will need different types of
networking as well. UHCL career services are a great source for us to get started.

"Networking is more about farming than it is about Hunting"

-Aravindhakshan Valagurunathan

One of the greatest ways to connect with other human beings is through networking. As an international
student, it’s crucial to identify these fantastic opportunities and build a strong supportive diverse
network. After all, that’s why we are traveling to another country. Networking could be of two types:
Social and Business. Both have their positive factors and help in personal and professional growth. In
other words, chatting with new people and exchanging intellectual ideas helps to boost confidence,
expand knowledge and allow to see things from other’s perspective. Professional networks will help to
advance in career and sometimes a dream job. We are living in Houston which is famous for its diverse
population so why don’t we grab that opportunity and make a diverse network. After all, you never know
who might help you in the future.

Here are a few tips which will help to expand the network while studying at UHCL:

• First and foremost, communicate with your faculties. Here at UHCL, we have great faculties who
are always active to guide and support us. Simple routine things can also leave a good
impression of yours such as always greet them, be regular at classes or appointments, try to
interact with them.

• Make new friends - A new semester means new opportunities to get out of your comfort zone
and try new things. Try to exchange phone numbers and wish them on festivals, birthdays.

• Become an active member of UHCL community - UHCL has a range of different associations. Be
a part of your interested field.

• Attend career fairs - UHCL organized career fairs to establish connections between employers
and students which will help students to get jobs. So, try to attend all career fairs.

• I cannot emphasize more to create a Linkedin profile. It offers s terrific platform to showcase
and share ideas, skills and knowledge.

-Dhruviben Patel
Networking is IMPORTANT whether it is in your educational level or professional level. To keep it short lets know why it is important?

- It makes you noticeable
- Good for new opportunities
- It improves the creative intellect
- Support from high profile individuals
- Long lasting relationship and development in profile

As a student we need to be keeping in touch of our seniors and professors and all within our range and most importantly keeping the LinkedIn profile updated.

--Anupama Dash

Networking as an international student is very important.

Get to know and stay connected with your classmates, roommates and organizations on campus to help you build and strengthen personal and professional relationships.

You need to participate in various activities that are carried out in college in that way you will get an opportunity to interact with students or faculty of different departments.

Find open internships or jobs posted by alumni, get tips on how to build your online presence, participate in a mock job interview, and learn about upcoming job fairs.

Especially if you are one of the first generations, networking is going to make a huge Difference

--Steve Fernandes

Networking is important throughout life and not just for international students but for each individual. Networking teaches many things like how to communicate with people?, How to be kind?, How to help others and how can we seek help from someone?. Networking is not a waste of time but investment of time. Many doors gets open through networking as people starts to know you better. They starts to know what can you bring to the table. It will help you get good Internships, Jobs, develop your skills.
Some of the tips I would like to share is start going to social events where you meet people, start going on meetups, talk to your batch mates or class mates, make new friends, talk to your seniors, alumni, professors, connect to people on LinkedIn. Eventually, chasing opportunities to connect with industry leaders and professionals with different interests and perceptions is important for your career growth. "Your network is your net worth." -- Porter Gale

-Foram Nisar

Networking is essential for our personal development and career success. Interacting with people from different backgrounds, ages, cultures, and nationalities broadens our horizon in some ways. Networking is a chance to improve our communication skills by starting conversations, to learn about people from different walks of life, and to build and strengthen personal and professional relationships with people around us. Especially for business and career, networking skills play a crucial role in our professional success. Besides developing and enhancing our skills, networking gives us access to multiple resources to foster our career development. Having a good connection with a wide range of people will increase our chances of getting referrals and job opportunities.

There are some networking tips that you can apply while studying at UHCL:

- Build connections with your professors and classmates: Besides assisting to resolve any academic issues or difficulties, they will help you with recommendation letters or refer you to an on-campus position or a job offer that you will never know.

- Get involved on campus: Get to know and stay connected with your classmates, roommates and organizations on campus to help you build and strengthen personal and professional relationships.

- Attend job fairs: Attending job fairs can help you in your career search. They allow you the opportunity to meet one on one with company representatives, helping you make professional connections.

- Thao Tran

Networking as an international student is very important. The connections you make at college can be a great resource to help succeed both in your studies and career.

1. Build a decent LinkedIn profile during the first semester and start searching for internships. Reach out to the companies, be presentable and professional. You can also try searching the alumni of the University or the people from your potential field.

2. Referrals are definitely taken into consideration when providing you with a job in the United States. A referral can be achieved when there are people who have trust in you, specifically in the professional network. It is definitely important to have good professional and personal networks to have a better chance of success.

*In this age of internet social media plays a key role in building a network LinkedIn is the best platform where you can find a plethora of connections that will help you to find the job you looking for.*

- Harshith Sathyaprakash
When you travel to the US to complete your degree, it is important to grow your professional network as a student on campus. Sometimes, socializing will lead to professional networking and even a Potential Job.

1. **Start on Your Campus:** Your school is a perfect place to begin as many other students have common interests and will likely be in the same classes as you. Make sure you engage in school events like career fairs or resume critique workshops.

2. **The Technology Era:** Nowadays, your phone or computer is a crucial piece of equipment for everyday life. We share messages and pictures instantly with millions of people around the world. To begin your professional development, a great tool to use is LinkedIn

3. **Professional Networking:**
   - **Career goals:** Before attending events, make a list of your career goals and be able to talk about them. Even if they are not clear, networking events will provide you with roads you haven’t heard of before. Be flexible about how to achieve your goals
   - **Follow up:** You’re likely to encounter many people at networking events and exchange information. A great idea is to write things that will help you remember the person you just spoke within the back of their business card. After the event, make sure you send them a quick email or letter about your conversation.

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**Shivaprakashan**

Networking, what is it? It is the action or process of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts. To put it simply it just means to expand and connect with people to form a larger circle.

Though it may sound difficult, networking is not complicated at all whatsoever. Here are some tips on how to naturally increase your business circle and build connections to benefit you in the future.

- **Attend Events:** It is essential to meeting new people, you have to be active in the community and attend the events that are held regularly in the university or in the area in general. Most of UHCL's events are packed with potential employers and business partners for you in the future. Though it may seem like a hassle to come to every single event, the return however is being able to meet people who can not only guide you but help you with your career path no matter what the event is about.

- **Be Social and Outgoing:** This is pretty self explanatory but if you are outgoing and speak to a lot of people, you are bound to find someone that shares the same career mindset as you.

- **Speak UP:** Voice your opinions and talk to people, connections are not going to make themselves.
It may seem like I am stating the obvious but not very many people are doing the obvious, once you start realizing that there is no harm in trying to connect, you will start to naturally build your network easily.

- Duc Le

“Networking has been cited as the number one unwritten rule of success in business. Who you know really impacts what you know.” -- Sallie Krawcheck

The above statement tells us the importance of networking to become successful. It is considered as an important factor to fetch a job.

We need to establish new relations with other people to develop our network. By networking you are always in contact with the person who has knowledge and experience in the professional world and you are definitely be going to be benefited with it.

Networking is a complete asset as far as fetching a job is considered.

Here are few tips on how to build your network:

**Join student communities:** You need to participate in various activities that are carried out in college in that way you will get an opportunity to interact with students or faculty of different departments.

**Get to know your professors:** Student must be constantly in touch with the professors. Their reference letter or recommendation letter holds a great importance.

**Reach out to the campus career center:** Find open internships or jobs posted by alumni, get tips on how to build your online presence, participate in a mock job interview, and learn about upcoming job fairs. Even if you aren’t actively looking for a job right now, it can't hurt to stop by these job fairs. Shake hands with company representatives, pass your resume around, have conversations, learn what's going on in your industry, and see where your potential future lies.

The sooner you start networking, the better your chances are of connecting with someone who'll help give you a little job-search boost later on.

-- Rohan Khedkar.

As an International student who is pursuing a degree with the hopes of joining the workforce, networking with people is very important. I believe your network is as important as the skills you learn from school because nine times out of ten people get job interviews based on recommendation or word to mouth. Here are a few ways you can start to network with more people. The first and easiest starts with making friends with your classmates; they may have heard about an opportunity and share with you. Also always make a good impression with all your professors and try to build a relationship with them, because they can become your mentors and even help you with job hunting. Another way I will recommend is using LinkedIn to search for UHCL alumni that work at companies you wish to work at,
connect them to help you get an interview for the role you have applied. You can also find people in your professional field on LinkedIn who might be willing to mentor and help you. Make use of the Career fairs that UHCL offers every semester, try to keep in connect with the company recruiters. Always be friendly and cordial because you never know who can help you.

-Ni’imat Giza

Networking plays a crucial role in the growth of international student life both professionally and personally, although networking is very easy to start it results in great opportunities after your graduation I believe it acts as a catalyst for the professional life it will make the path of the student easier in joining new organizations and it is very important to start networking in college. considering various surveys companies nowadays hiring employees based on references more than any other source.

A lot of students have confusion about how and where to start the networking I suggest you can start building network during your everyday activities like engaging with professors and classmates

Getting involved in the campus student organizations and clubs is another opportunity to build a strong network where you meet people having a wide variety of ideas like starting a startup

In this age of internet social media plays a key role in building a network LinkedIn is the best platform where you can find a plethora of connections that will help you to find the job you looking for.

--------------------- Sudheer Godugu--

Coming from outside the country, the one thing I realized was ‘Build Connections, Build relations’. Networking helps us to gain knowledge about the fields which might help us in our prospective career. Networking is a great way of connecting with others and also helps us to create opportunities after college. It helps us getting referrals as well as to know the culture of a new country, it provides us the information so that we can adapt ourselves to the new environment.

UHCL provides us with great opportunities to build a network on the campus. They organize job fairs where students get the opportunities to get connected with the employers which helps them to find jobs in the future.

Himani Saxena
Networking as an international student is very important. The connections you make at college can be a great resource to help succeed both in your studies and career.

As an international student, being in a new country and environment can be daunting. You will need to have some network as a support structure to help you navigate the system. The connections I have made from college have greatly help me in my studies and when I was looking for a job for my undergraduate OPT.

Start networking at college by having study buddies, professors, mentors and coaches who can be part of your support structure. Being involved with student's organizations can greatly help you create networks.

You also have to set your goals ahead for your career after graduation. Attend job fairs and send your resume out. If there are opportunities for internships, use them to build your resume. Build your online professional presence on multiple platforms like linkedin and other platforms to sell yourself early and showcase your achievement while you are still studying.

To have an enriching and successful international student experience, it is all about networking!!

-Jame Yobe

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To have an enriching and successful international student experience, it is all about networking!!

-Jame Yobe

1. As an International student we need to understand that Networking and technical Skills play a vital role in achieving our goals. During job hunt most of us visit online job boards and apply for nearly 500-600 companies and end up with 5-6 interviews. Here's where networking plays a key role, we need to build our contacts by reaching out to recruiters, managers or any person who can help us get an interview in their company. Make sure you participate in all school events like career fairs or or resume critique workshops, that's where you meet a lot of new people who could help you land in your dream job or guide you. Create a LinkedIn account at the very beginning of your semester, make connections with people in the same industry reach out to them tell them what excites you about the job role, impress them with your skills. As an international student we keep visiting our home country we encounter many people when you travel from and to the United States. Speak with people build your network have a normal chat with them tell them about your career goals and interests.
In short, if you want to be successful in the United States **BUILD YOUR NETWORK.**

#Careers #Jobhunt #Networking

-Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar

Referrals are taken into consideration when providing you with a job in the United States. A referral can be achieved when there are people who have trust in you, specifically in the professional network. It is definitely important to have good professional and personal networks to have a better chance of success.

Networking is part of our daily lives. We always meet new people intentionally or unintentionally. Being in a place where you barely know someone is hard. So as an International student, the best thing to do is to be connected to other students, professors, advisors, employers etc. While studying at UHCL, I advise you to:

- **Have your classmates' phone number** and try to stay connected to them, because you never know who can help you in the future.

- **Be a friendly person**. Even if you are introverted like me, try to talk to other students (International students, American students and Alumni students). It does not matter if you have the same course of study or not. Maybe they know someone that can help you.

- **Connect and talk to your professors, participate in class and try to have good grades**. If one day you need a reference letter, they will be happy to help you because they know you and they know what you are capable of.

- **Stay connected to your on-campus employers** because you also need professional references.

- **Contact the career services** if you need help with your resume.

- **Attend career fairs** by bringing your resume, dress professionally, try to communicate with many employers and make sure they remember your name by sending them a thank you letter the following day if you can.
Remember UHCL is here to help us achieve our goals for example they give us the opportunity to create a professional account online where companies can see our resume.

Be yourself, trust yourself and #GoHawks!

--Aida Ncho

Being an international student, Networking will help you improve your career opportunities, helps you to choose a career path, provide new perspectives and insight, help you to realize your goals both professionally and personally, and helps you stand out in a good way. College is the best place to start building connections and it’s never too early to start. Attend all the events in the college so that you get to meet new students and faculty from different fields. Join alumni associations and get in touch with like-minded people or people from your field of study, who might refer you to employers or clients. Connect with your professors, they can guide you in choosing your career path. Use LinkedIn and other social media effectively and improve your professional relationships by finding people with similar interests or work experience as you. Take advantage of professional networking groups and clubs on campus, join student organizations which will help you to build professional skills. Be in touch with people you already know.

The best way to improve your networking skills is to put yourself out there and give it a try!!

#UHCL#GoHawks

- Initha Sharavanan

As an international student, networking and getting contacts is a must. Networking not only aids in improving your future career opportunities, but also builds your personality. It is better to start networking during your first two years in college and to have references for future job interviews. Always reach out to your professors and academic advisors, for they can guide you in the correct path. Plus, start attending job fair events at the university, because numerous people attend them, and some of those people might be looking for interns in their institutions.

- Abdallah Mouhamad

Networking plays an important role in your success after graduation. It is one of the most powerful career-building tools. You need to socialize with the people around you. Start building your connections from the classroom. There will be students from various backgrounds and professional experiences. You never know some connections might lead to career opportunities. You can start interacting with them and make new friends. Also, being an international student provides an opportunity to build relationships with people across the world.

Build a decent LinkedIn profile during the first semester and start searching for internships. Reach out to the companies, be presentable and professional. You can also try searching the alumni of the University
or the people from your potential field. You can try contacting them through LinkedIn. Get involved on in the campus. There are many ways to be involved on campus like student clubs, professional groups, and avail the services offered by career services.

-Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed

Personal networking includes the people that are close to you and also relate to your daily life. In professional network, it's hard to keep old contacts alive and you need to put some efforts, you need to meet them if they live far away greet them for holidays and reach out to them when there is any change in your professional life like getting a new job or change in position. By keeping your contacts and maintaining the relationship you automatically expand your network.

UHCL can be the starting point of your professional network. Your network must include professors along with the students and coworkers. You have to demonstrate your stuff to professors and make them know you have scope for development and are easy to work with.

Start your networking now. Put some effort.

- Kranthi Ramasayam

As the book title by Porter Gale goes, "your network is your net worth", there is nothing more important than networking especially as an international student. First, building a wide network will allow you access to some exclusive opportunities. For instance, my roommate got his position in the president's department at UHCL through his relationship with someone that works there. Secondly, by having a large network, you can save a lot of time climbing up organizations and avoiding mistakes along the way. For example, by knowing the right people, you can have promotions much quicker if you have the capacities on top of that. People always trust more what they are familiar with.

Now let us look at some tips on how to network as an international student:

- **Connect with other international students.** It is the easiest way to make not only your first friends in college, but probably some of your lifelong colleagues for the future. However, be careful to not fall into the trap of just connecting with international students because it is easier since you have the commonality of being from abroad.

- **Connect with classmates and professors.** It will improve your grades and give you many opportunities for internships and jobs.

- **Go to job fairs.** It is the fastest way to meet a good number of different companies' representatives. Then the rest is up to you to connect with what company attracts our interests.

- **Make it your responsibility to connect with others.** Be it professionally or casually, make it a virtue to take responsibility on the connections your building. Do not just stay neutral and numb then hope that something will spark up out of thin air or await for them to do the whole interaction. Become a more interesting and attractive person as a whole so people are pleased when they encounter you.

Those were my takeaways on network building as an international student. I hope it helps someone. - Moulaye Zein Haidara
"Networking" is like advertising your skill set to the world and more importantly in the US it is mandatory to have due to heavy competition. The outside world do not know that you have good writing pen unless you show it or sell it. Especially for an international students it is important to build up "Network" because they are new to this country and they might take some time to settle down here, in fact Networking makes your job very easy. One has to mark the difference being in the US than in their own country.

Some short notes on "how to build your network".

1. **Campus**: Campus is the first and best place to start with, the reason is you can find people related to your interest and profession.

2. **Job fairs**: Job fairs are other important platform where you get opportunity to meet officials of the company. Know about the companies, follow the company in linked in, see the products and projects that the company is working on that helps to draw attention of employer.

3. **Conferences**: In every field there are research works going on all the time, take time to look at it and try to participate in those related conferences that boosts up your confidence and prepare you for the interviews.

4. **Linked-in**: Social Media plays a crucial role in letting the employers to know your skills and network. Therefore, make a habit of building our Linked-in profile as it is equally important as building a network.

5. **Visiting other Universities**: No one stops you to go other University to know their research work, there are some programs which allow students from other universities to participate, utilize that opportunity and explore this place as much as you can.

--- Sumanth Nacharam

**Networking is key to succeed professionally or academically to gather as much information as possible and to get help when in need. Participate in campus activities to have fun, gain leadership and team working skills. Networking is essential for your career in the United States. As an international students, it’s important to take advantage of opportunities to meet people and build your support network. Often, you are likely to get a job with someone you know rather than simply applying to many different jobs. Building relationships will help you develop as a professional and help you achieve your goals.**

*Networking #InternationalStudents - Himaja Muppavarapu*

Networking as an international students is one of the most important things needed to be done with the academics as the research suggest around 90% of jobs are allocated based on the networking only so as the international student making some valuable contacts is a must and mandatory aspect of the student life.

The Important measures can be taken for networking at UHCL:

- Maintain a good LinkedIn profile and update the LinkedIn profile often contact the carrier services and take a professional photo and update all the details they suggested and start contacting people and make some good contacts over LinkedIn.
• Contact some important people in your areas of interest and make the your mentors to guide you post studies.

• Attend major carrier fares and talk to the representatives from the organisations and submit the resumes.

• Gather all the contacts and mutual friends in your desires fields and let them know your interests and job prospective be in touch with them all the time

• Attend all the events conducted by carrier services at UHCL

As an International student using the OPT time is really important and crucial for our total carrier graph so networking is a major thing which make the transition from university to professional life easy.

#GoHawks #UHCL - Sudheer Kumar Nyalam

Try not to confine yourself to professors from your current classes. On the off chance that there's someone in your area of expertise who you think may have the option to offer career advice or assist you with getting a job, get in touch with them. You don't have anything to lose by sending them a friendly email and asking to arrange a time to meet casually and chat about your career path.

In spite of the fact that teachers and professionals are significant assets for advising, individuals who are only a couple of years out of college have a new point of view on strategies for getting a job and may have associations with recruiters at their organization. Whenever conceivable, meet with your seniors.

LinkedIn is an extraordinary method to find and keep in contact with professional contacts, so guarantee you make an active attempt to keep your profile up to date. Strengthen your networking during college life itself. - Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu

"Communication—the human connection—is the key to personal and career success." — Paul J. Meyer

Networking is a great way to connect with others in and out of your field and create opportunities for yourself at college and in the future. For all the new students who get admission to graduate schools, networking is critical for both, personal growth and career progress.

when you travel to the US to complete your degree, it is important to grow your professional network as a student on campus. There are two types of networking: Social and Business. Both are very important as it is a way to create a support system for both personal and professional development. Social networking or socialization tends to be less intimating for international students. Sometimes, socializing will lead to professional networking and even a potential job.

It helps you in improving communication skills, knowledge gaining is also a silent benefit.

Here are some tips for networking:

• Start speaking with your classmates and improve your network with them and keep in touch with them.

• Participate in the events in the university so that you will find new people over there.

• Be helpful to others.
• Maintain a good relationship with professors and academic advisors.

-- Maithri kodakandla

Having a well established network is important to any one especially to a student. The easiest way to expand your network is to build on the relationships with people you know.

Regularly Communicate with the people in your network (Friends, Staff, Teachers) face-face. Attending events organized by the university also helps in meeting people and establishing a rapport.

If you want it to be you that everyone knows, thinks of and recommends, you have to be a good networker and be comfortable building relationships.

-Chakravarthi Thoutreddy
Nowadays networking plays a significant role in our life. Whatever you expanding your contacts, it can open doors to new opportunities for future business and personal growth. The important part of making a new network is getting fresh ideas. Your network can be an appropriate source of new prospects and ideas which help you following your goal. As an international student, when you come to a new country there are a lot of questions on your mind so, you need some knowledgeable people who can help and guide you. Fortunately, at UHCL there are a lot of departments and advisors in which you can get some advice from experienced personnel. Also, it is essential to:

- **Connect with classmates and professors**
- **Regularly contact the career service**
- **Participate in events and assassination as you can to find good contacts**
- **keep in touch with your major’s advisor at least once per month**
- **Help other students and special new ones**
- **Keep up to date your Linkedin profile**

**Ali Beheshti**

Networking comes easily to humans as we are all social creatures but professional networking is not something that comes easily. As an international student, I can’t stress enough how crucial it is for one’s career. Here are some of my learnings that may not be perfect but might help you.

- **Get professional help from a career for your resume and Linkedin profile.** Tell them your goal and ask for specific suggestions or doubts.
- **Update information on LinkedIn and resume very frequently and make LinkedIn connections as much as you can.**
• Meet new people. Do not miss a single chance to socialize. Keep in touch, exchange numbers, follow on social media. Also, take a genuine interest in people, and in their stories, do not just fake it for networking.

• Help people whenever possible. That’s how you can make strong and meaningful connections.

• Volunteer whenever possible: to hospital, to church, on campus, charity works, etc. It might not give you the next connections you need but it will definitely improve your communication skill and will make you more open as a person.

• Attend all events on campus. Make new friends and let your network know what your goals are.

• Never forget to ask for help. That is the best thing you can do to yourself.

Networking- the most crucial thing for an international student because everything needs to be taken care of by themselves after moving abroad for studies. As an international student, I believe the following tips can help in building a great network in student life:

- Interact with professors and express your career aspirations and goals. Participate and contribute in the classroom lectures. Maintain the rapport. A reference from a profession will always help.

- Join student organisations and socialize yourself. This way you can get chance meet and work with many people automatically increases your network.

- Talk to your fellow classmates, get to know about their career interests and make friends with them.

- Speak to your seniors and get to know about their experiences.

- Volunteer to work for free which gives a good opportunity to get work experience but also builds a network.

Sushma Koneru
36 - I am a Graduate Computer Science student at UHCL. It’s been almost an year since I joined the Hawk community and started living in Houston. The environment here at UHCL is very encouraging, career-driven, helping while friendly and fun atmosphere. I have made many friends through various campus activities organized by several student organisations at UHCL. I would definitely say Houston is one of the best places to live in considering the opportunities, diversity and cost of living (which is an important factor for an international student). Thanks to the UHCL’s faculty and staff who have been a part of my journey at UHCL, for always making our lives easier with their support. I am looking forward to creating memories before graduating from UHCL which I would cherish for life.

-Sushma Koneru

Share your most recent worry or concern and how you will overcome them.

My most recent concern is about rapidly growing COVID-19 cases in Houston.

The other issue was the recent ICE guidance which stated that all international students who are taking a full semester online must depart the US. I was really worried about what to do??! I was baffled. But UHCL has come up with measures and helped us a lot.

Challenges will always be there, especially as an international student, it is how we choose to address the challenges to shape our international experience that will matter at the end.

- Divya Shivaprakshan
My number one concern with everything going on in the world right now is with the job market. Also, managing my student visa status, the past couple of weeks was no less than a roller coaster because of the new immigration rule.

Second, The SEVP (Student and Exchange Visitor Program) modifies temporary exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online courses during the Fall 2020 semester meaning that F-1 and M-1 Students with valid visas would be forced to leave the United States if their University was not offering in-person Classes. I have come to U.S to study on campus and classroom and would be more than happy if the university gets back to face to face classes. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we had no other choice but to enroll in an online class. However, UHCL has come up with excellent bimodal delivery of classes which would help the students to overcome their concerns.

-Harshith Sathyaprakash

The most recent worry I’ve had is COVID-19. First, it destabilized the whole economical balance. Not being able to work anymore since March was very exhausting financially. Secondly, the fact that we had social distancing obligations to keep public safety negatively affected my routine and social life. For instance, I would stay home whole weeks without seeing anybody or hangout with friends. Finally, the fear of loosing someone to the illness was an unbearable thought.

- Moulaye Zein Haidara

My most recent worry was COVID-19. I believe I contracted it from my sister with whom I live. I’ve been experiencing shortness of breath, headaches, extreme fatigue and fever. My parents back home have been extremely scared. I missed a final because of that and I might even fail the class. How I’m planning to overcome it, I’ve emailed the Dean and my advisor about the situation and hopefully we will find a solution. As for my health, I just took thylenol and after a few days, it started getting better.

By Harry Jodelle Kamgaing

My number one concern with everything going on in the world right now is with the job market, I’m about to graduate in the Fall semester and due to COVID-19 employment opportunity isn’t looking too promising. Another concern I have is the uncertainty, due to my nature as a person who likes to plan everything out and somewhat have everything under control, it makes me feel so powerless, and that gives me terrible anxiety. But I have taken up running to help me clear my mind and try to stay more positive. I’m also considering therapy thanks to UHCL counseling services I have the the option for that too.

-Ni’imat Giza

My most recent concern is of course regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic, due to the many outbreaks and increasing cases throughout the states, it is making it harder and harder for me to be able to not worry about my wellbeing and how stressful it must be for my parents. Especially because I am studying abroad alone and it is even harder to imagine how they must be thinking about me.
How I will overcome this, time will tell but for now I will remain hopeful and stay indoors and keep living life.

-Duc Le

My most recent worry deals with the career opportunities that are getting affected because of the pandemic. Leaving everything from the own country and coming here for studies with a hope of achieving something big is definitely getting hampered. Staying hopeful and positive is very much important. And UHCL plays an important role in doing all possible things to understand and help the students in all possible ways.

---Anupama Dash

Moving away from our home country to pursue a Master's degree is quite challenging, I had to move out of my comfort zone to consider this and it can be a difficult decision. But the dreams we have can only be achieved outside that zone, which motivated me to take the decision of pursuing a Master’s degree in the United States. I faced a lot of issues but was tackling all of them one by one, and now I am in this challenging situation because of the current global pandemic. This has made me worried as all the classes were moved to Online, there is also a concern about the job market.

During this time, UHCL is being very supportive of students, they made sure that the students are still getting the services they get from the University such as career services, health services, and so on. They also bought Bimodal learning where students can still get the face to face class experience. I believe this is really helping me overcome the concern I have of this global pandemic.

Hopefully, this situation will get over soon and we can resume our daily life as I really miss the beautiful university campus view and the classes.

-Arvindhakshan Valagurunathan

I always believed that obstacles help us to be a better version of ourselves and unprecedented events of the past few months made my belief strong. Everything happened so fast be it spread of COVID-19 or new immigration law for F-1 and M-1 international students. To be honest, I was concerned about health issues, financial burdens, and maintaining lawful F-1 status. But to my amaze, every time UHCL came up with the innovative solutions for all barriers such as providing summer-20 virtual institute, Bimodal courses, mental health seminars, online webinars to stay connected and spread knowledge. All these taught me to look at the bright side and stay positive.

#UHCLForever #Staysafe

-Dhruviben Patel

I came to a new country leaving my family and friends almost 9000 miles away and that was scary for me initially. Also, my undergrad was in Accounts and Business Management so one of the biggest concern was how will I understand my course work as I wanted to study MIS which is completely
opposite. I remember my first programming lecture and professor told a word “Syntax” and I did not know what does that meant. I googled it. All other students who were with me they had little or more technical knowledge. I panicked almost entire semester. I started putting extra efforts towards my studies. I knew that other students might understand the course work maybe in 5 hours but for me it will take 10 hours. I kept practicing each and every day and slowly my confidence was build and this way I overcame my concern. There is no substitute for hard work!! Work hard and smart and keep practicing each day!!

- Foram Nisar

As an international student who just started his junior year at UHCL, I was worried of the change into full online classes after COVID-19 happened. Face to face biology lab was amazing, until we had to start doing it online. This was not the best experience to me, as I struggled through learning dissection using pictures. Eventually, it all worked out and passed the class with a satisfactory grade, and I was glad that the university made this new grading system.

The other issue was the recent ICE guidance which stated that all international students who are taking a full semester online must depart the US. I was really worried about what to do, until I received an email from the university saying that UHCL will provide bimodal classes that are not entirely online, and that made me very relieved because I am now able to continue studying in the US.

#UHCL #UHCLHawks

- Abdallah Mouhamad

Pursuing masters has a lot of barriers and the only choice one has is to overcome them. My personal most recent concern was COVID-19. I was worried about my classes, how would I pursue my masters? will the online classes be as beneficial as the in-person classes? But UHCL with its class professors cleared all the doubts, the online courses were as informative as the in-person classes would be.

Secondly, we came across a bad news for international students, that Non-Immigrant students who were taking online classes would have to leave USA. Then few days later, we received a mail from UHCL, it stated that the campus would be providing bi-modal delivery of classes which was a beautiful solution and it was a relief to many UHCL students.

Whatever your concerns are UHCL has the answer to all.

#UHCLFOREVER

-- Rohan Khedkar

*Being an International Student is quite challenging in the USA. I came to the USA with a dream of growing and be part of Silicon Valley but because of the current unfortunate incidents, it seems that it might take longer for me to achieve those dreams. I landed up with a very good opportunity for a summer internship with one of the top 100 fortune companies, but that dream was also shattered because of COVID –19.*

*Then came the most disappointing news by SEVP for non-immigrant students that restricts them to take online classes in Fall 2020, the options given were either to transfer schools or go back to your home country. I was quite furious after listening to the news as if we don’t matter. But I was quite*
sure that our university will come up with a solution. That’s what I have learned about our campus. UHCL has always provided help to international students in any possible way they can. They provided us with the opportunity of an internship with Summer Institute 2020 to help students like me to be motivated and find our way through these hard times.

Himani Saxena

My two most recent worries are:
- First, the fact of being stressed and being alone at home because of this pandemic (COVID-19) but I know we will survive if we follow the CDC’s guidelines (Centers for Disease Control).
- Secondly, the SEVP(Student and Exchange Visitor Program) modifies temporary exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online courses during the Fall 2020 semester meaning that F-1 and M-1 Students with valid visas would be forced to leave the United States if their University was not offering in-person Classes.

When I heard about the news, I was shocked, so I called my friends to verify, and they confirmed it. Personally, I think we are here for a good reason, not illegally, so we deserve a chance to stay even if everything moved online. For example, in Ivory Coast, It is really expensive to be connected every day and it will affect my studies if I need to go back home now.

Fortunately, I was not scared because I knew UHCL were going to find a solution. So when I received an email from the Office of International Admissions & Programs talking about the new method of instruction for the Fall semester, I was happy even if it is still risky to have face-to-face classes at this time, I believe this option is better and I know with time things can change.

-Aida Ncho

Coming to the united states and pursuing masters is a big task for international students. As I came in January 2019, One year went well. But after a year the situation for a year completely changed due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic my parents are much worried about me being safe. In the university, as everything went online, there is no need to attend university, by being safe we attended classes and successfully completed the semester.

And recently we heard the news from SEVP which issued a temporary exemption for immigrant students. I was very scared and disappointed but UHCL took a decision very soon as we can take bimodal classes. with that decision, we relieved a bit.

---Maithri kodakandla.

As an international student, I have learned to be ready for any new challenges and situations. But, according to 6 July new guidance against the international students who have to leave the united states if their school does not offer face to face classes in the fall semester, I was shocked. I can not believe this new decision because it directly affects and ruins all of the dreams that I have made on my mind.
Fortunately, I was noticed by an email from the Office of International Admission & programs (OIAO) that was about the new regulation and offering a flexible method of classes in Fall 2020. Now I am glad to say that again I am proud of the UHCL as it supports its students specifically international students who spent a long way before being a HAWK at the school.

Below are my most recent worries or concerns:

Being an international student, I prefer face to face classes, but due to the pandemic, everything becoming online and being stuck at home is very stressful. I really miss being on campus, interacting with professors & friends, working on-campas, and meeting new people. Adaptability became an advantage in this unfortunate situation. All of us were able to adapt to the new changes within a short span of time. And Summer institute 2020 is a great opportunity for us during this pandemic to work on different projects, interact with our teams and future students of UHCL.

Most of the international students, after graduating would prefer to work towards getting practical training to complement their field of studies by utilizing their OPT period. But due to COVID-19, businesses, facing unprecedented economic disruptions and the unstable job market, impacting job opportunities are another concern. But I am positive that this epidemic would end soon (maybe by the end of this year) and businesses would be back on their wheels to reach the targets post-pandemic era and hoping to see more opportunities.

- Initha

Sharavanan

**Ali Beheshti**

In last four months during this pandemic, I was gone through various situations which led me to fall from the cloud 9 to ground which includes both financially and emotionally but I realized that it is part of my life where I need to bounce back and look at the scenario as an opportunity I mastered every situation with a smile which created a lot of positive energy within me and it enhanced my perception I got to know myself more and I realized that inner wellbeing is the most important thing in everyone’s life right now I was pleasant and joyful by my own nature.

The main concern for an International student is managing their student visa status, the past couple of weeks was no less than a roller coaster because of the new immigration rule. I had so many things running in my mind, one thing which constantly kept running in my mind was 'What if I go back to India without earning a Master’s degree after investing a hefty amount?'. I felt like I'm in the middle of a dessert and have no clue to find my way out!

But after a while UHCL announced that the classes will be Bi-modal which was really a great news for us. But I felt anything can happen at any point of time. All we need to do is to be mentally prepared for any such situation. We need to have a Plan B if Plan A fails.

Have learnt a lot of life lessons in the couple of months and I am glad that I had to go through such things and become strong mentally.
The unprecedented challenges that I am still trying to get around are the effects of Covid 19. It has been a roller coaster since the pandemic started. It has affected me financially, mentally and socially.

Since most countries are on lockdown, my home country has not been spared. This has affected my family financially who are my sponsors. I am glad that I am part of the summer institute which lessened the financial burden.

Socially, it has been difficult to get around with friends and family. Staying home and social distancing has increased the nostalgia and home sickness. I am always anxious on how my family back home are doing. I try to keep in touch with friends and family through video calls. I have also tried to pick up new hobbies to get myself occupied.

Going through this pandemic far away from home makes it even harder. It is a mental strain more so as an international student. Announcements like the one we had about international students going home do not help. I am keeping myself more informed by watching news so that I should not be misinformed.

I am trying to be positive and take one day at a time. Challenges will always be there, especially as an international student, it is how we choose to address the challenges to shape our international experience that will matter at the end.

-----James Yobe-----

My most recent concern is about rapidly growing COVID-19 cases in Houston. I am trying to be positive and taking necessary steps to increase immunity. I hope UHCL will be taking necessary actions to help students/staff after returning to the campus. #Staysafe

As an international student, I have too many concerns to deal with at this time of the pandemic. My added concern at this time is the new rules that are introduced on a whim to force international students out of the United States, this is still my ongoing concern. But I believe that UHCL will take good care of the international students and address our concerns. There is nothing I can do if rules are made to disturb our life here in the United States.

-- Kranthi Ramasayam

- Himaja Muppavarapu

Being an international student and staying away from home has a lot of challenges and concerns. My recent worries were due to the ongoing pandemic. The classes were moved online and there is no idea for how long this situation would continue. However, the university conducted online classes in a good way. To my surprise, the recent guidelines from the SEVP which stated that international students enrolled in online classes must depart the United States were very disappointing. I have come to U.S to study on campus and classroom and would be more than happy if the university gets back to face to face classes. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we had no other choice but to enroll in an online class.
However, UHCL has come up with excellent bimodal delivery of classes which would help the students to overcome their concerns.

--Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed

For an International Students nothing is important other than their Studies, Health and Visa status. Due to the Pandemic the classes are moved online, conflicting to it there was new immigration rule but nothing worried me because of UHCL’s decision to offer Bimodal Classes. This is where UHCL always shows its mark. However, we are back to normal conditions due to cancellation of "new immigration rule". Thanks to the Government for considering the concerns of International Students.

I always be grateful to UHCL for supporting students in tough situations.

-Sumanth Nacharam.

The pandemic up recently was the greatest concern as away from the home country and in new situations I was really shattered with the situations happening around and my safety and my family safety back in India really created nightmares but as the time passed the effective measure taken by UHCL administration really helped all the international students stay safe and continue their studies and the support from the professors was really great like providing online classes and Emergency Hawk fund and getting updated from university community and conducting mental health workshops were really useful and the recent SEVP guidelines change really panicked me and my parents but the way UHCL took up the challenge and introduced the bimodal classes way really helpful and I am really proud of UHCL and being a UHCL Hawk

Thankyou UHCL for all you have done

-Sudheer Kumar Nyalam

Our biggest worries here in the US are health, security, and immigration. As an international student, I have a higher level of fulfillment with the support I received from our professors to effectively learn online and a higher level of satisfaction with the university’s overall response during this pandemic.

Thanks, UHCL.

-Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu

Coming to a new country, leaving your friends and family behind along with the comfortable lifestyle we had was a pretty big concern. This country can help anyone become independent. My most recent concern would be the law regarding visa status, such laws should be giving proper thoughts and it would be worse in the current situation of Covid-19. I have learnt to look at things positively no matter what.

I am going to share with you guys one of my most recent concerns regarding my decision to continue pursuing another master’s degree while studying abroad as an international student.

Having graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in International Business Economics in Viet Nam, I decided to continue my education pathway by choosing the MBA program at UHCL. Like most of other international students, I have a strong desire to find a job or internship over here after graduation to gain hands-on experience by applying OPT (Optical Practical Training). However, since the job market for business field in the US is definitely competitive, especially for international students, I was considering switching to
an MIS degree which belongs to STEM program after finishing my MBA. If so, I will get another two years of STEM OPT which will be easier to get sponsored, thus my career path will be more promising.

Then, I took two courses of MIS program in my last semester of MBA to see if I could handle them without any technical background. At first, I struggled with writing code and dealing with all of the technical software. At that time, I realized my nightmare was beginning when I could not keep on track in class and I thought I should probably give up. However, I thought I should give me a chance to put all of my efforts to see how far I could go. I literally read all of the assigned materials including the required and optional books, studied additional guidelines on the Internet, then tried to write code by myself and asked for help from my classmates. After three or four weeks, I seemed to understand the logic of coding and be more confident. I finally got through both of the MIS courses and got two A’ s.

Personally, I think everything happens for a reason, and this decision is quite positive for me during this unexpected pandemic. I feel so lucky and will try my best with my upcoming MIS program in the Fall 2020 semester.

- Thao Tran

-Steve Fernandes

The pandemic made a huge impact on everyone. I am concerned about when this will end, when life goes back to normal and the aftermath. Being stuck at home and limiting human interactions is taking a huge toll on everyone. Preparing yourself to face the worst scenario and staying positive is the only way forward.

-Chakravarthi Thoutreddy

To be honest, COVID 19 has affected me mentally and financially both. The feeling of being alone and far from my family and concerns regarding my health and their health has been taking a toll on my mental health. Financially as my home country is also locked down, just like me, my family is also facing financial difficulties. Moreover, the new SEVP guidelines have made me question my decision of coming to the USA for studies. Being treated like I don’t matter was not part of my American Dream and it will never be. I am grateful to my university for helping me in this difficult situation by virtual internship like Summer institute, educational webinars and coming up with bimodal classes. Right now, I am trying to stay positive by remembering that calm seas never made a good sailor.

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL

The primary problem would be struggling with immigration after or during graduation. As an international student, it is distressing to attend classes remotely as we miss the university experience of association with professors, new people. Ever since online education became a ‘thing,’ everything seems uncertain. Especially the recent news of disallowing the students in F-1 status to use a student visa if they continue to take classes online, but the university has come with the new instruction mode of Bi-modal classes. UHCL has always been supportive and even at this point of time helping us overcome hardships by providing internship with a summer institute, engaging us in different activities virtually, and conducting webinars on various programs.
Being an international student, my most recent worry was missing the face-to-face classes and interaction with my professors for computer science course work due to COVID-19. As most of our course work includes programming, it would have been much more effective and informative if it is offline. And the internship opportunities for Summer 2020 has been resumed and many of us lost the opportunity for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) which would have given us a good work experience in US. Also, not only academically, COVID-19 has effected financially and mentally.

To overcome these concerns, I have started to concentrating more on my interests and hobbies rather than thinking about what has happened. Communication with my professors via Zoom is helping me up and compensating to some extent. My university has offered an excellent opportunity to serve as Student Ambassador for Summer 2020 Institute for the office of Global learning and strategy which would give me an on-campus internship experience which is paid. So concentrate on your strengths instead of worries.

-Sushma Koneru

Post your Summer Institute Ambassador experience

The summer institute 2020 has been an amazing experience for me. Various activities blog writing, presentations on various topics and sessions and webinars have been very helpful and informative. This internship gave me many exciting and valuable opportunity to grow personally, professionally and mentally. I am extremely thankful to all the members associated with this who work hard to make this successful.

--Anupama Dash

The Summer Institute Ambassador experience is an experience that I will for sure remember, it was a chance for me as well as many other international students to participate in a meaningful project that would help improve their professional capabilities. As mentioned all throughout the blog, this project was one that I thoroughly enjoyed as it kept me busy during these tough times amidst the global pandemic.

I am grateful to Dr. McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for giving us this opportunity to learn and grow and for always being there to answer our questions and guide us on our path.

-Duc Le

I am grateful to GLS for providing an excellent opportunity to work as an international student ambassador which not only thrive my professional growth but also personal development. I am happy that my experiences and knowledge helped prospective hawks and guided them as I have been in their shoes. Initially, I was quite anxious about the student outreach program as it was all about teamwork and we were communicating virtually, but it turns out to be my best experience ever as I met new people who are creative, energetic and thoughtful. Through writing assigned blogs, I came to know
about my love for blog writing. Overall, it helped me to boost my leadership and communication skills. I want to thank OIAP faculty members for providing a pleasant work environment and great guidance. I will cherish it forever.

-Dhruviben Patel

I have a great feeling of gratefulness when I think of the opportunity I was given at the Summer Institute 2020. It was an incredible chance to learn about myself and how to interact with other students and our mentors. Furthermore, I further learned how to stay organized and keep track of the announcements and assignments in the many emails we were receiving daily. The mandatory webinars were massively useful, too. For instance, I learned about resume building and professional interviews. Finally, I learned how to listen to my mentors and execute. For example, during the portfolio building project, I tweaked my portfolio couple times to conform it to the adjustments that were advised by our supervisor.

- Moulaye Zein Haidara

I would like to thank Dr. Gigi Do and everyone for giving me this amazing experience in Summer Institute 2020. I feel so fortunate that I got this opportunity during such a pandemic. Every webinar I attended under the institute has motivated me in every possible way and has helped me to stay calm and focused during these hard times. Summer Institute has given me all the tools that will be needed by me in the future.

Though I am an International Student, Summer Institute gave me the feeling of belongingness in the university. Last but not least I would like to thank UHCL for coming out with this amazing idea.

Himani Saxena
My Summer Institute Ambassador experience was great, educational, challenging and fun. It was great because I enjoyed working with the Office of International Admissions and Programs staff, Dr. Gigi, our supervisor Dr. McClendon, our Team leaders Ms. Mallory Bowman, Mr. Theodore Nguyen, Mrs. Livia Kidd and the Ambassadors. It was educational because I wanted to be part of the Summer 2020 Institute to improve my communication skills, to learn how to work with others professionally and learn new skills. I think I achieved my goals because I was part of two teams, I had the opportunity to participate in the 2020 Girl Up Leadership Summit, I learned many useful things about myself during the training sessions organized by the Summer Institute, We also had trainings about the creation of LinkedIn, the Dos and Don’ts in an interview and many other important sessions.

As Michelle Obama said: "With every action that you take, you’re proving that you’re not only the leaders of tomorrow, you’re the leaders of Today". So having a buddy was a good idea because it helped me improve my leadership and be at the service of another international student.
It was a great pleasure for me working with everyone. Thanks to the GLS summer 2020 Institute and the President Dr. Ira Blake for giving this opportunity to International students during this period.

--Aida Ncho

This has been one of those rides that was so dynamic that even in such a pandemic with all ups and downs it gave me a boost of positivity. Working with summer institute has taught me many new lessons and have grown me as a person. I would like to appreciate the coordination and support given by each and every ambassador. I would also like to take this time to appreciate Summer Institute faculty for the patience and efforts they took to help each and every student ambassador and I hope I was able to deliver per your expectations.

I have made a lot of friends here and had the pleasure to work with wonderful and brilliant people. I am surely going to miss this. I wish everyone the best for the future endeavor!!!

"To absent friends, lost loves, old gods, and the season of mists; and may each and every one of us always give the devil his due." -Neil Gaiman

--Foram Nisar

Summer Institute when first started I had no idea what it was. But once I started I realized its one of the best experiences an International student can have, during this pandemic time missing the face to face class experience was bothering me and Summer Institute helped me to overcome that. This program has so much diverse information available through projects, webinars and it was very useful. I also wanted to highlight the App development project, Blogging projects which were quite interesting. Talking live to a Fox new person was also a great experience. Representing UHCL to talk to the international students was a very good experience since we are also International students I understand how useful this will be for them. Overall it was a great program, I thank each and every one of the program coordinators, organizers, and webinar hosts for making it a huge hit.

- Aravindhakshan Valagurunathan

When I was a student who was about to study at UHCL I needed a lot of help and I didn't know whom to ask for, and today I am here working as a student ambassador as a part of GLS program helping out the students who are willing to join UHCL is such an amazing feeling. This program is so great that it is not only helping the future students of UHCL but also the present international students financially. By this GLS institute we gained and shared a lot of knowledge and work experience.

I thank Dr Johna McClendon, Dr Gigi Do, Mrs Livia Kidd, Ms Dani Vo, Mrs Tanya Sell, Ms Mallory Bowman. to make this happen efficiently and smoothly.

--Khedkar, Rohan Kumar

With all the uncertainty and challenges that we are all facing, having the opportunity to be a part of the GLS program feels like coming up for a breath of fresh air. This program has offered us all a great opportunity not only financially but also has helped us gained valuable work experience. We have been
feed with priceless information that will help us all carry on into our various career paths. I have been able to work on being a team player. I found all the projects delightful and educative, and the highlight of this whole experience for me was being able to share my experience with other incoming international students. I want to show my appreciation for everyone who made this program possible. Thank you to Ms. Mallory Bowman, Dr. Johna McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Mrs. Livia Kidd, Ms. Dani Vo and Mrs. Tanya Sell.

-Ni'imat Giza

The Global learning strategy summer 2020 institute is the greatest opportunity for international students to enhance their life and it developed my interpersonal skills and leadership skills this opportunity enhanced my perception. I couldn't believe these two months which have passed very briefly I can firmly say that each and every project by OIAP was very exciting and challenging and given an opportunity for my personal and professional growth.

Throughout the institute program, my favorite project is writing on the blog and the most satisfying project is a student buddy program and every workshop was very informative.

I am thankful to the president, Dr. Blake, Dr. Gigi Do, and all the team leaders and my best wishes to fellow students.

---------------------Sudheer

Godugu----------------

Having the opportunity to work as an ambassador with the GLS at UHCL was amazing. I mostly enjoyed reaching out to prospective students and sharing with them the wonderful experience they will have when starting their studies at UHCL.

Teaming up with other ambassadors and working with them in research and with the outreach program were also very helpful, since it helped me in connecting with new people whom I consider now friends.

It has been an honor to work with the GLS office this Summer, and I would like to thank our leaders who helped and guided us during this experience.

- Abdallah Mouhamad

When I first came across Summer institute, I never really fully understood what it was. Since it was an initiative taken for the first time in UHCL history. The pandemic was unpredictable and so was the summer institute but I am glad to be a part of it. This opportunity helped me to stay calm, focused and motivated during the hard times. It helped me to look forward to something in life and to not be hopeless. It provided me with financial assistance when I was in dire need of it. The experience of speaking to the Fox news interviewer was also pretty amazing. I hope this opportunity is continued in the future.
I am thankful to Dr. McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for this opportunity

-- Steve Fernandes

Working as an ambassador of Global Learning Strategy - GLS for the Summer 2020 Institute at UHCL has been a great and wonderful experience for me. I have been enjoying doing assigned projects which offer me a great chance to assist and share my academic and living experience to other upcoming international students.

I am very grateful for being a part of GLS, working with a friendly and professional team - Mrs. Livia Kidd, Mrs. Tanya Sell, Ms. Dani Vo, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Mr. Theodore Nguyen under the dedicated guidance of Dr. Gigi Do and Dr. Johna McClendon. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity!

- Thao Tran

Being part of the Global Learning Strategy has been the highlight of my summer 2020. I remember jumping for joy when I received the email stating I was selected. I had the pleasure to meet so many brilliant minds, and work with them on projects. Unfortunately, this pandemic did not allow us to meet in person; but I’m confident that as soon as it’s over, we’ll get to do a get together to put faces on the different names.

I’m also extremely grateful to Dr. McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for all the learning opportunities. I had fun creating my portfolio, taking the true color quiz, and learning about resumes and interview tips through all the webinars. Thank you again to all who helped make the program a success. I’m forever grateful.

By Harry Jodelle Kamgaing

As a student ambassador during the GLS Summer 2020 Institute program, my time has been an enlightening one and I was able to benefit from a variety of new things like enhancing my professional skills, expanding my network by interacting with other student ambassadors, and future students of UHCL. I’ve significantly expanded my teamwork skills, leadership skills, time management, and most importantly I was able to become the International student ambassador and help the prospective students of UHCL working on a variety of projects throughout this program. I would like to thank the Office of International Admissions & Programs (OIAP) for giving me this opportunity and organizing every week’s project. I would also like to thank Dr. Johna McClendon, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Tanya Sell and Ms. Livia Kidd for being such a wonderful lead reviewing our projects, providing feedback, and instantaneous responses for any questions or concerns. I look forward to this kind of initiative in the future as this keeps current students motivated and helps prospective students to know and explore more about UHCL life even before being on campus.

- Initha Sharavanan

I was greatly honored to be part of the UHCL 2020 summer institute. It was a great opportunity to learn new things and be part of the fun projects we did. It was a great learning experience through hands on
projects, writing papers and information sessions. It was also a very good team building experience. I polished up my leadership, writing and time management skills.

We did many fun projects like, the student buddy project, developing an app, the team presentation on student mobility, the blog, just to mention a few.

I am so thankful to the president, Dr. Blake, Dr. Gigi Do, Dr. Johna McClendon, Mrs. Livia Kidd, Mrs. Tanya Sell, Ms. Dani Vo, Ms. Mallory Bowman, and the rest of the team for the opportunity, your time, sacrifice, dedication, teachings, guidance and making the 2020 summer institute such great success.

A big thank you also goes to all the presenters for sparing their time, knowledge and experience to share with us a great worth of valuable information and resources.

The UHCL 2020 summer institute was one of the best summer experiences.

- James Yobe

As a Student Ambassador at the Summer Institute, I had a wonderful and unique experience working with other ambassadors.

I had a lot of things to learn while completing the fun projects provided to me. Training sessions helped me learn some of the professional skills that are needed and useful for my career. And the most satisfying part is that I get to interact with people, build my confidence and networking while completing the tasks.

An opportunity when we most needed was provided to us and I am grateful for everyone involved in this. Thank you everyone for being there.

-- Kranthi Ramasayam

Working as an ambassador of Global Learning Strategy - GLS for the Summer 2020 Institute at UHCL has been a great and wonderful experience for me. Teaming up with other ambassadors and working with them in research and with the outreach program were also very helpful, since it helped me in connecting with new people whom I consider now friends.

I’m also extremely grateful to Dr. McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for all the learning opportunities.

-Harshith Sathyaprakash

I am grateful for being a part of GLS Summer 2020 program. I enjoyed every program organized by the team. Firstly, Student buddy program is a great idea, especially in current pandemic situations newly coming international students are having multiple questions and confusions. This program helps us to interact with them to clarify their confusions. Also, GLS program is giving financial support to current international students in current pandemic situation. Secondly, GLS program provides an opportunity to increase the network by interacting with new people as part of the project works like presentations, app creation. Finally, Blog project which is a fun project and gives me an opportunity to share my opinions and experiences about UHCL, Houston, professional experience. I would like to say thanks to UHCL, GLS
Summer 2020 program, Team leads for helping me in this project. It wouldn’t be possible without your support. # GLSSummer2020

-- Himaja Muppavarapu

The GLS summer institute 2020 is a great initiative by UHCL. It was an enriching experience being a part of the summer institute and working as a student ambassador for OIAP. The projects assigned were very exciting and had an opportunity to learn new things, especially the student buddy program which would help new incoming students have a smooth transition into UHCL. The research and presentations, blog posts, app development were very fascinating. Also, last but not least, the very much needed and informative sessions and webinars facilitated by Education Abroad and GLS team is a crucial part of this program. I am thankful to Dr. McClendon, Ms. Tanya Sell, Ms. Livia Kidd, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, Mr. Theodore Nguyen for conducting the program smoothly and efficiently.

-Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed

Serving as a Student Ambassador of the Global Learning Strategy

GLS for the Summer 2020 Institute at UHCL has been a great opportunity for me. Teaming up with other ambassadors and collaborating with them in the study and education initiative was also very positive, as it allowed me to interact with other people who I now consider to be colleagues. Every project I did was interesting and helped me to develop professionally.

I would like to thank Dr. McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for all the learning opportunities.

--Divya Shivaprakashan

It was a good experience to be a part of the student ambassador program. I got an opportunity to connect with other international students for which I am thankful to GLS Summer 2020. These two months have passed very very quickly. Each and Every project I did was exciting and he lp me to achieve professional growth. The best part I enjoyed doing is to explore UHCL and developing App which will be helpful for upcoming students and current students to deal with their FAQs. Special thanks to Thank you to Ms. Mallory Bowman, Dr. Johna McClendon, Dr. Gigi Do, Mrs. Livia Kidd, Ms. Dani Vo, and Mrs. Tanya Sell. And, I thank each and everyone who involved in this GLS program summer 2020.

-Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu

I never thought summer 2020 will be this much this exciting and filled with fun due to Global Learning Strategy - GLS for the Summer 2020 Institute at UHCL. I feel very grateful to be part of this summer2020 institute. I would like to thank all Dr. Gigi Do, Dr. McClendon, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for guiding us throughout the summer institute. Being a student ambassador and interacting with new incoming international friends is the most exciting part. I enjoyed helping my international student buddy. Blogging and portfolio were a few of my favorite things in this institute. Even though this is the first time organizing the internship I can say that it went well and organized. The idea of organizing this program is very helpful to international students not only for career opportunities but also financially during this pandemic. I would like to thank everyone who involved in the Global learning strategy program summer 2020.
Maithri kodakandla

I feel lucky to be a part of summer institute 2020. Though it is two month program I think Organizers have done fabulous job in providing all skill improvement programs in efficient way. One year back we were new international students known for confusion, anxiety and nervousness, and now we are able to guide new incoming students, this huge difference is made by this summer institute. Writing a Blog, Giving Presentations, attending Webinars are very useful for our professional development. This program has given me the opportunity to work individual as well as in team therefore it helped to figure out what all my strengths and weaknesses.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. McClendon, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, and Ms. Livia Kidd for guiding us in various programs.

- Sumanth Nacharam

The past two months has been a continuous learning and enhancement process for me, during this program I felt that I have improved my communication, organization, leadership, writing, and creativity skills. Creating the UHCL app for the new incoming students was really a great task. Because of that I got to learn a new tool where we can create an app which doesn’t require any coding knowledge. It made us learn how to collaborate between two different teams and without our teammates virtually without even meeting them in person.

Overall this program was really a great and fun process where we get to meet new people and learn a lot during the process. I hope this program will be conducted every summer so that it will a new learning experience for the students. Thank You

-Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar

Working for GLS summer institute was a great learning experience with all the knowledgeable session over two month really improved me in overall perspective and the collaborative task made me learn all new skills which was really great. I am really fortunate to get selected for this position.

Thankyou UHCL, Go Hawks

-Sudheer kumar Nyalam

I am beyond grateful to UHCL for making me part of the GLS 2020 summer institute. I thought this summer would go without any external human contact because of coronavirus but to my surprise, I did a virtual internship and made new friends. Reaching out to buddies and help them in their transition to UHCL was a very fulfilling feeling. I was more than happy to extend the helping hand to the buddy and help her with all of her questions and concerns. I learned teamwork and leadership through these projects. I enhanced my writing skills through the blog project. I also overcame my fear of public speaking through the team presentation. We are still working on the app project and I am learning new things from my fellow ambassadors every day. The informative sessions and webinars about the topics like LinkedIn and Resume were very useful from the career perspective. I am thankful to Dr. McClendon, Ms. Tanya Sell, Ms. Livia Kidd, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, Mr. Theodore Nguyen for this
wonderful opportunity and successful execution of the first summer institute. I am and will always be grateful to the GLS2020 team considering me worthy of the opportunity.

-DHRUTiben Patel

This Summer institute internship at UHCL was a great and valuable experience for me as an ambassador of the Global learning Strategy (GLS). I learned a lot of things and improved my networking, leadership skills, communication, and many workshops and webinars about CPT, OPT, interviewing, writing a resume, etc. Furthermore, working with software like Zoom for every day meeting is another skill that I have acquired. Because based on the new situation most of the students should adjust themselves with this software and other social apps for communication and daily routine. It means working as an assignment at school or remotely working in the close future. In the end, I am thankful to Dr. McClendon, Ms. Tanya Sell, Ms. Livia Kidd, Ms. Mallory Bowman, Ms. Dani Vo, Mr. and other people that make this summer momentous and memorable for us.

**Ali Beheshti**

It has been a fantastic experience working as an international student ambassador with GLS - Summer Institute 2020. Working on various programs under supervisors and teaming up with different ambassadors for every week’s blogs helped us expand our network and improve our professional skills. It was a great idea to connect with new applicants and share our on campus experience because it would be easier for them to network with the University. I thoroughly enjoyed being part of it as it introduced me to a new set of people and would like to thank all my team leads who have been supportive and encouraging throughout the period.

-Vyshnavi Itapu

It has been a wonderful experience for me to be a part of GLS Summer institute 2020. Working as a student ambassador and interacting with prospective students made this experience even more fun. The webinars offered, as a part of the institute, are very informative.

Overall the institute is a learning curve and one of the few good things happened to me in this pandemic. I am very grateful to whole team who took the initiative and everyone who sacrificed their valuable time and effort by involving in this.

- Chakravarthi Thoutreddy
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OUTREACH
Access to Education for Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe

The article details on the challenges and issues faced by refugee, migrants and asylum seeking children who are much vulnerable and could lack access to basic education. Access to basic education for all children is a fundamental right recognized under international and human rights law, including EU law. The article highlights on the statistical and empirical data of children enrolled in primary and secondary education. Also, the article explores on the early dropout rate among refugee and migrant children.

Due to unstable and disrupted living conditions in Africa and Middle East, many of them fled protracted conflicts in the region and arrived in Europe from Central and Eastern Mediterranean routes. Our emphasis here is on the education of these children. Most of the foreign born school age children and adolescents who were born outside of EU+ were hosted by Germany (688,689), the United Kingdom (569,308), France (555,192), Spain (492,520), Italy (389,180) and Sweden (215,601). However, in terms of proportion, foreign born children made 4-5% across these countries.

The quality and duration of schooling offered to children depends more on their migrant/asylum process rather than on their educational needs. In general, children of parents who are documented such are EU-born migrants, International protection beneficiaries, Asylum seeking children are entitled to education with varying level of quality, infrastructure and facilities. Migrant children in irregular situation i.e those who are not documented are most at risk of staying out of school. Only seven EU Member States have recognized undocumented migrant children entitlement to basic formal education. These EU states are Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden. While three states explicitly limit the children right to schooling (Hungary, Latvia and Lithuania). However, right to education is provided to all children in most of the Member States, therefore implicitly also implies to children living irregularly. That said, this right is not systematically facilitated, as local procedural requirements and government regulations can deter access.

There are certain challenges in accessing education for the children which include legal barriers, administrative challenges, insufficient human and financial resources, psychological support, language and cultural mediation support and limited opportunity for adolescents. Early school leaving is also one of the concerns which impacts adolescents’ transition from education to work. Early school leaving among the children born outside the EU+ is almost as twice as high compared to native born children. Although, EU MS governments and federal bodies manage to provide education and encourage school enrolment among these children, they must ensure that there is no early school leaving among these children. Countries like Czech, Denmark, Portugal, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom have some of the lowest levels of early school leaving in Europe.

The UNICEF and UNHCR have been working with local authorities in Europe to provide necessary support and technical assistance for the education of refugee, migrant and asylum seeking children. With help and effort of UNICEF and UNHCR over 12,000 children were enrolled in public schools in public schools in South-eastern Europe (Bulgaria Greece and Serbia). They also helped with non formal education, including homework support and psychological support for over 16,200 students enrolled in public schools in Greece, Italy, Serbia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2018. In Italy and Greece, UNICEF developed e-learning platforms to develop language skills for the children to prepare them for public school exams. Efforts have been made for capacity building activities and teacher training material on topic of refugees, asylum and migration, available in French, English and Dutch. This teaching material toolkit includes professional guidelines on teaching refugee children in
classroom, dealing with symptoms of stress and trauma. UN has also provided transportation facility to the students from accommodation facilities to public schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece and Serbia. Therefore, UN has been monitoring and assisting the refugee and migrant children education in Europe with local authority’s cooperation.

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Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed
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Cuba is the main Caribbean nation in Latin America to have a top notch Education system. Education in Cuba is a must for all. They held campaigns to make people comprehend the importance of reading and writing. Cuba shows how significant education is by keeping a student to instructor proportion of 12 to 1, which is roughly half of the Latin American average.

Education in Cuba is at a basic level, like from primary to secondary schools closer to their home, which is mandatory. There will be legal issues if parents don't send children to primary or secondary school. When it comes to High school, students can go to an actual high school where the goal is to prepare for university or go to a technical school where they learn a profession like a plumber, electrician, etc. Education has gone down tremendously in Cuba with schools and universities in disrepair.

The first main problem in Cuba is money. There is no money, and hence schools don't have all the materials, the problem is more prominent in university as the equipment is more costly. The machine is of poor quality, lack of transportation, poor quality accommodation for students. The second money-related issue is having excellent professors. The problem has worsened as the professor’s salaries got reduced, and the government finally allowed them to immigrate freely. Many students and professors started going elsewhere to build their careers.

Latin American nations have executed changes in their education system. Probably the best accomplishment of these previous three decades has been that most citizens currently approach Public schooling. However, even as fundamental education is presently accessible on a remarkable scale for most Americans, the quality of its services has become more varied.

The Cuban government has started many educational reform processes in order to improve their system. One of the reform processes is implementing a general and institutional educational plan for all schools across the nation. This plan includes different activities such as complementary programs, technical and social projects, which will contribute to diversifying activities in the institutional curriculum to make school a more enjoyable place for students. Another component of the reform process is the elaboration of new study programs for four grade levels, including for kids one, two, and four years old in early childhood education; first and fourth grade at a basic level; seventh (center school) and tenth grade (higher secondary level).

The "Educate Your Child Program" intends to set up the family to adapt to the education of their kids. Advancements in the quality of education have increased due to the adoption of basic Cuban educational policy principles. It includes free of charge of Cuban culture in the entire system. The State has the obligation of guaranteeing professors the educational facilities and means needed for their full turn of events, including graduate studies.

Experimental processes have been a significant component in the latest endeavors to perfect the national education system with alterations actualized continuously and as per the social setting. When it comes to changes in work strategies, a general study plan is executed in schools to guarantee progression over the education system, just as an institutional one, drawn up by every individual facility. The main objective of the Cuban exertion is to pursue the continuous
improvement of education to ultimately meeting its targets, which today leads to the execution of significant transformations.

Today, they are focused on a significant snapshot of new changes that will empower consistently improving the results of education in connection to previous moments that became substantial milestones in the history of Cuban culture.

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DECENTRALIZED EDUCATION SYSTEM MIGHT NOT HELP POOR CANADIAN STATES

Maithri kodakandla

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REVIEW

Canada doesn't have a national system of education or department of the federal government. Canada ranked near the underside of the group of nations within the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OCED) in both literacy and numeracy, but the thing that this correlation exists provides provender for further discussion of this state of education in Canada.

Early days in Canada, the population was native people whose system of data transfer and skill development are founded on storytelling and specializing in skills and knowledge in preparation for being adult. As time passing, they trust their system on the native people slightly different than the residential establishment to require within the native people’s way of the new Canadian i.e., Morgan.

Now education in Canada is governed by territorial and provincial governments. To fund this decentralized model of educational delivery, the govt is collecting taxes within the way of lion’s share i.e., 58.4%, local board i.e.,25% and provincial grants i.e., 14.6% and therefore the remaining 2% is that the contribution of the national. When students are at the varsity level, they're going to be involved in fundraising efforts by way of selling a spread of things to boost money for his or her education. the sole thing the central takes care of is that the provision of education to service personnel, children of members of the military, Registered Indian, and prison inmates.

While nutrition and socioeconomic status aren't the main focus, their presence is very important as they, mutually with the present funding model for education help to demonstrate that the bar set for all Canadians within the country of education can't be the identical. If one board is collecting less funds than a neighbouring board because of the property value of the homes from
which students come, the main target can shift within the classroom from learning to making sure the nutritional requirements needed to find out are met. If some students are arriving at college without proper nutrition, they'll be ill-prepared to have interaction within the learning process. this might affect the training process of the student.

One outcome of decentralization, as exemplified by school-based management reforms, is best classroom instruction and improved student performance. to attain these, two things must be addressed: 1) the standard and quantity of educational contributions from teachers, parents, and others, and 2) the efficiency with which these contributions are put into action. the assumption underlying this theory is that more school and family engagement within the education process produces more learning – when highly educated teachers are more involved, more resources combined with parent feedback and concepts should cause higher student achievement. When teachers are empowered, and schools can make decisions that directly affect their own students – under the umbrella of a broader vision for a faculty district – decentralization is at its best.
WESTERN EUROPE: EDUCATIONAL ROOTS, REFORM IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, CONTEMPORARY REFORM TRENDS, FUTURE CHALLENGES

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The authors Val D Rust and Traci Wells, in this article, discuss the past present and the future of western Europe where Western European countries try to give the European dimension to their education system. Roots of the European education system can be traced back to the end of middle age when schooling was primarily for clergymen later separate schools were also developed for commoners. Primary and secondary schools differed in terms of their recipients and the kind of curriculum they are providing. Secondary schools taught liberal arts education and prepare people for universities. So, education was dualist: Higher education and universities were for Elites and primary schools were for masses. In Germany, there were different schools for state leaders and common peoples. Most countries had their majority schools under state control which was directly proportional to the financial support the state is providing.

Reform in the Twentieth Century

In the 1950s all European countries have made mandatory to begin schooling by the age of 5-7 and the end year of compulsory education was different in all countries ranging from 14 to 18. After the primary, Secondary schooling was the focus of reform, for example, in 1949 Sweden led the way by adopting a universal nine-year school. In the 20th century focus of the curriculum was drastically weighted towards scientific and practical raining rather than religious training. Norway has harmonized general and vocational studies. West Germany has a dual system, meaning once a week formal school and other days under supervision work whereas the French model puts the students in formal schooling full time After world-war II movements towards decentralization of administration of schools from states to school authorizes occurred.
Contemporary Reform Trends

Because of the establishment of European union educational systems are tending to be more alike. The goal of the council of Europe is to develop a European dimension of education while maintaining the individuality of cultural and linguistic aspects. One way to achieve this is to organize conferences that focus on avoiding national stereotyping and incorporating languages in the curriculum as languages can add a European dimension to education. Academic exchange programs in other countries can also contribute to the creation of European identity. The European Union programs SOCRATES helped in improving language training. University reforms were become evident in the 21st century because of the Bologna Declaration in 1999. The goal was to create a common framework of readable and comparable university degrees. Another major innovation is the development of a European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which ensures the equivalencies of grades, course credits and degrees.

Future Challenges

Educational exchanges sometimes not possible financially as grants from home countries are not always available for studying abroad. Also, language skills need to be more developed for reciprocal participation among European countries. Schools also need to be updated about the information and technology of the current world to be able to can help students respond to contemporary exigencies. At higher education level open distance learning universities can also help students to update their skills without having to live abroad. There is also a concern that the costly expansion of university may lower the quality of education and may lead to devaluation of degrees. Another important issue is to preserve national differences and recognizing and respecting institutional differences to have success in efforts to establish unity in diversity. I think determining
whether and how Europeanization processes in the area of education affect European social integration or society formation remains challenging.

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PMM: a program Modified Healthcare Education in Brazil

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19 June 2020
One of the articles of Monica Padilla titled “Development and expansion of medical education in Brazil” in the SciELO, Scientific Electronic Library Online, she thoroughly mentioned what is More Doctors Programme (PMM-Programa Mais Medicos) and how the approval of PMM alter healthcare as well as medical education in Brazil. In this article, we are going to look at this concept briefly. On 22nd October 2013 PMM is sanction with the sole purpose to deal with the scarcity of doctors, therefore, increase the number of qualitative doctors to serve the Brazilian citizens. To fulfill the aim of PMM, two major modifications were made in the Brazilian healthcare system.

Firstly, to provide healthcare in the hard-to-reach communities groups of medical professionals were made which majorly include Cubans, with knowledge of primary care, along with experts Brazilians and foreigners. Moreover, groups stay in the same communities where they were providing healthcare. In a short time, primary care coverage rose from 77.9% in 2012 to 86.3% in 2015 in the cities who were under PMM. Secondly, to escalate the number of Brazilian doctors they made several modifications in education pattern such as increase the number of seats in medical schools, for undergraduate programs they execute necessary improvements in settings of education and two concepts for specialists. The first concept is to expand the medical residency seats to the number of medical graduates to provide equal access to a medical residency. The other is to study specialty education one must complete an obligatory residency in Family and Community Medicine (RMFC). Furthermore, they initiated providing courses to remote regions.

The hypothesis behind all implementation was to strengthen medical professionals retention to Brazil and to recognize Brazil’s needs. Higher education institutions expand their seats by scholarship funding to institute, update the assessment standers of institutes, requesting
RMFC seats to new private medical courses. Whereas extension of RMFC seats by municipal, state manager and Public Health Schools had different attractions such as resident scholarship funded by the Ministry of Health, education of residency program managers, mechanisms to retain professional upon conclusion of the residency. By combining both propositions, PMM aims at creating 12,400 seats to universalize residency, primarily in RMFC. The number of residents in 2017 was 11 times higher than in 2002, but it was still below the required number of Family and Community Medicine specialists in the country.

There is no doubt that the PMM has provided easy access to healthcare for a larger group of Brazilians which has never previously seen in the history of Brazil. As a result of modifications in the education system, RMFC occupied 30% of the country’s residency seats. PMM is the first effort to systematize the component of professional education in the area of health in Brazil.

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Article Review

In this article, Zandre Campos, chairman and CEO of Angola Capital Investments (ACI) emphasizes on the fact that Africa has a potential in many areas such as agriculture, sustainability, and technology. To develop its potential, the African continent needs to work harder on the education system. It is true that some African countries like Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, that were mainly colonized by English forces are more developed therefore have a better education system; however, other countries like Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Benin, colonized by French forces, are doing less well. According to the mission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the highest rates of education exclusion are in Sub-Saharan Africa. For instance, let us talk about Cameroon, a country in Central Africa, and part of the Sub-Saharan Africa. Cameroon is divided in two parts: the part colonized by France, where people mostly speak French, and the part colonized by the British, where people mostly speak English. I grew up 18 years in Cameroon (French part) before coming to the US for better opportunities. As I was finishing high school, I sat with my parents to think about where in Cameroon I could earn a bachelor’s degree and the only option we had was University of Buea, a university in the English part of the country. This is one of the few universities in my country that tries to give a good base to students. After careful consideration, my parents decided that my brothers and I will come to the US to finish our studies. Why? Simply because the Cameroonian government does not take the time to invest in their educational infrastructures. Universities look so old, the curriculum is unclear, professors sometimes are not paid for months which leads to them not coming to classes. For medical students for example, there is no appropriate lab, clinics to teach them on the field. This results in badly trained doctors who get to practice on real people, then kill them because they lack knowledge. Therefore, education is so important for the development of a country. I believe Africa still has much work to do in the education area; but it all starts with each country doing his part.

By Harry Jodelle Kamgaing
Sources


Education in Africa

The education and schools in Africa have changed a lot over time. Ever since it was first introduced to Africa, it has been an important part to the history of the continent. This article describes the problems, technology, history, and other information about the education in Africa. Twenty-three years after the end of apartheid, South Africa remains a country of both promise and discord. With a population 55.6 million (2016, government census) it is, alongside Nigeria, one of the African continent’s two largest economies. Education in South Africa is continuing to take strain as the government attempts to achieve equal opportunities for all. The system is divided into 3 strata, namely general education and training, further education and training, and higher education and training. The process is compulsory through to grade 9, and spans 12 grades in total. Primary Education: The first 6 years are spent in primary school where literacy and numeracy are established. Middle Education: The following 3 years are spent in middle school. Subjects taught continue to be academic with a flavor of vocational training. Vocational Education: Vocational training is administered by sector education and training authorities arranged across functional lines. Tertiary Education: Tertiary education and training is provided through a large number of private and state-managed institutions South Africa Education under the overall control of the ministry of higher education and training. The oldest university in South Africa is the University of Cape Town established in 1829 and depicted here. It is set out on the lower slopes of the Table Mountain Massif as the architect interpreted the style of the Greek Pantheon. NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK: South Africa employs a National Qualifications Framework (NQF), which defines benchmark requirements and goals for all levels of the education system. General and Further Education and Training Sub-Framework (GFETQSF), Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQFS), Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF). Lack of proper facilities and educators: Another reason for the low education rates in Africa is the lack of proper schooling facilities and unequal opportunity for education across countries. Many schools across Africa find it hard to employ teachers due to the low pay and lack of suitable people. Moreover, the teachers are usually those unqualified with few teaching aids and/or textbook provision. Corruption in education: A 2010 Transparency International report, with research gathered from 8,500 educators and parents in Ghana, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Uganda, found that education is being denied to African children in incredibly large numbers. The African Education Watch conducted surveys all over the continent and identified the three most common practices of corruption are Illegal collection of fees: One part of their research focused on so-called registration fees. Embezzlement of school funds: In the study, Transparency International found that 64% of the schools surveyed on the continent published no financial information at all. Power abuse: Another major problem is incompetent management. Educational technology: Educational technology in sub-Saharan Africa refers to the promotion, development and use of information and communication technologies (ICT), m-learning, media, and other technological tools to improve aspects of education in sub-Saharan Africa. A number of NGOs contributed, on varying scales, to bringing computer hardware into Africa, such as groups like Computer Aid International, Digital Links, SchoolNet Africa and World Computer Exchange.

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The standard of living is high in Argentina which makes services such as food, medical and education available to a large part of the society. This may be the reason why Argentina is among the countries in south America with highest literacy. Argentina’s literacy rate is 98.1%. More Argentinians are reading at a higher level now than ever before. In comparison, that is 12 percent higher than the global average. In 2014, Argentina also had the second highest net enrollment rate in secondary education in all of Latin America (88.2%, according to the World Bank).

Despite its high enrollment rates in secondary and tertiary education, Argentina produces fewer university graduates when compared to its fellow neighboring nations like Chile and Brazil (When population of the countries is considered). Studies show that Argentina had a dropout rate of 73 percent, compared to 50 percent in Brazil, 41 percent in Chile and 39 percent in Mexico. Standardizing education in the vast country nevertheless remains an ongoing challenge and disparities in access, quality and funding persist.

When it comes to in bound international students, the enrollments in Argentina have doubled over the decade, mostly because the country has become a host for international students from other Latin American countries. Compared to more expensive destinations like Chile, Argentina offers Latin American students’ high-quality education at relatively low costs. According to government statistics; Argentina hosted 57,953 international students in the university sector alone in 2015 (excluding students enrolled at other post-secondary institutions). This compares to 19,855 foreign degree-seeking students in Brazil (2015) and 12,654 students in Mexico (2016), as per UIS data.

“Like the rest of the world, education in Argentina is not perfect. Drop-out rates run high and school days run short. However, the nation is making a clear effect to improve the situation for students and educators across their country.”

– Maura Byrne
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Government’s Role in Singapore’s Education Development

Kranthi Ramasayam

Introduction

Singapore’s interest in education development is its drive towards economic development with a newly formed nation and a challenge of having few to no natural resources. This was possible with industrialization, in order to achieve this, they need skilled workforce. This constituted Singapore to build a system where education could help build economy and reduce unemployment. Education also helped to bring people together in the new nation.

Development

Singapore is one of the top performers in the world of education. Developing from its origins where college education was not a practical option and even primary & secondary education enrollments were low to its 97.5% literacy rate[2].

Singapore’s government has put in a substantial amount of thought and funding into educating its people. Most of the countries have the priority for education but are not focused on it, mainly due to issues like funding and its people’s interest. Singapore introduced vocational education programs for pupils with different academic abilities along with the regular academic streams, this mainly facilitated people’s interest with their future industrial opportunities and at the same time provided industries with potential in growth of skilled workforce.

Singapore has successfully introduced and implemented a number of policies for education. These policies are the reason for the development in education system. Initially stating out with focus on primary education and now with the higher education as the development in education system improve. Singapore is also home for different races specifically Malay, Chinese and Indian. Instead of promoting the race specific schools, the government itself build schools to facilitate all the people irrespective of racial difference. And a policy with mandatory primary school education was introduced.

Singapore’s education system encouraged bilingual education with language of instruction being English. This helped for people to preserve their cultural heritage, have a common ground and internationally helpful communication skill.

Singapore has introduced policies that help people to get educated, like providing funds and discounts intuition fee for minority and low-income people. These policies are helpful for population that need education to grab an opportunity and create an economic standing.
With this well build and diverse education system, Singapore is now attracting international students. This helps in growth of country’s GDP which is contributed by a well-planned education system. International students also bring their part of culture into innovations and new ideas which could make further development of industries possible.

Conclusion
A well-planned and implemented system could not fail, Singapore’s education system just proves that. This is possible with its need for education to help its growth. As a representative of people, a government plays an important role in guiding them towards a better future. Singapore has definitely succeeded in guiding its people towards a bright future through its policies towards education.

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Education System in India

To start on an optimistic note, the education system in India is competitive and trains students rigorously to withstand fierce competition on a worldwide scale. We must acknowledge that our scholars are at par if not superior to most of the students abroad. Having read this, we must likewise admit that our (Indian) education system calls for a 'makeover'. It is too much information-oriented, which leaves little scope for creativity, inventions and self-learning.

Modern-day educational needs to enable the future generation to withstand the tensions and stresses of society and forge ahead amidst trials and trials. The growing incidence of crimes and suicides committed by juveniles and the youth speaks volumes of the deficiencies of our training system.

· The greatest drawback of our education system is the presence of so many different tables. Almost every state in India owns a curriculum of its own. What we require is a single Board with a solid course of study which includes things other than just 5 subjects until 10th standard and 2 choices after that.

· Training in sports should be recommended from the very outset of the schooling process. This is something that Indian schools have constantly neglected. Many schools do not even have proper sports teachers. For the sake of formality, students are given a football or a cricket ball once a week and left on the playground to practice whatever they like to manage with it.

I would like to list a few flaws with content within and beyond the current responses.

1) Formulas win over concepts; marks win over knowledge and theory wins over the practice. Our training system currently resembles a huge rat race, quite bloody in fact. We all thought rat race existed only when one starts to work but it's not the case in the Indian education system.

2) Not all jobs are equal Unless you are too rich that formal education doesn't matter to you or too pathetic that you can't afford education, you can't be JUST an athlete, or merely a singer, or merely a painter (barring a handful of exceptions). One needs to have the proper education to be shown little respect in the society else people look at you like you do not belong there.

3) Shortage of well-trained teaching staff and advisors Although the minimum salary and prestige may be (and are) the reasons for this, the story works well beyond this. Many want pomp and show off software life whereas they forget that teaching is one of the noblest job professions.

4) Reservation Although touchy topic and I am relatively in favor (this requires one complete post) of keeping it for a short term until a concrete resource-based reservation system can be created (like for the bottom 20% in terms of riches).

5) We focus on everything except Research and Training In the continuum of education, we lie in-between. We ignore both research and training required. Results are herds of 'educated' graduates who are not innovators, neither experts nor skilled enough to be employable. Results are herds of ‘educated’ graduates who are not innovators, neither experts nor skilled enough to be employable.
India had the Gurukula system of education in which anyone who wished to study went to a teacher's (Guru) house and requested to be taught. If accepted as a student by the guru, he would then stay at the guru's place and help in all activities at home. All learning was closely linked to nature and to life, and not confined to memorizing some information. As time went on Indian government made education compulsory for children in the age group of 6-14. The school system in India has four levels: lower primary (age 6 to 10), upper primary (11 and 12), high (13 to 15) and higher secondary (17 and 18). The lower primary school is divided into five “standards”, upper primary school into two, high school into three and higher secondary into two. Students have to learn a common curriculum largely (except for regional changes in mother tongue) till the end of high school. India has two education boards State, CBSE and ICSE. Both the CBSE and the ICSE council conduct their own examinations in schools across the country that are affiliated to them at the end of 10 years of schooling (after high school) and again at the end of 12 years (after higher secondary). Each state has three kinds of schools that follow the state curriculum. The government runs its own schools in land and buildings owned by the government and paying the staff from its own resources. These are generally known as government schools. The fees are quite low in such schools. Then there are privately owned schools with their own land and buildings.

We cannot deny the fact that the Indian government and institutions have been working to reform the existing education model. However, there are still several issues which are required to be taken care of. The one change which is necessary in Indian education system is removing the caste system where they give admissions to the students based on their caste instead of marks. For an example if a student who is of caste A score 96% and if a student of caste B scores 70% and if they both apply to the same college and if there is only one seat remaining the priority will be given to the student who belongs to a particular caste which is given more priority than the other. This has become a bad practice where students who score more marks has no value for his work.

To be straight, in Japan and China till class 4 students are taught how to be a good human, well behaved and responsible for the deeds they do. Here in India as soon as the kid starts speaking parents have a plan on preparing the kid for IIT and NEET. I mean here education is just for mugging things up and spilling it on the papers and getting good marks. That is the sole reason why we are struggling with our education system.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying the day when there is no politics and forced education stops in India is, they day when the education will start to improve.

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In Canada, there is an assessment called the Pan-Canadian Assessment programme (PCAP) conducted by the CMEC which looks after 13 and 15-year-old students based on reading, mathematics, and science related disciplines. The results of this can be used for validation at the national level. In a way it is a consensus for grading the performance of students. In Canada all the provinces and territories are involved in the development of the assessments. The students that are chosen at random have an option between two official Canadian languages. One being English and the other being French. In addition, they also assess the achievements by providing questionnaires to the participating students, teachers, and the principals as well.

Consistent with the research in other countries, Canadian researchers have found a strong relation between Student level factors such as belief systems, confidence, motivation, and student achievement. The findings display that these factors influence about 80% which is majority of the variance in achievement in Canada. Historical evidence based on perceptions and attitudes such as enjoyment of science and self-efficacy and a self-concept were strongly associated with student’s achievement in Canada. There is also a correlation between a student’s learning behaviour such an inability to give attention or traits that are an along the path of depression and antisocial behaviour or hyperactivity which could hinder the learning curve adversely. Achievement in Canada can be positively correlated with something called the SES which stands for socioeconomic status. The students whose families have a comparatively higher SES have a higher tendency to attain higher levels of achievement than those who belong to a less affluent background. However, further studies have also shown that there is a weaker relationship between SES and an academic achievement. Thus, a combination of major and minor domain must be used in order to assess an individuals
performance and achievements to get a complete understanding of their full potential and their abilities.
An overview of Singapore Education System

From the past many decades, Singapore is at the top of many other countries for its education culture. Just like the US and the UK, Singapore has also become one of the education hubs for many international students. Now the question arises Why Singapore? The answer to this question is because of its education systems. Since independence, Singapore has focused on its education background, and it has changed a lot since independence. The current education phase of Singapore is ‘ability-drive’ which was established in 1997. It was initiated by ‘Thinking Schools, Learning Nation’ (TSLN). It motivates people to think creatively and develops a passion for learning new things. Education in Singapore is not just class-oriented, but it gives student problem-solving skills, engages them with real-life experience, which helps them in the real world. Singapore has a centralized education system which is flexible, expert-led and well-funded.

Singaporean culture is also one of the reasons why education in Singapore is so admirable. In Singapore, parents play a vital role. The myth that not every child is blessed with a smart brain does not exist in Singapore. All children are equally smart. More than 80 percent of parents enroll their child for extra classes other than their regular school hours so that they can master the necessary knowledge which will help them achieve success.

To conclude, Singapore is one of such nation who transformed itself from being a poor and weak country to the 4th highest per capita GDP in the world (according to the resource) by making its people educated and driving them towards education and learning.

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An overview of Singapore Education System

Girl Child Education: A Central Key To The Drive For Nigeria’s Development.

Mercy Dominic

Published online: 10Feb 2019

ABSTRACT

Being a girl child from the northern part of Nigeria, I can say I have been privileged when it comes to the support I have been given regarding my education, I have been able to earn a bachelor’s degree, and I am currently pursuing a master’s degree. This cannot be said for the majority of the girl children in Nigeria because over 70 percent of the girl children in northern Nigeria and also over 40 percent in Nigeria as a whole have no access to education. In the majority of the parts of Nigeria, girls are expected to get married and start a family immediately after high school, the unlucky ones don’t even get to finish primary, and the ones considered the luckiest are the ones that make it to college.

This is aimed at addressing the significances of educating girls, the factors influencing girls’ education and the effects of education in Nigeria. Although, gigantic steps have been taken in recent decades towards reducing the scope of this phenomenon, it is unfortunately true that girl children in Nigeria are still left behind when it comes to education. There are a variety of reasons to these effects, including poverty, early marriage and pregnancy, religious isolation and social and cultural discrimination against woman and at the for front illiteracy.

One might ask “why educate the girl child?”. I will try to contain them into four main reasons why education for girls in Nigeria is of the utmost importance. Firstly, I will say girl child education will strengthen and improve the country’s economy and thus naturally reverses the fences of poverty. The economy, development and strength of a country all depend partly on the way its citizens are educated. A world which is mostly uneducated is nowhere. In other terms, at least half of Nigeria’s population is comprised of women. Just imagine Nigeria is 50 percent male and 50 percent female, but about 20 percent of females are educated as opposed to 39 percent males. That’s Nigeria’s exact state, with more than half its entire female population uneducated. Girl child illiteracy makes most of the 96 million Nigerians unable to contribute substantially to the nation’s economic, political, intellectual and other development. Don’t forget that the male population isn’t in sterling condition either. The more girl children are educated, the more the nation progresses.

Secondly, the general heath of a family, society and nation is definitely improved by the education of girls. Education provides young girls with details about nutrition, HIV, health treatment and well-appointed expertise before planning to establish their own families. They’re also able to contribute to their communities and societies.

Thirdly, the most important step in ensuring equality between women and men is girls’ education. No greater way to smooth out the conspicuous declines in gender equality than girl
education. The importance of gender equality and, in turn, girl child education can never be overstressed for individual and greater good.

Lastly, girl child education significantly reduces domestic and sexual abuse levels. Literate women find themselves indispensable to their families, cultures and most importantly, themselves. Therefore, it is less common for an educated woman with opportunities to be a victim of domestic or sexual abuse.

Keyword: Education, gender difference

References

Education in Mali

After reading different articles on the education in Mali that will be referenced at the end of this article review, it ensued in me an awareness about the challenges this country’s pedagogic system is facing. Because I studied there during my entire childhood and teenage years, it brought a great sense of gratefulness for the opportunities I had coming from there. Even though I acknowledge a lack in the public educational system, the private sector is exceptional and has brought many excellent students. Unfortunately, it takes a minimum of funds to be able to attend a private school in Mali. This article review will focus on some strategies UHCL and the whole UH system could adopt to help some of the smart geniuses produced there.

As I mentioned, I studied in Mali for 12 years and have seen a lot of very smart students. It is no coincidence that so many good students graduate from high school going through private schools since the system is so challenging that it forces the students to excel in different areas like economics and STEM with an impressive background in math. For instance, most of my friends that came to the US to further their education skipped basic math courses like algebra and jumped straight to their first Calculus class, and to be honest, many students with a high school diploma specialized in exact science (math and physics) like myself could have skipped Calculus I and Physics I. What UHCL could do to help those students is to target the top high schools in the country and give them an opportunity to apply. To incite even more bright students to travel
all the way to Houston, a first-year scholarship can be offered to the students if they apply through their school for example. This is just a suggestion out of many.

Although a lot of students do not have the necessary resources to get an optimal education, there is a great percentage of kids from wealthy families that have enormous academic potential. Yet, most of them go to Northern Africa or France just because that is all they are being exposed to, and it will be so easy to channel them here to what, I believe, is a better academic endeavor. This concludes this article review, and I hope somethings will be done to make some changes.

Reference


Student Ambassador Buddy Program:

It was so lovely to communicate with the incoming students. Using given email template communications were sent to the students.
One of the most attractive features of the U.S. higher education system is the flexibility it provides through the number and diversity of the types of institutions it encompasses. This diversity offers students the opportunity to specialize in a variety of academic disciplines and to gain employment training.

More than 4,000 accredited institutions are U.S. higher education institutions in the United States. Unlike many countries, U.S. higher education institutions are not centrally organized or managed but are accredited at national or regional level by independent accreditation bodies. Various types of institutions offer higher education degrees. For example, liberal art institutions offer courses in the arts, humanities, languages and social and physical sciences. Most of the liberal art institutions are private. Private colleges and universities are funded by a combination of grants, gifts from alumni, research grants, and scholarship fees. Private colleges and universities are usually smaller than public institutions and can be religiously affiliated or single-sex schools.

Community colleges are another option and provide two-year associate degree programs to prepare students to pursue undergraduate studies or to help them gain immediate job skills. State colleges and universities, also known as public universities, were founded and subsidized by U.S. state governments to provide low-cost education to residents of that state. Public universities generally offer access to research opportunities and classes in a wide range of fields of study. These universities tend to be very large and generally accept a wider range of students than private universities. The interests of each student will guide their choice among the many possibilities.

Regardless of the type of institution, in the United States, students usually earn credits for the courses they take, and these credits count towards the completion of the program. Courses are often divided into 'core' subject areas to provide the foundation of the degree program and 'major' courses to provide specialization in the subject area. Students can also take "elective" courses to explore other topics of interest for a well-rounded learning experience.

The U.S. academic calendar usually runs from September to May and can be divided into two 16-18 week academic terms known as semesters. Alternatively, some schools may operate on a quarter or quarter system for multiple periods of 10-12 weeks.

With the variety of U.S. higher education options available, students are sure to find the right fit for their academic, financial, and personal needs.
write blog about is “Why I Chose the University of Houston-Clear Lake”.

Added blog in the link https://sway.office.com/zReJunRbV98TdYB2

I chose UHCL because it offers a wide range of electives & core courses which helps me to prepare for a career in the industry of my choice. My interest in recommending UCHL to my known master’s incoming students further strengthened when I came across programs like Student Ambassador Buddy Program and GLS Programs for International students. #UHCL #CareerGoals #GoHawks – HimajaMuppavarapu
India’s Education System

Abstract: The article “Do Exams throttle India’s Education System” has tried to the draw the attention on the evaluation and assessment of India’s Education System. The author has tried to list the structural flaws and organizational incapacitates that affects the Indian Education System. Itemphasizes that our system starts thrusting the fear of exams in the mind of students so that they start getting alienated from the system.

The primary purpose of school education is to teach values to students, develop their thinking skills and learning abilities. But in actual it implies unhealthy competitions, making few students feel dejected. The tests only show the retention power of students but not their actual knowledge. It seems learning is not a priority all they want is to create a curriculum that only focuses on commercial gains of students.

The Indian Education system revolves around the notion that garnering marks is the sole reason for existence on the planet. The marks that they will attain in their grades will determine their salary package, their all future perspectives. Fear of exams makes many students lose interest in going to school, that is the reason in some countries exams are completely abolished in primary/secondary level.

Though author has tried to convey the flaws in India’s Education System but healthy competition is implicit part of education. It is necessary to incorporate competition into education to help children get organized and be focused since their early ages. The article also suggests the alternative solutions that should come into effect so that learning is fun for students and they can enjoy going to school. The conducive environment is required for learning by Educational institutions.

To conclude I would like to say that the article emphasis that we need to change the current approach and instead of focusing on exams, the government should improve the quality of teaching and some alternative assessments of evaluating the students and giving them the equal opportunity to forecast their talents in a non-threatening environment.

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Transforming from Rote Learning System to Conceptual Learning

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India as a developing country, progressing fast in almost all the fields and while changes are brought to the education system, there still exists rote learning pattern where the conceptual learning has been neglected and students focus more on passing the exam, but this has been changing over time. Although we have excellent universities like IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) and IIMs (Indian Institutes of Management) and other renowned business schools, there remained few universities even today that lack in providing conceptual education.

It is very important to provide quality education to all classes of people encouraging conceptual and creative learning. Although student’s capabilities are evaluated based on the exam scores and knowledge is judged based on exam not on the conceptual understanding. Over years, India has brought many improvements in education system, by bringing in world class facilities and different study options like offline, online, off-campus, distant learning. But it is very expensive and the people in lower middle class and low-level classes cannot afford for the world class facilities.

Furthermore, due to the pressure of getting into good Universities or Colleges students gave more importance to examination scores and forgot the importance of understanding the subject rather focused on passing the exams. Lack of understanding suppressed independent thinking, creativity and practical usage of the knowledge. Learning process in India was more on examination point of view.

Over the last decade, with the advent of digital technology, many changes were brought in almost all the industries including education system. More equitable education system was brought by National Education Policy (NEP). Changes like revision of curriculum, blended learning and skilling and entrepreneurship were brought into curriculum. Education has become learner centric and strengthened innovation ecosystem. Schools are encouraging students in creative learning and Co-curricular activities. Teachers are well qualified to provide smart classes to make the learning process interesting and challenging. Digital learning platforms are increasing with various EdTech platforms where classes are offered online and students get an opportunity to collaborate and expand their networking. More funding has been provided for research activities.

Hence, over time rote system of learning is being replaced slowly with conceptual learning and student’s capability is being evaluated based on other criteria’s as well. These changes are bringing a big impact in the development of the country and it is considered important because the younger generation makes a very big difference in the development of a country.

References:
Issues in Chinese Education System

Introduction:

China has the largest education system in the world. The Chinese government puts a high value on training, as the premise of national development and modernization. The administration utilizes laws and guidelines to secure access to education, and to ensure top notch instruction. In china, education is comprehensively divided into 2 classifications: basic education and advanced education. By law, every youngster must have nine years of education from primary school (six years) to junior secondary education (three years).

Issues:

At each stage of a kid's education they should take national exams that will decide the way of their education. High scores are required all together for a kid to be qualified to go to profoundly ranked schools in the area. From elementary to secondary school, these tests decide a kid's future. Schools judge students exclusively dependent on their grades. A few schools even decide student’s seats from students with the highest score to students with the least score. Because of the importance of this one test (Gao Kao), taking it is viewed as the most significant moment of an individual's life in China. The aftereffects of the test is something that won't just influence the individual, yet their whole family. The journey to primary and secondary schools in rural areas of China is frequently an arduous one. Numerous youngsters trek to school from homes 90 minutes or further away, and given that they have the opportunity, assets, and familial help to make the most probable overnight journey, they get below average education at their schools. Urban schools, particularly in urban areas like Beijing and Shanghai, approach more assets, better innovation, and progressively qualified educators. In a system where school confirmations depend on state administered test scores, this spots rural students at a quick burden. Of the 40% of country youngsters who seek secondary education, just 5% stay in school to take college entrance tests. Most students get up around 6 am and head to sleep between 10 – 11 pm. Their whole day is spent on learning in the classroom and completing their schoolwork for the following day. Often leaving no time to enjoy socializing with their friends or practicing hobbies outside of scholarly world. Because of an absence of participation in non-academiciansubjects, they have poor communication abilities and need genuine critical thinking capacities. Most Chinese students in general, are acceptable just with regards to hypothesis. With regards to the genuine use of an ability they have retained, they cannot contend with Western students.

Solution:

Achievement isn't connected to test scores. In any case, people are all different and they all have various qualities. The high-pressure condition for young people in China is undesirable and inefficient. Fruitful people consistently do the things they love. The Leadership Society of Arizona (LSA) urges students to discover their enthusiasm and work on building up that skill. Rather than recognizing by grades, LSA urges students to find their exceptional talent and
capacities. An effective life that students are searching for should consistently coordinate what their identity is and what they like.

**Conclusion:**

China has a best approach in transforming its education system, however it is devoted to making a system that works for everybody. The legislature has said it is considering what different nations do, yet toward the day's end, it will be searching for changes that will consider Chinese students specifically.
Privatization of education in Iran has experienced many challenges and difficulties in during last three decades from 1979. After revolution in 1979 new governors decided to close all private schools. Based on their preconceptions all schools and education systems should be guided by state. But after the war with Iraq in 1988, the governors turned to privatization of schools under some state protocols. After years the numbers of private schools increased tremendously but in recent years many non-government schools (NGS) suspended their activities because of four main reasons that will be mentioned.

After war with Iraq the government was not be able to prepare sufficient financial resources for schools and they have to turn their way to privatization of the schools. Many schools enjoyed governments support which included administrative (organizational support), financial/material (low-interest loans and assignment of land), and work force (dispatching teachers) aspects. But as I mentioned before four reasons lead to suspension the private schools which are economic, organizational, managerial, and educational factors. The economic factor was based on the general condition of Iran’s economy, which included the problems like inflation, decline the value of national currency and high mortgages and rental rates of building as most of the places were rental. The second factor is lack of organizational that it means the system of determiner specially the Ministry of education changes the law and regulation many times without any attention to the NGS’s. The third problem is managerial factor. It means the lack of managerial experiences, most of the school’s founder who opened his schools many years ago are not up-to-date and they want to continue based on their last ideas and some of them want to be rich overnight. Hence it obviously clear that mismanagement on the part of these NGS founders leads to close the schools. The fourth problem is educational factors. The peak of papulation in Iran was in sixth decade so it means there were so many students that needed schools but after that decade the policy of decreasing papulation by government, diminished the papulation and generally number of students who need the schools. Hence, in these years most of the schools specially NGS’s are empty and the founders have to close the schools. Also, the lack of school facilities including appropriate teachers are the main educational reasons for suspension of NGS.

As It mentioned before in the past decades after 1979 there are not a regular policies and laws by governments for educational systems and they couldn’t accept a real private educational system at all. Also, the NGS founders’ reaction to these challenges were not appropriate. Sometimes they decided to increasing the number of students through unrealistic grading or sometimes
increasing pressure on parents to pay more or reducing teachers’ salary that all of them were depraved decisions and made the problem bigger. On the whole, most of these problems are because of economic constraints and the role of governments which want to play a direct role and control on educational system in Iran.

References
Africa has many third world countries that face challenges due to poverty and rampant corruption. The Education sector in these countries has not been spared the depravity of technological equipment and resources. The lack of resources denies students to achieve their full potential. As the world is becoming a global village, partnership and mentorship with universities in western countries can truly bridge the education gap and bring out the best from students in these countries.

Realizing this, Rice University through their RICE 360° Institute for Global Health has partnered with universities in Africa to help train STEM students. RICE 360° Institute for Global Health helps students in these countries to be innovators by turning their ideas into sustainable local solutions.

Among some of the projects RICE 360° Institute for Global Health has is the summer student exchange program where STEM students from Africa and other developing countries are sponsored to come to Rice University and work on summer projects together with Rice students. Not only is this a great learning experience for most of these students but it is also a rare opportunity for these students to work with advance equipment and turn their theoretical knowledge into tangible projects.

Some of the beneficiaries of this partnership are universities in Malawi. Malawi is a third world country in sub Saharan Africa. Every summer, RICE 360° Institute sponsors university of Malawi STEM students to come the Rice University for Summer Projects. The students are put in groups with students from all over the world to accomplish different medical projects that can be implemented in their home countries. RICE 360° Institute also sponsors a design studio, in Malawi where local students can utilize the advance equipment found in the design studio.

Through this partnership, Students from Malawi design locally made low cost ventilator, 3D printable and reusable face masks, drones, hand sanitizers, wheelchair bed, plastic face shields, pedal water dispensers and portable solar cooler. According to the manager of the Design Studio, Hillary Lodzanyama, all the innovations were made using locally available resources and they cost less to build compared to other similar products that are on the market (Xinhua, 2020). These ground breaking
innovations are deemed impossible in Africa without the exposure and partnership like what RICE 360° Institute for Global Health has with developing countries.

The partnership RICE 360° Institute for Global Health has with developing countries is the future of how STEM programs can be improved in Africa. Through collaborations like design studios and summer internships, the theoretical STEM experience of many African students can come to life by designing their own innovations.
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Shaping Tomorrow’s Global Citizens

The study examined how the globalization and the Internet age changed the way students are interconnected than ever. The article explains that educator’s responsibility to help students understand how they can act as global citizens and advance universal equality. Given the humanitarian issues facing the international community, these lessons are critical and the educators need to find ways to help empower Canadian youth to become agents of change.

If we want generations to be good global citizens it’s not enough to teach students writing and reading but the educators need to instill ethics and human values in their education as well.

Every year Balmoral Hall’s student service group supports a social justice cause. This year the group decided to sign up for Plan International Canada’s “Spread the Net Student Challenge,” a friendly competition between Canadian schools to raise funds for malaria-preventing bed nets for families in Africa. This challenge was about much more than vying for bragging rights—it was a learning experience which has had a lasting impact on the students in diverse and unexpected ways. These activities that gradually opens student mind onto our interdependence, diversity and shared community.

The results indicated growing awareness for global issues in the mind of students who are future citizens of the world.

The most profound part of the Balmoral Hall’s student service is to prepare students to succeed in a diverse and independent world.

At a time global awareness and critical thinking about international issues are more important than ever before educating and making students volunteering on social issues make them global problem solvers and help every student see the power in using volunteering and learning as a way to make the world better place.

Keywords: global citizens, universal equality, empower

Source: https://canadianteachermagazine.com/2016/09/15/shaping-tomorrows-global-citizens/
Education experts have emphasized that education plays an important role in developing social, economic, and political conditions in the Middle East over the past few decades. Both local and international resources have been invested in education; however, the improvements have been uneven, and it is time consider the results. In many locations, the lost association between educational advances and economic opportunity is the most worrying problem. As a matter of fact, the progress from schooling to social stability has been reversed in some places, and that is why it is necessary to stress on the socialization and life-capability aspects of education.

Improvements should change the structure of the education system in order to achieve economic and civic values. Graduates’ success in the Middle East should be measured by whether they can find work and become productive citizens, rather than hypothetical measures such as literacy and testing scores. Further, resources should support positive trends. In recent cases, educational investment has been very helpful for young Arab women, who show significant improvement in educational levels and economic participation, consequently their parents and communities have showed increased support for their education, meaning that positive outcomes can help change attitudes.

References

Student Ambassador /Buddy or Partner to prospective Students Experience

The need for colleges to explore alternative methods of increasing enrollment provides new opportunities and challenges in the quest to attract students. These challenges and opportunities can be addressed with the growth of a Student Ambassador Program. This work is the creation of an ambassador program consisting of current students of UHCL who reach out to prospective students, in order to both increase awareness of the program while also answering questions and being a point of contact for potential students. As an ambassador we get valuable personal enrichment and community outreach experience, the potential students gain valuable insight into the program and a point of contact to resolve any issues.

As a part of Student Ambassador Program, a number of colleges and universities provide opportunities for students to gain experience, speak publicly and serve others to better prepare them for careers in their chosen major. The importance of exposing students to this buddy program is to enhance their confidence in being able to encourage prospective students to attend their institution by portraying to them the benefits that they have enjoyed by being a student at UHCL.

Being a student ambassador the goal is to reach out to perspective students (transfer students, international students etc), Another goal is this program would increase prospective students' awareness and knowledge of the different facets of a higher education in general, and what careers are available to them once they have made a career choice. Such information can improve students’ perception about what is needed to succeed in the workplace and should generally improve the students' performance at school.

As Student ambassadors the below mentioned topics are the ones which was discussed with prospective students:

a. Provide peer-advising services for prospective international students.
b. Shared our visa experiences
c. On-Campus job Opportunities
d. Created our personal portfolio and shared our experience with the university

personal portfolio Link: https://sway.office.com/GcFen5Nds38uNsNF

--Divya Shivaprakashan
Review on “Educational Opportunities and Performance in Arkansas”

Sumanth Nacharam

UHCL
REVIEW ON “EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND PERFORMANCE IN ARKANSAS”

The author tried to measure the Educational opportunities and Performance in state of Arkansas with the help of statistical analysis. According to the article, states are graded in three categories such as chance for success, School Finance, K-12 Achievement. The author stresses that Arkansas stands below the average line irrespective of the category.

The Author explains each categories in detail.

1. Chance for success:
   - In order to measure the contribution of education in individual Life to get favorable results, Education Week Research Center has come up with chance for success index.
   - Index value helps to evaluate and grade the State in this category.
   - They take parents literacy rate, percentage of students in pre-school, how well K-12 students are good in reading and Math, high school graduation rate, steady employment into consideration while grading a state in chance for success.
   - There are 13 indicators constituting to index value and that indicators with their respective values shown in bar graph.

   ✔ However, I think chance of success also depends on students’ interest because without students’ interest in education all measures that are taken will go in vain.

2. School Finance:
   - School Finance is another important aspect which impacts on state overall grade.
   - It examines two crucial aspects such as School spending and Equity.
     School Spending deals with how much amount of money spending on Education.
     Equity reveals how the amount spend is distributed among the Schools.

   ✔ I think the author has given reasonable study and results on this aspect.
3. K-12 Achievements:

- It studies the factors such as academic achievements, how these changes over time and Achievement gaps between low and high income students. Based on these, they are again three sub categories: Status, Change and Equity.

- In my view the study should also focus on percentage of students who have chosen their career based on their qualification because it creates awareness that individual should follow their passion or interest right from their foundation.

Overall, the Author shows results in Bar graph format, compared every aspect of the study with overall US average, this will help us to estimate the Arkansas state position and aspects the state should focus on, in order to enhance its grade and improve its rank. Although the article has drawn attention by providing statistical analysis the Author did not given any suggestions which improves the state Education System and improve the literacy rate.

Reference of the Article:

INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM AND ITS STANDARDS:

I am writing this article covering some major topics that needs to address immediately in the current Indian Education system. The Article is set to cover majority of areas specified to an issue in a particular region or as a whole, however the heart of this article is about the development of the Indian education system. To explain these major topics, first we will establish the current system and its functions. India is a developing country and the current education system will determine the future and the strategic direction of this developing country.

India is a land of diversity, it has so many cultures, religion, race, languages and so on and all these differences has some influence over the education system. The Education system is not standard, every region has its own syllabus, language and they give importance to what they feel important in that particular region. For instance, the Northern part of India teach many of the subjects such as History, Science in Hindi medium. As they feel that the student should not loose his/her roots in Hindi, but I personally feel that learning the European history or the theory of relativity in another language rather than reading the (Roshni, 2019)wording of the author or the scientist like Steven Hawkings who made it possible is absurd.

Private vs Public, the Government, which is made to run the country efficiently, which has its unlimited resources and offering education should be the top in that country. But in India the Private schools and colleges are far better than the government schools and colleges. If an Individual has resources to beat his own country’s government in offering quality education, then it is a big concern that country needs to address. If People are avoiding the government education which is also free and opting for private institutions who even needs to get that government’s recognition, then there should be immediate action to develop this system. (Roshni, 2019)

Practical vs Theoretical, this is a more controversial topic that is even ongoing in India. In India, most of the syllabus is more theoretical than practical. This is good for certain areas of the education but not for all, for instance a Mechanical Engineer would benefit rather learning the practical use of an Induction Engine in an Industry rather learning it in a classroom by reading a 500-pages book. The effects of students learning theoretically and forced to write exams is leading them to memorizing the topics without even understanding. A person with a very high GPA is struggling to do a simple assembling of a piston. I am not saying that we have to eliminate the theoretical part entirely but rather maintain the theory-practical ratio according to the subjects. It will not only improve the education system but also motivates the students by making learning interesting. (K12 Acadamics, 2020)

The Personalized Education system, every student will have their own interests, dreams, and goals. The system should be designed such a way that they can have that option to pursue or at least have access to learn about it so they can decide on their own if they want to pursue it. Hence, I feel that personalized education system should be implemented to each and every one of the students based on their interest, learning capacity and aspirations. This will help the students to go for their interest area rather than falling for the same field the society or their parents think that is best for them. (Schollaro Pro, 2020)

There was a recent news that stated “ A 17-year girl got accepted into MIT - Massachusetts Institute of Technology but she found it difficult to get admission into Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) which is also a reputed college in India. But the reason for this is because she was home schooled, and she did not have a high school board certificate. MIT’s admission is based on her exceptional programming skills, these stereotypes should be avoided in India and they should value talent more than certifications.

The Majority of the article is about the area of improvement for the Indian education system but there is also a lot of current system that is working very well. India generally gives importance to education, about 74.04% of Indian people are educated which is a pretty good number for a
developing country which has the second highest population in the world. Addressing these topics certainly will add a great value to the already existing Indian education system. (Schollaro Pro, 2020)

References


Abstract

National system of higher education exhibit different histories of efforts to integrate organized research and advanced education. The American system of education extends beyond the most visible top tier. In comparison to other countries, the scale of operations is awesome here. Almost 1.5 million graduate students enrol every year awarding 300,000 master’s degree, 75,000 professional degrees and 33,000 doctorates. In contrast to the gradual progression that occurs in German system, entry to this level of American higher education system for an advanced degree comes about after a sharp break upon completion of undergraduate education. Texas, being the south’s most unique and diverse state is composed of 268 colleges and universities. Certainly a good example of a top-down educational model is the Texas higher educational system, with University of Texas Austin sitting at the top. In 1986, the University of Texas had leaped ahead of Harvard in total assets for the first time. However these financial forces are now in decline. Texas is a state of enormous potential for future development and diversification not just in oil, cattle and technology but in the high end of the economy. And the state cannot diversify the job and business structure unless there is an educational system prepared to develop state’s human resources to the fullest.

Keywords: education, US, Texas, Higher education

References

- The research foundations of graduate education. -Edited by Burton R. Clark
- Texas: The State and Its Educational System. Hodgkinson, Harold L.
A STUDY ON NPTEL® INDIA

The economy and the youth population growth of India is rapidly surging and need for the technical and advanced skills is growing to cater these requirements Indian government started a great initiative called NPTEL(National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) a Massive open online courses which is a great online resource which not only caters the students but also the teaching faulty and various professionals just like MIT open courseware in US. It is presented by the most prestigious 7 IITs and IISC institutes. In which the assignments and exams are conducted as similar to the face to face mode of learning and with a specific timeframe. Coming to the facts in 2008 the IIT entrance was conducted for around 0.32 million for meagre of 7000 seats and the number of applicants increased 10 folds by 2019 as myself wrote the exam and got rejected by this ratio it is easily visible the competition for the best education in India. Around 1.5 million students will be graduated every year without adequate practical skills and enter the job market and become a huge burden in the engineering industry. This initiative started to give the same education to all the Indians through online. As India unable to cater this needs some new innovative teaching methodologies needed to be implemented and one of these is NPTEL where anyone who is nowhere related to the IIT system can get certified by IIT through online with meagre amount of 1100 INR equivalent to 15 USD or can access the classes for free. So until around 56000 hours content has been uploaded on the website with 471+ million views. And all the videos are readily available on YouTube. Coming to the point how is this useful as the local state owned engineering colleges have very poor infrastructure facilities and the professors not well equipped with the skills and with no lab facilities in many engineering colleges this online portal is like an add-on and enhancing the required skills for the engineering backgrounds. As of now the portal only have concentrations of engineering backgrounds as they are booming the economy and more and more professionals are required in the IT and specific engineering backgrounds as it is the backbone of the economy. My view on this type of initiative is that with all those huge population and unable to give a quality education for all these types of measure like online education and online eBooks facilities make everyone accessible irrespective of any factors. There are lot of people who are dropping out the college education because of the economic backgrounds of their families and government cannot provide the financial facilities to all so this way some of measures can be taken to train the youth in engineering backgrounds and lot of companies and institutes accepting this online certifications to measure their potential and knowledge and with the increasing in the start-up ecosystem this type of skills would really make a difference without a generic degrees. The only disadvantage in this type of mode of learning is accessibility to a reliable computer and internet connection which is very scarce in Indian middle class population but due to the recent data revolution and “Make In India” campaign things are duly changing and more and more people are getting accessed to these resources and hoping to reduce this gap in near future.

Below are the detailed resources which are used as the reference for this article and would give some clear idea of advent of online education like NPTEL in India.

REFERENCES:

- https://nptel.ac.in/about_nptel.html
History and Educational structure of India.

India is the 7th largest country in the world and 2nd largest in terms of population with a population comprising of 1.35 billion, it has the largest youth population in the world with 600 million young people under the age of 25 and 28% of the population is less than 14 years of age.

India could be a powerful engine of economic growth and development if and only if India manages to modernized and expand its educational system and provide skills to its youth.

History:

In the ancient times, India had Gurukul system of education where the student who wanted to be qualified goes to the teachers house and requests the teacher to teach him and if he/she gets accepted they had to commit truly towards that education by staying at the Gurukuls.

Modern schools were brought to India in 1830’s by Lord Thomas Babington. The modern schools primarily taught subjects like science and mathematics the teachings were constricted in a classroom.

The first Board of High school and intermediate education was setup in Uttar Pradesh (a state in India) in the year 1921 and in 1952, the constitution of the board was amended, and it was renamed as Central Board of Secondary Education.

Educational Structure:

India is divided into 28 states and 8 union territories, the states have their own board called as Secondary School certificate (SSC) and there is another two boards controlled by the central known as CBSE which stands for Central Board of Secondary Education and ICSE which stands for Indian Certificate of secondary education. The SSC board is managed by the state government and whereas, the other two boards are controlled by the central government.

In both the boards the subjects and the curriculum are set by the board or the government, the student here lacks the freedom of selecting the subjects that he wants to pursue.

After the secondary education is completed, the student has a chance to choose between to the upper secondary education which provides Intermediate education certification or polytechnic which provides a diploma certification and these are controlled by the Board of Intermediate. After gaining an intermediate or a diploma certificate the student can advance to get a bachelor’s degree by joining an University and later pursuing the bachelor’s degree the student can chose between the University for Master’s degree or join polytechnic to gain a post graduate degree, either of the degree is useful to gain a doctoral degree.

Reference: World Education and News Review article. 
International Mobility of Students in Brazil

Aida Ncho

University of Houston-clear lake

July 2, 2020
Abstract

This paper examines the article “International Mobility of Students in Brazil” published by Carlos Eduardo Vergani. I will talk about the opportunities offered to International students in Brazil and the challenges they are facing.

Brazil has a growing economy which affects Education in a good way. Studying abroad helps students learn about new cultures and new skills. I think it is a good idea for government and educational institutions to encourage Brazilians to study internationally and welcome exchange and international students in their country by providing scholarships. Language is a big challenge for all international students who wish to study abroad, and an English training program is a must for all international students to facilitate their integration and their studies. The United States has the largest economy in the world, this explains why they have many international students and Brazilians are among them. Internships are available for international students only after a certain time which allows them to have experience in their fields before returning home.

Brazil’s first language is Portuguese which discourages some international students to study in Brazil even if some institutions use English for their school programs, students still need to be involved in the community which requires them to learn Portuguese. I think after putting in place the learning English program, Universities should allow international students to learn Portuguese at a free cost which will attract them more in Brazil.
References

University of Houston Clear Lake

The Global Learning and Strategy Summer Institute 2020
International Student Mobility
Latin America territory

by

Dhruviben Patel
MHA student

Aida Ncho
MBA Student

Vyshnavi Itapu
MS student

Chakravarthi Thooutreddy
MS Student
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• Introduction

• Students mobility from Latin America

• Students mobility towards Latin America

• Why Latin America is not popular?

• Reasons to study in USA

• Popular Majors

• Brief data about Latin America’s countries

• Conclusion
Introduction

• Latin American students hold 7% of international enrollments on U.S. campuses.
• Among the top 25 countries sending students to study in the U.S, Mexico holds 9th rank and Brazil is on number 10.
• 53% of the Latin American students who study overseas are originally from one of five countries: Mexico (15%), Brazil (13%), Colombia (10%), Peru (8%) and Venezuela (7%).
# Students mobility from Latin America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Latin American Students</th>
<th>Top 3 destinations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>24,950</td>
<td>USA, Spain, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>21,556</td>
<td>USA, France, Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>17,531</td>
<td>USA, France, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>13,130</td>
<td>USA, Chile, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>11,844</td>
<td>USA, Cuba, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>7,098</td>
<td>USA, Cuba, Chile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.qs.com/latin-american-students-where-do-they-choose-to-study/
Students mobility towards Latin America

- Latin America is not hotspots for overseas students.
- In 2017, only 176,000 international students (a 3.5% share of the global total), 7 in 10 of which were from other Latin American/Caribbean countries. Another 12% came from North America and Western Europe.
- “Buenos Aires Recognition Convention,”- new agreement, to better harmonize education systems across Latin America to increase student mobility within the region.
Why Latin America is not popular?

- Lack of focus on research
- Safety and Crime
- The official language of delivery
Reasons to study in USA

• growing demand for English language skills
• future career prospects
• international contacts
• program recognition
• institution prestige, among other factors.
Popular Majors

Agriculture  | Consumer Services  | Physical sciences
---          | ---               | ---
Law         | Journalism        | Arts
Biology and life sciences | Computers, Mathematics | Health
Psychology  | Social Sciences   | Humanities
Architecture and Engineering | Education  | Business

Data Source: Statista
1. Mexico

- Among Latin American countries, Mexico is on top for sending students to study in USA.
- Top five receiving states are Texas, California, New York, Arizona, Massachusetts
- Mexican students preferred Public Institute over Private Institutions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in Public Institute</th>
<th>69%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students in Private Institute</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
1. Mexico

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>% Change (1 year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>9,395</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>-2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>4,107</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>-1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>1,867</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>-3.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report
2. Brazil

- Brazil is the 10th highest sender in the world of students to the U.S. and the 24th highest receiver of U.S. students worldwide.
- U.S. is the #1 study abroad destination for Brazilians and the top 5 Receiving States of Brazil are: California, Florida, New York, Massachusetts and Texas.

Students in Public Institute 56%
Students in Private Institute 44%

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
2. Brazil

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>% Change (1 year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>6,310</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>-9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>3,917</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>-7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>-83.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>1,688</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report
3. Colombia

- The Colombian Foundation, COLFUTURO, continues to offer scholarship-loans to qualified Colombian graduate students to study abroad.
- Passport to science do the same for Colombians to study at the Master’s and Doctoral levels abroad.
- Top 5 Receiving States are: Florida, New York, Texas, California, Massachusetts.

### Students in Public Institute
- 59%

### Students in Private Institute
- 40%

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
3. Colombia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>% Change (1 year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>3,250</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>3,028</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report
4. Peru

- The top 5 receiving States of the 3,200 students from 2016 to 2017 are: Florida, New York, California, Texas and Massachusetts.

| Students in Public Institute | 59% |
| Students in Private Institute | 41% |

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
4. Peru

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>% Change (1 year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>1,517</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>-57.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report
5. Venezuela

- Venezuela is in the top 25 places of origin for international students in the U.S.
- Venezuela is the leading country in the Andean Region sending students to 2-year institutions in the U.S.
- The top 5 Receiving States are Florida (41.6% of Venezuelans), Texas, Massachusetts, New York and California.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in Public Institute</th>
<th>629%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students in Private Institute</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Venezuela

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>% Change (1 year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>5,274</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>1,295</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2017 Open Doors Report
• https://app.box.com/s/k31q7h6r1pvg8wc5s1sa19d55808g2t9
• https://www.qs.com/latin-american-students-where-do-they-choose-to-study/
• https://www.ewa.org/blog-latino-ed-beat/more-latin-americans-studying-abroad-united-states
Thank you
International Student Mobility: Africa

By
Sushma Koneru
Harry Jodelle Kamgaing
James Yobe
Ni’imat Giza
Moulaye Zein Haidara
OVERVIEW

Introduction

Top ten African countries with highest student mobility

Factors influencing student mobility

Benefits of student mobility

What degrees do African students go for?

Conclusion
Introduction

- **Africa**: Second largest and populous continent.
- Comprises 10% of students
- Rise in number of qualified African youth for education abroad.
- From 2006 to 2014, 24% increase in postsecondary degrees abroad.
- From 2013-14, it rose about 9% reflecting a strong recovery after 2 year dip.
Top ten African countries with highest student mobility

Morocco (11.3%)                Tunisia (5.1%)
Nigeria (10.2%)                Kenya (3.5%)
Algeria (5.9%)                 Senegal (3.1%)
Cameroon (5.3%)                Egypt (3.1%)
Zimbabwe (5.2%)                Botswana (2.3%)
Top ten destination countries for African students
Top ten African countries with highest student mobility in the US

Nigeria
Ghana
Ethiopia
South Africa
Ivory Coast
Egypt
Kenya
Morocco
Zimbabwe
Rwanda
Statistics for Nigeria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% Change (2018 to 2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>5689</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>5274</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>101.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>2093</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nigerian Students Studying in the U.S.

Source: 2019 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
Statistics for Egypt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% Change (2018 to 2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>1,469</td>
<td>-2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Egyptian Students Studying in the U.S.**

Source: 2019 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
Statistics for Ghana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students in U.S. by Academic Level</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% Change (2018 to 2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
<td>1121</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPT</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ghanaian Students Studying in the U.S.

Source: 2019 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)
Factors influencing students mobility

- Cost
- Financial aid
- Education system
- Immigration process
- Safety and security
- Colonial ties
- Family
- Religion and culture
Relative Importance of Costs When Deciding Whether to Apply to a U.S. College/University

- **African Students (n=219)**
  - Annual tuition and fees (before financial aid and scholarships): 62%
  - Availability of financial aid and scholarships awarded by institutions: 44%
  - Cost of Living: 54%

- **Non-African Students (n=2,541)**
  - Annual tuition and fees (before financial aid and scholarships): 60%
  - Availability of financial aid and scholarships awarded by institutions: 40%
  - Cost of Living: 30%

Source: WES's Primary Survey Data

© 2017 World Education Services

African Student Mobility: Insights and Recommendations for U.S. HEIs. www.wes.org
Benefits of student mobility

Cultural experience
Better education
Career opportunities
Personal growth
Networking
POPULAR PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Engineering

Business

Health professions

Social Sciences

Physical & Life Sciences
Popular Programs of Study

- Engineering: 22%
- Business: 15%
- Health Professions: 13%
- Social Sciences: 7%
- Physical & Life Sciences: 3%
Conclusion

Top ten African countries with highest student mobility

Factors influencing students’ mobility

Benefits of studying internationally

Popular degrees among African students
References

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Questions and comments?
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY FROM CANADA

Presented By
- Steve Fernandes
- Sudheer Godugu
- Maithri Kodakandla
CONTENTS

• Introduction
• how many canadian students study abroad?
• Canadian STUDENTS abroad
• Challenges
• Surveys and Reports
• Why Canadian Students Prefer to Study Abroad
• Benefits
• Scholarships for Canadian students
• Popular countries among Canadians
• Popular career fields
• EDUCATION ABROAD TOP OUTCOMES
• References
INTRODUCTION

- Canada has its own international education strategy
- The Government of Canada’s **International Education Strategy** includes a five-year outbound student mobility pilot program.
- That will provide funding for thousands of college and university undergraduate students to gain in-demand international skills and experience during their studies.
- In addition to giving students international learning experiences, this program is also an important step towards achieving Canada’s trade diversification goals and strengthening international networks.
HOW MANY CANADIAN STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD?

• Within the next decade, they’d like to see at least a quarter of all Canadian postsecondary education students have a learning-abroad experience.

• According to a 2016 survey, roughly 11 percent of Canadian undergraduates studied outside the country during their university years.

• The report of the Study Group on Global Education estimates that approximately 11% of Canadian undergraduates study abroad during their academic career—significantly fewer than students from France (33%), Australia (19%) and the United States (16%).

• Further, of those Canadian students that do decide to study abroad, many of them choose to study in traditional education destinations, like the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and France.
CANADIAN STUDENTS ABROAD

Canada’s Performance and Potential in International Education

Canadian Students Abroad

Top Five Fields of Study of Outbound Students

- 21% Business
- 14% Engineering
- 12% Social Sciences
- 10% Health Sciences
- 6% Education

Top 10 Destinations for Outbound Students

- UK 9%
- France 14%
- USA 8%
- Spain 4%
- Switzerland 3%
- Italy 3%
- Sweden 3%
- Germany 6%
- China 3%
- Australia 4%

Only 2.3% of university students went abroad in the 2014-15 academic year.

7 in 10 mobile students agree that their experience abroad influenced their career choice.

2/3 of mobile students agree that their experience abroad influenced their academic path.
CHALLENGES

• Encouraging Canadians to study abroad can be a challenge due to the country’s high quality of education.

• According to Suzanne Alexander, an international higher education consultant, just over 6,000 Canadian students studied in the UK in 2017/18, and most of them were studying one particular subject: law.

• There are several reasons for this. Firstly, it is hard to get into law school in Canada,” she explained.

• It’s a bachelor’s level program in the UK and that means students can come straight from high school to a three-year bachelor of laws degree.
SURVEYS AND REPORTS

- The Canadian numbers come from a periodic survey Universities Canada does of its members on internationalization.
- The last time they did the survey they found that 2.6% of students did a “for-credit” international experience, and another 0.5% did a non-credit course: total, 3.1%.
- Nearly 27,000 Canadian students studied at higher education institutions in the United States during the 2011/12 academic year, according to the 2012 Open Doors Report.
- In fact, the total international student enrolment in the U.S. is at a record high with Canada being the fifth leading place of origin.
WHY CANADIAN STUDENTS PREFER TO STUDY ABROAD

- Studying abroad can help you get hired later
- It’s not as expensive as you think
- Your credits from abroad will count towards your degree
- You can escape winter
- You can experience what easy travel looks like
BENEFITS

• Developing global ready graduates.
• Enriching the campus environment.
• Recruiting global ready graduates.
• Exposure to new culture.
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CANADIAN STUDENTS

• Key barriers reported by Canadian students include the cost of studying outside of Canada and difficulties in transferring credits earned at educational institutions abroad.

• While some government programs provide financial support to Canadians who study abroad, these supports are often allocated based on merit, without considering the needs of certain under-represented students who face unique barriers.

• Canada provides scholarships for graduate students who study anywhere in the World but there are some specific scholarships for the students studying in USA, Europe, Asia, Australia & New Zealand.
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CANADIAN STUDENTS

- Arts Graduate Scholarships.
- UNESCO-L’Oréal for Women in Science.
- Canada-China Scholars’ Exchange Program.
- Foreign Government Awards – Korea.
- Canada-Australia Partnerships and Scholarships.
- Saltire Scholarships.
- Canada-US Fulbright Program.
Most Canadians prefer to study in their own country.

The remaining students decide to study abroad in the following countries:

1. Germany (80.7%)
2. United Kingdom (75.8%)
3. France (68.6%)
4. Netherlands (67.9%)
5. Russia (62.6%)
6. Switzerland (62.2%)
7. Sweden (61.3%)
8. Belgium (60.4%)
9. Italy (60.2%)
10. Poland (60.1%)
POPULAR CAREER FIELDS

1) Project Manager
2) Software Engineer
3) Web developer
4) Program analyst
5) Java Developer
EDUCATION ABROAD TOP OUTCOMES

Education Abroad Top Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Learned more abroad</th>
<th>Learned about the same</th>
<th>Learned less abroad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of host country</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural awareness and understanding</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Openness to difference</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of world events</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-confidence</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of own identity</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Greatest Barrier to Education Abroad: Cost

80% of students require financial assistance in order to participate

- Lack of finances
- Delay graduation
- Course credit concerns
- Need to work
- Miss friends

60% of students received credit on their Canadian transcript for their most recent experience abroad

Better career outcomes: "I was recently hired for my first job with a company in Quebec - my cross-cultural experience and French language experience definitely helped me get noticed and land this amazing position."

- Undergraduate student with education abroad experiences in the UK and France


cbie-bcie.ca
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THANK YOU

STAY HOME

STAY SAFE
International Student Mobility From Europe to USA

-by Dhrutiben Patel and Rafeeq uz Zaman Mohammed
Introduction:

USA and Europe have pretty much comparable economy, the mobility of students between USA and Europe is almost the same.

The countries which contribute heavily in sending international students to USA are mostly the same countries that receives students from USA. There are few countries which has more outflow towards USA than Inflow like Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Slovenia, Ukraine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students going to USA</th>
<th>students coming from USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1111</td>
<td>3216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1087</td>
<td>1285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>4610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1490</td>
<td>4632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>8814</td>
<td>17214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>10169</td>
<td>11900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>2318</td>
<td>3592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>1086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1217</td>
<td>11070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5593</td>
<td>34894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Alumni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2551</td>
<td>3433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>2293</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1489</td>
<td>789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1173</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5412</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>1055</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>7164</td>
<td>29975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>4053</td>
<td>1441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1487</td>
<td>2032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>10586</td>
<td>705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1817</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>11,489</td>
<td>39,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>93068</td>
<td>177005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Country Students coming to USA (in Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students coming to USA (in Thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reasons

- Scholarships
- ‘More than just an exam’ kind of holistic approach of USA universities to evaluate students.
- Cultural diversity
- Networking
- OPT opportunities. European students are involved in OPT.
- High standard of education in USA.
- Students are much inclined towards STEM and Math programs.
1. United Kingdom

1. Student mobility trends towards USA

- The United Kingdom the leading country from the Europe/Eurasia region sending students to the U.S.

- 21% increase of British students studying in the U.S. since 2013

- U.S. is the #1 destination for study abroad

(Source: uis.unesco.org)
3. Distribution by Institution Type:

Distribution by institution type

- Undergraduate: 50%
- Graduate: 24%
- Non-Degree: 16%
- OPT: 10%

4. Public vs private sectors: Private institutions are more preferred
- All Students in Public Institutions: 43%
- All Students in Private Institutions: 57%

5. Top 5 Receiving States: New York, California, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas
2. Germany

- 4% increase of Germany students studying in the USA since 2013
- 27% increase of U.S. students studying in Germany since 2012

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
3. Distribution by Institution Type:

![Distribution by institution type diagram]

4. Public vs private sectors: Private institutions are more preferred
   - All Students in Public Institutions: 43%
   - All Students in Private Institutions: 57%

5. Top 5 Receiving States: New York, California, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas
3. Turkey

- The U.S. is the #1 study abroad destination for students from Turkey.
- Turkey is the #15 sending country to the U.S. globally, and the 2nd largest in Europe, following the UK. The majority of Turkish students seek full degrees (33.3% are enrolled in undergraduate, and 45.1% in graduate programs in AY 2016/17).

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
3. Distribution by Institution Type:

4. Public vs private sectors: Private institutions are more preferred
   All Students in public Institutions 61%
   All Students in private Institutions 39%

5. Top 5 Receiving States: New York, California, Massachusetts, Texas, Illinois
4. France

- 6% increase of French students studying in the U.S. since 2013

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
3. Distribution by Institution Type:

- Undergraduate: 35%
- Graduate: 27%
- Non-Degree: 25%
- OPT: 13%

4. Public vs private sectors: Private institutions are more preferred
   - All Students in public Institutions: 47%
   - All Students in private Institutions: 53%

5. Top 5 Receiving States: New York, California, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas
5. Spain

- 42% increase of Spanish students studying in the U.S. since 2013

- 13% increase of U.S. students studying in Spain since 2012

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
3. Distribution by Institution Type:

- Undergraduate: 11%
- Graduate: 21%
- Non-Degree: 39%
- OPT: 29%

4. Public vs private sectors: Private institutions are more preferred
   - All Students in public Institutions 51%
   - All Students in private Institutions 49%

5. Top 5 Receiving States: New York, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Florida
1. Student mobility trends towards USA

- Among EU member states, Italy ranks fifth in the student mobility to the United States. Overall U.S-bound student mobility increased by 30.8% since 2013.
- Italy is the second most popular destination globally among US students studying abroad after United Kingdom.
- Two Education USA centres in Italy located at Fulbright commission in Rome and other at U.S consulate in Naples.

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
2. Distribution by Institution Type:

- Undergraduate: 47%
- Graduate: 18%
- Non-Degree: 18%
- OPT: 17%

3. Public vs Private Universities: Private institutions are more preferred

- All Students in public Institutions: 47%
- All Students in private Institutions: 53%

4. Top 5 Receiving States: California, New York, Massachusetts, Florida, and Illinois
7. RUSSIA

1. Student mobility trends towards USA

- The number of undergraduate students from Russia has increased by 19.6% over the past 5 years.
- Russian students have been involved in OPT participation which increased by 35% over past 5 years.
- The population of 15-24 year old has decreased by 22% in past five years in Russia.
- Russian students study at Universities in all 50 states, Washington D.C and Puerto Rico

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov(Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
2. Distribution by Institution Type:

3. Public vs Private Universities: Public institutions are more preferred

All Students in public Institutions 57%
All Students in private Institutions 43%

8. SWEDEN

1. Student mobility trend towards USA

- There are two EducationUSA advising centres in Sweden, one in Stockholm (Swedish Fulbright commission) and Malmo (Malmo Borgarskola).
- There has been a small decline in students studying in USA from year 2016 to 2017. However, there is an increase of 33% in USA students studying in Sweden.
- Swedish Government and Centrala studiestodsnamden (CSN) provides higher loans for students studying in U.S.

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
2. Distribution by institution type

3. Public vs Private Universities: Public institutions are more preferred

All Students in public Institutions 56%
All Students in private Institutions 44%

4. Top 5 Receiving States: California, New York, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts
1. Student mobility trend towards USA

- 29% increase of the Dutch students studying in the U.S since 2012.
- Netherlands is a host of the stop on the annual Education USA Europe LL.M. tour.

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov(Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
2. Distribution by institution type

3. **Public vs Private Universities**: Public institutions are more preferred
   All Students in public Institutions 52%
   All Students in private Institutions 48%

10. GREECE

1. Student mobility trend towards USA

- There has been a 38.6% growth in the undergraduate degree seeking students in the U.S from 2013.
- There is a growth of 31.4 percent in the students exercising their OPT option.
- Greece hosts a successful annual fair in October of every year attracting over 400 highly talented and prepared students.

All data taken from educationusa.state.gov (Europe student Mobility Facts and Figures)
2. Distribution by institution type

3. Public vs Private Universities: Private institutions are more preferred
   All Students in public Institutions 45%
   All Students in private Institutions 55%

Thank You!!
International Student Mobility

Territory - India
Team Members:

Himani Saxena

Sandeep Sagar Muralidhar

Rohan Khedkar

Initha Annamalai Sharavanan

Aravindhakshan Valagurunathan

Sudheer Kumar Nyalam

Harshith Sathyaprakash
Table of Contents

01 International Student Mobility-Introduction
02 Factors Influences to Study Abroad
03 Impacts and Causes
04 Financial Impacts & Post-Study
05 Popular Universities
06 Most Sought Courses
07 Popular Majors and Career Fields
08 Pros and Cons of Student Mobility
India plays an important role as a source country for international student mobility.

Over the past years, India has become not only second world’s largest sending market, next to China, but also one of the fastest growing sources of outbound students.

The number of students pursuing study abroad continues to surge as a demand for higher education rises and student explores new destinations that may offer affordable and relevant programming study.
India sent around 202,014 students in 2018, which is the second largest country sending students to US.

Students from India and China accounts for more than 50% of all international students arriving in US.

By 2014/15, 281,160 Indian students enrolled in today’s top seven destinations. Among those:

- 47 percent enrolled in the U.S. (132,888)
- 17 percent in Canada (48,633)
- 13 percent Australia (35,380)
- 7 percent in the U.K. (19,485)
- 6 percent enrolled in China (16,694)
- 6 percent enrolled in New Zealand (16,325)
- 4 percent enrolled in Germany (11,655)
Preference Factors Influences to Study Abroad

Institute Preference Influences:

- Academic Reputation & Recognition of degree
- Program duration
- Flexible credit system and practical exposure
- Fixed financial structure, scholarship assistance
- Heterogenous community, Global exposure
- Research opportunities
- Support and facility system
- Student placement services
Preference Factors Influences to Study Abroad

Country Preference Influences:

• Human Development Index value of the country
• Economical position of the country in the world
• Budget for Education and Research
• VISA process and connectivity to home country
• Part time work permits and scholarships
• Safety aspects, low crime rates, health care culture.
Impacts and Causes of International student mobility

CAUSES:

- Students going abroad can help India by investing the money in various projects in India.
- Also, they can act as brand ambassadors at their foreign employers or countries.
- Additionally, a 44% rise in spending by students for study abroad programs means these students bring significant economic gain to foreign markets.
Chart showing survey results for outbound student mobility. Image: EAIE
IMPACTS:

• The rupee tends to weaken against the dollar during the July - September quarter when students are buying dollars to fund their studies and then strengthens in the subsequent quarters.

• Of the top 11 economies in the world — contributing to over 70% of global GDP—nine would have a shortage of skilled workforce by 2030, at current rates of growth.

• India would barely make it, but will struggle to ensure availability of highly skilled workforce to run own businesses.
Chart showing quarterly trend in rupee movement: Source Education times
Financial Impacts

- Nearly 70% of all Indian students in the US were enrolled at master’s level in STEM and are concentrated in California, New York, and Texas.
- In 2016 the economic impact on the countries were like over 300,000 Indian students with estimated of $17.8 billion.
- The United States was the biggest beneficiary receiving effect to the tune of $8 billion, followed by Australia and the UK receiving $2.7 billion and $1.2 billion respectively.
Post Study

- Though Indians make up 1 percent of the population, they comprise 8 percent of the founders of high-tech technology start-ups in Silicon Valley.
- India will receive nearly $80 billion of overseas remittances this year—a 16% leap from last year’s $69 billion.
- The top courses studied by Indian students are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MBBS</td>
<td>2,01,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Management</td>
<td>1,89,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>1,76,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths &amp; Computer Science</td>
<td>1,09,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>80,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical &amp; Life Sciences</td>
<td>78,838</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top occupations of Indian college graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer software engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer scientist and systems analyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer programmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer and info systems manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer (misc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical lab technicians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Popular Universities:

These are few of the most sought-after universities in the United States of America for pursuing Master’s according to the study given by the website, www.niche.com and USnews.com/topuniversities:

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Stanford University
- University of California--Berkeley
- University of Pennsylvania
- Carnegie Mellon University
- University of California – Los Angeles
- SUNY Buffalo
- University of Chicago – Champagne Urban
Most Sought Courses:

Students in India plan on pursuing their master’s degree from their schooling days. From preparing for competitive exams to choosing the most popular course, there is a lot of pressure on the students. But on an average, these few of the most chosen/pursued degrees in the USA for Master’s:

- MBA – Masters in Finance/Financial Management.
- Masters in Computer Science.
- Masters in MIS.
- Masters in Biotechnology.
Majors:

MBA – Masters in Finance/Financial Management.
- For those who are driven to make money and take control of their future, getting a master’s in the business and finance field will make them an asset to any corporation.
- An MBA can even give a person control of their own corporation if they decide to build one. One of the study options available to business majors is entrepreneurship and how to build a company.
- For those who have a passion for understanding money itself and working in investment and banking in the future, an MBA or master’s in finance a great degree, and earning it will set them up for an incredible future of leadership and financial success.
Majors:

Masters in Computer Science.

• With technology taking off to levels never thought possible, the demand for computer science (CS) majors is growing year by year.
• CS graduates can pursue a career in any industry, and with large growth and large demand comes large paychecks.
• What makes CS one of the top areas in which to pursue a master’s degree is simply the knowledge that students receive, plus the high demand and growing pay for the field.
Majors:

Masters in Management Information Systems.

- **MIS** is the application of computer related technology to managerial programs. With a Master of Science (MS) in MIS, you will acquire foundational business knowledge with courses focused on Information Systems.

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in 2014 that the need for computer and information systems managers would grow 15 percent over 10 years, an expansion of over 50,000 jobs.

- Graduate MIS professionals combine people skills and tech skills to influence and change organizations. Academic work in computer science education focuses on programming logic and deliverable application.
Majors:

Masters in Biotechnology.

• With a **Master** of Science in **Biotechnology**, you can be part of new and exciting discoveries that may change many lives. UHCL is the first **university** in **Texas** to offer three concentrations in **Biotechnology**: Molecular Biotechnology, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, and Biotechnology Management and Marketing.

• Biotechnology isn't considered as a 'good' course mainly because of lesser, high-paying job opportunities in the field. If you've done your Bachelors in a biology related subject, it is highly probable that you won't get a job in the same field; and even if you do, your salary will mostly not be as high as an IT guy's salary.
Popular Majors:

- Based on the interests of the individual Universities in the United States offers various degree plans.
- Some popular includes Business, Nursing, Psychology, Biology and Science and Engineering, according to the recent CNBC report.
- Major students from India opt for the Science and Engineering Major, some popular degrees from that major are Computer Science, Biology and Industrial Engineering.
- Most recent figures from the National Centre for Education Statistics (NCES) show that students earned approximately 1.9 million degrees during the 2014 to 2015 school year — a 32 percent increase from 2005 out of which 19 percent are Business Degrees prompting it as the most popular degree in the United States of America.
Popular Career Fields:

• United states welcomes International workers, especially there are vast number if fields to choose from.

• International students can take advantage of the Optional Practical Training programs, Work - Study programs offered.

• According to an article published the popular career fields in the United states are Software Engineers, Registered Nurse, Web Developers, Operations Manager and Data Scientists.

• Every University have a specific department where students can learn about various careers they could choose according to their degree, for instance UHCL has career services, an entire department dedicated in helping the students into your pursuit of a fulfilling career
Pros and Cons of Student Mobility.

**Pros.**
- Studying abroad gives us better learning opportunities.
- International exposure.
- Broadens your horizons.
- Creates social network around the world.
- Builds your resume and personality.

**Cons.**
- International education comes with high cost investment.
- Intense homesickness.
- Cultural and Language barriers.
India’s Growing Influence in International Student Mobility—Pawan Aggrawal


https://blog.thepienews.com/2019/02/mobility-of-indian-students-preparing-for-the-future-growth/


https://scholarship-positions.com/top-jobs-for-international-students-in-the-usa/2019/04/06/

https://www.cnbc.com/2017/12/15/the-6-most-popular-college-majors.html
THANK YOU
Population/mobility trends for US territory

Anupama Dash
Himaja Muppavarapu
Sumanth Nacharam
Divya Shivaprakash
Agenda

- Reasons of students’ travel to US
- Popular major
- Popular career fields
- Undergrad Vs Grad student mobility
- Conclusion
American universities are widely known for the quality of their teaching and research. The United States is the number one and largest destination for international students seeking higher education overseas. The education system in USA is the most versatile and flexible higher education system for international students in the world.

Today about 30 percent of all current international students in the world are studying in the United States.
Why Students come to US?

• Excellent Academic Programs

• Academic Flexibility

• Research and Training Opportunities

• Specialized library and resources

• American culture and campus life

• Help and support to international students
Changing Majors

According to a recent report from the University of La Verne, roughly half of all college freshmen enter college undecided about their major.

Additionally, as many as 70% will change their major at least once during the course of their four-year degree program.

The majority of these students change their major at least three times.

Many students worry that changing their major will delay graduation and, as a result, significantly increase their overall tuition costs.

However, shifting major fields had a "minimal impact" on planned graduation times.
Most Popular Majors

Students typically choose their major based on career-related factors, such as job availability and employment rates in their proposed field.

The following table lists the most popular majors among today's college graduates.
Majors With the Highest Employment Rate

Employment rates will differ between professionals who enter the workforce with a bachelor's degree and those who go on to earn a master’s.

Studies have also found that employment rates varied between new graduates and bachelor's degree-holders with multiple years of professional experience.

The following table shows unemployment rates for new bachelor's graduates, experienced bachelor's graduates and master's degree-holders:

![Unemployment Rate Chart]

- Bachelor's Graduates (no experience)
- Bachelor's Graduates (some experience)
- Master's Graduates
Happiest Majors
College alumni can be a helpful source of information for students who are exploring different areas of study or considering a change in their major focus.

A recent poll by PayScale found that degree-holding alumni generally recommended majors in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Additionally, the following table shows PayScale's alumni recommendation ratings (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Recommendation Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting &amp; Finance</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimedia &amp; Web Design</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology &amp; Chemistry</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Career Fields

• 48% of the international students opted for STEM Fields.

• Demand in Engineering, Math and Computer Science Professionals made incoming students to choose career path related to those fields.

• The Negative side of this trend is, percentage of students enrolling in Education, Humanities, Legal study and law Enforcement, Intensive English and Agriculture sharply declined.
Bar Graph: Career Fields Trend
Undergraduate Education in United States

- For the most part, U.S. undergraduates do not declare majors until the second year, but engineering is an exception, generally requiring students to declare a major in their freshman year.

- At the undergraduate level, in 2017 40% of international students were enrolled in Science & Engineering fields. Within Science and Engineering, the broad fields with the highest enrollment of international students are engineering, computer sciences, and the social sciences (particularly economics).
Undergraduate Enrollment in United States

- Based on recent data collected in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) at the Department of Homeland Security, international undergraduate enrollment increased consistently from nearly 350,000 in fall 2012 to nearly 451,000 in fall 2016 but dropped to about 441,000 by fall 2017.

- Between 2016 and 2017, international undergraduate enrollment in S&E fields remained steady, rising only 0.2% or 360 students, while declining 3.8% in non-S&E fields during this time. The decline may reflect a smaller influx of international students in the United States.
### Table 2-10

**International students enrolled in U.S. higher education institutions, by broad field and academic level: 2012–17**

(Number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field and level</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All fields</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All levels</td>
<td>633,070</td>
<td>673,480</td>
<td>747,400</td>
<td>776,720</td>
<td>840,160</td>
<td>808,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>349,400</td>
<td>371,990</td>
<td>405,930</td>
<td>416,350</td>
<td>450,850</td>
<td>440,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>283,680</td>
<td>301,490</td>
<td>341,470</td>
<td>360,380</td>
<td>389,310</td>
<td>367,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>S&amp;E fields</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All levels</td>
<td>278,180</td>
<td>305,610</td>
<td>355,910</td>
<td>384,540</td>
<td>420,610</td>
<td>406,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>115,800</td>
<td>130,050</td>
<td>147,790</td>
<td>157,820</td>
<td>176,570</td>
<td>176,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>162,390</td>
<td>175,570</td>
<td>208,110</td>
<td>226,720</td>
<td>244,040</td>
<td>229,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-S&amp;E fields</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All levels</td>
<td>354,890</td>
<td>367,870</td>
<td>391,500</td>
<td>392,190</td>
<td>419,550</td>
<td>402,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>233,600</td>
<td>241,950</td>
<td>258,140</td>
<td>258,520</td>
<td>274,280</td>
<td>263,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>121,290</td>
<td>125,920</td>
<td>133,360</td>
<td>133,660</td>
<td>145,270</td>
<td>138,610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note(s)**

No additional notes provided.
Graduate Education in United States

• In some fields, such as engineering and geosciences, a master’s degree can fully prepare students for an established career track. In other fields, master’s degrees primarily mark a step toward doctoral degrees. Master’s degrees awarded in S&E fields nearly doubled from 2000 to 2018.

• Since 2008, S&E graduate students with temporary visas have kept U.S. graduate enrollment in these fields from shrinking. Since that year, these students’ share has risen from 26% to 36% of the total, making them an ever more vital part of this critical enterprise. Although enrollment of international students in S&E fields has been on the rise.

• Data from SEVIS show an overall 6% decline in international graduate students from fall 2016 to fall 2017
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• https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/international-students-united-states#Geography

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International Student Mobility

- Foram Nisar
- Kranthi Ramsayam
- Pavan Kumar Gowravarapu
Mobility trends in china

Where are the Chinese students headed?
According to UNESCO, out of 1.4 billion China’s population around 17.5% of the students study abroad.

Countries Chinese students prefer to study?
Here are some top preferred countries. Among all the countries, US is the top country where Chinese students are majorly headed followed by Australia, UK, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Germany, France and New Zealand.
Mobility Trends in Singapore

Where are the Singaporean students headed?
According to UNESCO, out of 5.70 million Singapore’s population around 0.4% of the students study abroad.

Countries Singaporean students prefer to study?
Here are some top preferred countries. Among all the countries, Australia is the top country where Singaporean students are majorly headed followed by UK, US, Malaysia, Canada, Ireland, Germany and New Zealand.
Singapore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of origin</th>
<th>Destination country</th>
<th>Key Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Students abroad: 23,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>(% of total mobile students) 0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Outbound mobility ratio ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Gross outbound enrolment ratio ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Students hosted: ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Total number of mobile students hosted 53,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>(% of total mobile students) 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Inbound mobility rate ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African Rep.</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reasons

- Learn new culture
- Explore the world
- Learn foreign language
- Sports Education
- Experience different education system
- A second chance
Top Majors

- Business Management
- Computer Science
- Finance
- Math
- Economics
Top Career Fields

- MARKETING AND ADVERTISING
- JOURNALISM
- ENGINEERING (ALL DEGREES)
- SALES & IMPORT/EXPORT
- EDUCATION
- MANAGEMENT
- CONSULTING
Undergrad vs Grad Student Mobility

- Foreign degree holders (returnees) in comparison with domestic degree holders
Perceived advantages to having a foreign degree
Reference:

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http://blog.tutorming.com/business/top-8-career-opportunities-in-china
Buddy Program Recaps and Reports
Hello everyone, my name is Dhruvi and I would like to share my experience with you all. First of all, I am grateful to the Global Learning Strategy (GLS) for providing an excellent opportunity which enhances my growth both on a personal level and also in terms of professional aspects. During Summer-20 Institute, one of the projects was Buddy program. The main aim is to connect with prospective students and guide them. Me and Dhruti, another student ambassador, contacted our buddy Himali Patel. During our introductory conversation, we were fascinated by the fact that we did our Dentistry from the same University in India and Himali also wanted to pursue MHA which we are currently studying. To make our chat smooth process we created our WhatsApp group named UHCL: Buddy Project.

It was a great experience to talk with Himali as I have been in her shoes. The first concern after deciding U.S University is visa interview. So, we shared our visa experiences with Himali, gave a few tips and practiced mock interviews. She told that it helped to increase her confidence level. I personally enjoyed creating a portfolio and sharing it with Himali and Dhruti. Himali replied on that by saying, ‘It was fun watching the portfolios, it seems like you guys are having a great life experience at Houston.’ We further discuss about on-campus job opportunities and how to apply for that.

After talking with Himali for few weeks, I can say that she is friendly, energetic, enthusiastic and sincere. I am glad that through this program we got a chance to understand each other better and help each other through our experiences. We are excited to meet face to face once this pandemic gets over and she comes here.

To conclude, it was a great experience to be a Buddy partner.
Report on the Buddy project

As we started on the buddy project I was excited to meet one more student and my potential friend from my own country. The wait came to end when I learned in the second week that the buddy I was given to share my experiences with, is from my own university. She turned out to be my junior and my student from the same university I graduated and had joined as faculty. My buddy’s name is Himali Patel and my fellow ambassador’s name is Dhruviben Patel. I and my fellow ambassador really enjoyed navigating her way to UHCL. We created our own little WhatsApp group where we stayed in contact with one another. Interacting with two of them about our similar background in dentistry, our major healthcare administration and our common current and future career path was so much fun and informative. We guided Himani about the visa interview questions and shared our notes and preparation tips. We discussed our UHCL campus life experiences and Houston life experiences. We shared our portfolio which has all of theses information with pictures and in her own words “It was so much fun seeing you guys enjoying life there!” . Our buddy was also curious about how the pandemic has affected us and how are dealing with it. We explained her in detail and I guess that has made her less apprehensive about the current situation. We also guided our buddy on how to prepare an on-campus job and how to develop a network here. Overall, it was so much fun and learning experience for me as I got to know my buddy and fellow ambassador better. I am grateful to UHCL for providing me these opportunities.

-DHRUTIBEN PATEL
Buddy/Ambassador Experience

Working as a student ambassador included various weekly projects, and the buddy program was one of the most instructive branches of the summer institute. The most fulfilling part of the buddy program’s projects were the interaction with our respective students. First, emailing the new student and keeping track of their transition to UHCL gave me a satisfactory sense of responsibility. Secondly, the professional portfolio project was a great opportunity to showcase my story of coming to Houston and my experience with networking and getting jobs at UHCL. Lastly, sharing the steps involved in getting a job as an international student was a valuable resource for the newcomers.

Another instructive aspect of the buddy program was the collaboration with my partner. Our collaboration was smooth and made the projects’ executions go faster. For instance, we would send the weekly emails alternatively; if this week I send the email to complete a specific week’s project, she would take care of the email of the following week’s project.

The buddy program is an essential part of the Summer Institute. It helps new students get massive insights on being an international student at UHCL, and how to succeed academically and professionally. For future improvements, the buddy program can add an accountability system on the student’s hand so that they are more inclined to replying the ambassadors. For instance, even though we gave our best to bring our buddy student values, he never interacted with us. Hence, a system that would encourage the new students to participate actively to the buddy program will be most beneficial to the experience of both the ambassador and its buddy.
Reflection Paper on Summer 2020 Institute Project

Initha Annamalai Sharavanavan

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Management Information Systems

As a student ambassador during the Summer 2020 Institute program, my time has been an enlightening one. I was given an opportunity to work for the Office of International Admissions and Programs (OIAP) and was able to benefit from a variety of new things like enhancing my professional skills, expanding my network by interacting with other student ambassadors and future students of UHCL.

Working on a variety of programs like the Buddy Project, Blogging, Student Outreach Program helped me to learn and explore more about myself. OIAP came up with different projects each week for these programs. The meetings were well organized, and the projects were explained with utmost clarity which motivated me to be more creative. We were assigned with Team leads for each program and their guidance and feedback helped me to do better. The projects were more like sharing our experiences so far and it felt real.

As part of the Buddy Project, I was able to interact with future students of UHCL. This project is a great help for the prospective students. I enjoyed writing about my experiences with UHCL, Houston and was more than happy when my buddy responded back. Sharing My Visa Experience project would have provided a general idea on the visa interview process to the future aspirants of UHCL. As we were grouped into a 2-member team, I got an opportunity to know and learn about my student ambassador partner and her experiences. Creating My Experience portfolio is one of my favorite projects as I got an opportunity to create a portfolio sharing my experiences in UHCL, Houston, professional experience and personal testimony. It gave me a chance to know about myself, what I have achieved so far in UHCL and also, I was able to explore my creative skills in designing the web page. The Student Outreach program is another interesting one where we split into 3 teams based on territory and each team had around 7 people. We wrote an article review on the education system in my territory, created a presentation on International Student mobility as a team and this provided me a chance to meet...
other student ambassadors and know their perspectives, explore my teamwork skills. We have created an app using Microsoft power app which will help the new international students to learn about UHCL, Houston, Academics (Undergraduate and Graduate programs), FAQs and many more even before they are on campus. Being a master’s student in Management Information Systems, I had a great time developing the app. The app development team was a 11-member team, we were able to follow an application development methodology (plan, analyze, design and implement) successfully. This helped me to relate our project in the summer institute program with my major. I hope this app will be a great help to prospective students to know about UHCL, Houston and know the experiences of current students. As part of the Blogging program, each week we were given topics to post our views, experiences on the blog page. I shared my experiences and I hope I will be able to inspire current and future students. All the webinars conducted during this program were helpful. I have attended all the mandatory sessions and especially, the workshop on resume, cover letter writing was extremely helpful for me being a graduate student. I really enjoyed the presentation on the importance of mentorships by Dr. Amy Lucas, it was highly informative, and I learned how important it is having a mentor.

The best part, in my opinion is when my student buddy asked me to share my opinions and experiences so far in my major as he is also taking the same major. I was happy that I was able to provide him more inputs and inspire in some way. I am very much excited to see him on campus. I’ve significantly expanded my teamwork skills, leadership skills and most importantly I was able to become the International student ambassador and help the prospective students of UHCL. It also gave me a chance to assess myself handling stress and managing time. I was able to complete my projects before the deadline and have submitted a weekly report managing my other on campus job and summer classes. I feel that I have learnt and improved in time management even in stressful situations with multiple priority projects, homework and assignments. Overall, I feel that I have discovered a lot that I can do, and I am looking forward for such great initiatives and opportunities in future. I would like to thank the Office of International Admissions & Programs (OIAP) for giving me this opportunity and organizing every week’s project. I would also like to thank Mallory Bowman, Tanya Sell and Livia Kidd for being such a wonderful lead reviewing our projects, providing feedback and instantaneous responses for any questions or concerns. I look forward to this kind of initiative in future as this
keeps current students motivated and helps prospective students to know and explore more about UHCL life even before being on campus.
**Experience being a buddy/Ambassador partner:**

Being a part of the summer institute 2020 is so grateful. When I was started summer institute, I felt this is such an amazing opportunity and was very excited to get started working on this. The very first project we started to work is Being a student ambassador. I felt so fortunate as I got an opportunity to be a student ambassador in UHCL. The guide for this was Miss Mallory Bowman. I felt she is very excited about working with us and she is ready to guide us.

The first project, Each student Ambassador in the summer institute have to email 10 new incoming international students about the Buddy program to be part of the buddy program but only a few incoming students turned out. So again two student ambassadors from summer institute have been assigned an international buddy.

So here my partner contacted and as we are strangers, we introduced ourselves, shared our experiences in UHCL, and contacted buddy together. Then we choose a better platform with a buddy and formed a group to discuss things.

My buddy was Manish from Nepal. He was good at communicating. He shared information about his background study. He clarified doubts with us. He is good at responding to our Texts. I felt very nice to be a student ambassador for him. He is a little worried when information came about online classes from SEVP but due to Bimodal in UHCL, he felt relieved. I thought the idea of being a student ambassador for new incoming international students will be more helpful for them as they can smoothly get into UHCL.

Along with the communication with a buddy, we wrote blogs. With the help of blogs, our buddies can also read our experiences, tips, and get to know how to thrive into UHCL and many more. We also shared our portfolios to them so that it may be helpful for them in some way or the other. The Blogging and portfolio were my favorite things in this summer 2020 institute.

The idea of designing an App to help international students was a really amazing idea as it will very helpful to new incoming students. As the app will be flexible to the student and it also has information about some of our blog posts for getting to know some tips and experiences. And the most exciting part of this we are designing the App.
Being a student ambassador I improved my communication skills, Writing skills, and how to keep track of all the webinars and set my schedule. I know this will definitely help in my career. I would like to thank each and every one who is part of the GLS summer 2020 institute. This helped me in for career opportunities and also financially in this pandemic.
Student Buddy Project

The University of Houston summer institute had so many interesting projects for the participating students. One of the projects that I enjoyed was the student buddy project. The student buddy project not only did it proved to be a great source for student to student information, but also it gave an opportunity for student to connect with each other.

Through the student buddy project I was privileged to be paired with Manish Paudel, a prospective transfer international student. Manish is planning to take BS in Computer Science in fall of 2020. It was a perfect connection since I took a similar transfer path like him. Manish is planning to transfer from Houston Community college. I transferred from a community college to UHCl for my BS in Computer science too. This shared path offered us a common platform and I had a great worth of information and experience to share with him.

The beauty of our group is that I was also paired with another student, Maithri kodakandla, a Computer Engineering student, who proved to be another source of information. We worked so well together and complemented each other’s information which we shared with the student buddy. We would normally run some information through each other before we shared it with our buddy. At times if we felt one of us missed some information, the other person would add to it. It was a great partnership and also a great resource team to our buddy. Since there we the two of us as buddies to Manish, we had a great variety of topics that we shared.

Among the topics we shared were the process of transferring credits to UHCL, student life, finding jobs on campus, scholarships application, visa experiences, mode of education with the Covid pandemic, and many other topics. Some of the topics were more serious like where to look for jobs on campus, others were just as simple as why the old email link was not working when we migrated to outlook 365. What was unique about these chats is that they were candid and friendly on a student to student level.
This kind of friendly and less intimidating setup is a very good alternative source of information besides the normal official university channels. It offered a perspective of a student and it is informal. I remember when I was transferring from Lee College to UHCL for my bachelor’s degree, I had so many questions which might have appeared trivial for the normal formal channels but a good candidate for buddy questions. I wish had a student buddy who would help me navigate through my transfer process and my early days at UCHL. A buddy you can reach out through common social media channels to help you through the doubts and questions of a new or perspective student.

WhatsApp, a social media chatting app common among many international students, was our choice of communication. We created a group where we would post our chats anytime. The use of social media offered another level of a friendly environment. It also provided easy access as we could text each other at any time back and forth. There was no need for appointments or any formal etiquette. It was purely an informal buddy chat.

I feel the buddy project is a very important resource to prospective international students as they jump through the hoops of application process which can be daunting and intimidating at times. Not only can it benefit international students, but is can also be essential to local students. I would love this buddy process to continue. It should also start early as soon as a student shows interest to study at UHCL. It would also be of great help to all new student to UHCL. It would be very helpful to have the buddy connections continue through the dreaded first semester and early semesters where students are still trying to find their footing.

It was a great privilege to be part of the first student buddy project. The student buddy project was one of the highlights of the 2020 summer statute. It offered new and perspective students an alternative avenue for information. It also offered existing students an opportunity to share their experiences, not to mention a chance for students to connect with each other. The student buddy project should be promoted and perfected as alternative information resource for all students.
International Student Ambassador App
We are University of Houston-Clear Lake, and we have been opening doors for accessible education since 1974. As part of the University of Houston System, we offer more than 90 graduate and undergraduate programs online or face-to-face at locations in Clear Lake, Pearland and the Texas Medical Center.

Across our four colleges — the College of Business, College of Education, College of Human Sciences and Humanities, and College of Science and Engineering — student experiences inside and outside of the classroom demonstrate our impact beyond the campus. With more than 100 student organizations and various campus traditions, you have plenty of opportunities to get involved and form new friendships.

A Growing Campus
Houston is the most populous city in the U.S. state of Texas, fourth most populous city in the United States, most populous city in the Southern United States, as well as the sixth most populous in North America, with an estimated 2019 population of 2,320,268. Located in Southeast Texas near Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, it is the seat of Harris County and the principal city of the Greater Houston metropolitan area, which is the fifth most populous metropolitan statistical area in the United States and the second most populous in Texas after the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolis, with a population of 6,997,384 in 2018. Comprising a total area of 637.4 square miles (1,651 km²), Houston is the eighth most expansive city in the United States (including consolidated city-counties). It is the largest city in the United States by total area, whose government is not consolidated with that of a county, parish or borough. Though primarily in Harris County, small portions of the city extend into Fort Bend and
Attractions

Houston Zoo
6200 Hermann Park Drive

Downtown Aquarium
410 Bagby St, Houston, TX 77002

Space Center Houston
1601 NASA Parkway Houston, TX

Kemah Broadwalk
215 Kipp Avenue Kemah, TX 77565

Museum of Fine Arts
1001 Bissonnet Street Houston, TX

1940 Air Terminal Museum
8325 Travelair St, Houston, TX

Details

Name
Houston Zoo

Address
6200 Hermann Park Drive

Description
The Houston Zoo is a 55-acre zoological park located within Hermann Park in Houston, Texas, United States. The zoo houses over 6,000 animals from 900 species. It receives 2.1 million visitors each year and is the second most visited zoo in the United States. It is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Website
https://www.houstonzoo.org/

Blog Posts

Why UHCL?

Thrive as hawks!

Why we chose particular major?

On-campus Housing

On campus jobs

UHCL is supporting different clubs to

During COVID-19

Personal Experience of Khedkar, Rohan
Blog

Because we are hawks! At least we are made to believe we are hawks until we actually become hawks. That's how this campus works its magic on you. For me, it was just two months in this country and on this campus. UHCL has accepted me as part of their large and diverse family. I knew I would go for this university when I was awarded the hawks scholarship as the recognition of my scholarly achievements in Academics. It was not about the scholarship, but it simply shows that if you are talented, you will be appreciated and celebrated here. The campus is not only equipped with high tech facilities and resources but also considered to be the safest campus because of the on-campus police department. What more an international student can ask for! We are taught to coexist with nature here. I can proudly say that I share my campus with thousands of trees, deer (my favorite part of the campus) and crocodiles. It's like the ancient Indian Ashrams where schools were in the jungle. Here the jungle has all the facilities you can ask for, where you can relax, study, play in the lap of nature. #TheChoiceIsAlwaysClear

DHRUTIBEN PATEI

Blog

Here are a few tips which helped me to flourish in my first semester as an international student. Firstly, don't be shy, talk to every person you meet, maybe they will turn out to be your best friend or roommate. College life is a new journey for everyone. Secondly, time management and organization play a crucial role in balancing life. So, don't procrastinate assignments and whenever possible, cook together with your housemates or plan your meals in advance. Always seek advice from your academic and international advisors regarding any doubts you have, they are generous and supportive. Furthermore, be a part of some organization or participate in various activities arranged by them and use campus resources.

I would strongly recommend attending orientation, it helps understand the US education pattern, a great opportunity to meet faculty members and get to know about the basic lifestyle of the US. Last but not the list, take advantage of student discounts like on textbooks, groceries, shopping, and so on.

Blog

Master of Healthcare Administration at UHCL

In my 2.5 years of dental practice, I realized that to improve the quality of treatment not only excellent treatment is crucial, but also the patient's overall hospital experience plays a significant role. To strengthen my skills and knowledge in healthcare management, I am pursuing a Master's in Healthcare Administration from the University of Houston - Clear Lake. The attraction to my eyes was tailor programs UHCL is providing since 45 years. UHCL awarded me a hawks scholarship as an appreciation for my academic achievements. Moreover, the MHA course is taught at Texas Medical Center - the world's largest Medical Center, the best place to acquire a knowledge of healthcare management. It's been 6 months now since I came to the USA and so far, my experience is amazing. I am fascinated by how UHCL celebrates many events to stay connected with each other. Also, in this current scenario of COVID-19, UHCL organized virtual programs such as virtual beach parties, career service webinars, mental health webinars. I admire how Houston is a diverse city in terms of people, culture and

Blog

When you live on campus, you are part of a vibrant community where you can live, learn and engage with your peers. You'll also be able to engage in college life outside of the classroom. Living on campus offers quick and easy access to your classes, the library, Campus Recreation and Wellness, and other student resources, as well as campus events and activities.

Live with your friends, have your study partners nearby, and meet other students. Engage your fellow Hawks as well as staff and faculty in conversations, programs and activities that will enhance and expand the knowledge you have of your community and the world. An enriching campus living experience can add so much to your overall college career. UHCL Student Housing and Residential Life staff is excited to welcome you to a vibrant community where you can engage your peers academically and socially. Enjoy the comfort and convenience of suite-style living spaces with components of community-style living in the shared common areas. Throughout the hall, you will find quiet study spaces, a community lounge, and a spacious community kitchen. In addition, you will have access to laundry,
Blog

On-campus jobs, as the name suggests, are the jobs where you can work on the university campus. These jobs support the administration of the university. It can be paid or unpaid volunteer work. As an international student, you are allowed to work for up to 20 hours a week. You can work up to 40 hours a week during holidays and in summer.

There are no off-campus jobs that we, as international students, can work unless you prove severe economic hardship and get a waiver from the university. Without this waiver, it is illegal to work off-campus.

What Kind of On-Campus Jobs Do University’s Offer?

You can get a job in a library, a computer lab, different kinds of student offices, the cafeteria, the fitness center, or any other place where you see students working on campus. These are the kinds of jobs that are paid and earn money to pay off your bills. Other kinds of jobs are like Teaching Assistantship (TA), Graduate Assistantship (GA), or Research Assistantship which can get you the experience of working in a professional environment with your professor and reduced tuition fees.

Blog

I always believed that obstacles help us to be a better version of ourselves and unprecedented events of the past few months made my belief strong. No one can decline that everyone’s life has become a roller coaster since the COVID-19 pandemic started. Spread of COVID-19 dramatically escalated in the USA. Coronavirus spread through respiratory droplets so as a precaution everyone started to wear personal protective barriers such as masks and gloves, avoid touching eye, nose and mouth, frequent hand wash and maintained 6 feet social distance. To prevent the transmission of disease WHO declare to avoid large gatherings. As a result, everything went online including studies. To be honest, I was concerned about so many things like learning online, health issues, financial burdens, grocery, home quarantine and new SEVP (Student and Exchange Visitor Program) rule for F-1 and M-1 students and so on but to my amaze, UHCL came up with innovative solutions for all barriers.

- Sharing important information- UHCL sent an email indicating all necessary information regarding coronavirus, a guideline to follow in order to prevent

Blog

A feeling of loneliness in an unfamiliar country can give you nightmares. Unknown faces and totally unfamiliar places will make you think as you arrived in a different world. But behind those prying looks, and chilled responses, lies the blend of a new culture and lifestyle that you may later find interesting. Most importantly, getting connected with different clubs will help you meet other students who can guide you in adjusting to the new surrounding and the education system in the US. It will also help students overcome loneliness and hesitation.

One of the clubs which actively organizes different events to get people engaged in diversified culture is ISA - Indian Students’ Association. It helps to open a whole new world filled with a variety of different cultures and cuisines to you. It encourages everyone to be a member not only Indians. Various activities organized by the ISA are Fresher’s party, Diwali night, Holi, and Cricket matches. Also, volunteer hours with ISA makes students eligible for scholarships.

-- Himaja Muppavarapu

Blog

Well, as a student there are few things about the campus life at UHCL that I appreciate the most.

We should put some fun life in our school life balance
What we learn with pleasure we never forget.

- The very first one is Involvement and Engagement. In our college our college experience is beyond the walls of our classroom.

I personally believe that
If you tell me, I Forget
If you teach me, I Remember
If you involve me, I Learn.

This is what is making me grow in this campus.

- The second one is Student Services and Resources.

I feel that for a student to grow we should be provided with all the services. In UHCL we have top notch education as well as various services and Resources like

Everyday living, Academic Planning,
FAQ

How many courses can I take for each semester?

As an international student you need to enroll for a minimum of 3 courses i.e. 9 credits and maximum of 4 courses i.e. 12 credits.
Selected International Student Ambassador Committee Members
International Student Ambassador Committee

Team Leaders:
Sudheer Nyalam
Dhruvi Patel

Members:
Duc Le
James Yobe
Long Khuc
Vyshnavi Itapu
Ali Behishti