

# Globe Trotters



## Destination: Spain



Sophomore Cece Thomas spent last Spring studying in Granada, Spain and living with a host family. Here is what she had to say about her host country:

“There is always something exciting about coming home from a grand world adventure, all the stories, pictures, and experiences to share. The things we often leave out are the everyday realities that are a huge part of living in and traveling to a foreign country. These are the things we, as a country, identify as short-comings of other cultures that

in reality are what make them unique and endearing to those of us who are immersed in them. These can be anything from the inability to get your laundry dried for two weeks due to constant rain and the lack of an electric dryer, or to poorly maintained roads filled with motorbikes.

These are the little things that help you understand the culture (and learn to only send one pair of pants to be washed at a time). These are all things that shaped the experiences I had in many great ways!

This past semester (Spring 2010) I spent in Granada, Spain, a small city, known for the Alhambra (a Moorish citadel) and the Cuevos de Sacramonte (caves where the gypsies live and perform flamenco). My host mother

kept up to six students at a time. She would feed us, do our laundry, and sometimes even clean our bedrooms. We keep up via “snail mail” now and she has a request that I come back on my honeymoon and if possible before. I had a fantastic time to say the very least. I miss walking carefully along roads congested with motos, passing castles and caves filled with flamenco music, going to discotecas on weeknights, taking all my classes in Spanish, and most of all I miss paella, teterias (Arab tea houses), and the Mediterranean Sea. It has only been five months but I am ready to hit the road again. I am unsure of my next destination, maybe South America, maybe more European explorations, who knows!”

## National Student Exchange

Are you interested in experiencing another culture without going overseas? Is there a certain state you have always wanted to live in? Do you want to take classes that are not offered at UNCA? Do you want to visit a university at which you intend to go to graduate school? If your

answer to any of these questions is “yes,” then consider applying to National Student Exchange (NSE). NSE allows you to study in any of the 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Canada for a semester or a year. With almost 200 NSE colleges and universities, you

will almost certainly find a program that matches your personality, interests, and goals.

For more information, visit [www.unca.edu/studyabroad](http://www.unca.edu/studyabroad)

### Special points of interest:

- SPAIN
- NATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE
- INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK
- FEATURED GLOBAL AMBASSADOR: ALEX Neidermeier
- FEATURED SUMMER STUDY IN IRELAND: DANNY RESNER

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## Italy Archaeology



Ginger Buchanan  
Italy

UNCA history major Ginger Buchanan ventured into Europe this past summer with the Italy Archaeology program. The following is an description of her experience:

“Prior to applying for college my freshman year, almost three years ago, I had studied on a short trip to Denmark; and I knew that I wanted to repeat the experience on a whole new level in college. When I found out about the archeological dig in Italy, it was as though Christmas had come early. For me, this was the opportunity of a lifetime that would allow me to ex-

plore and unearth the history I was taught in my history classes. The study abroad office made my application experience as easy as possible, and the professor leading the dig met with me personally to make sure that this was the sort of program I was looking for. After all the preparations for the trip were done, the real experience began.

Italy was more than I ever dreamed it would be. My group, which consisted of eight UNC-Asheville students, five NYU students, and fifteen FSU students,

worked at the top of a hill uncovering Etruscan foundations and artifacts Monday thru Friday. Then we traveled at our desire anywhere we wanted to go, so long as we were back in time for work the next Monday.

I was able to dig in the dirt, uncover artifacts from 300 BC, see Florence, Rome, Pompeii, and travel throughout Tuscany. This program offered it all. Now I want to travel as much as I can and pursue archaeology in graduate school.”

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IN ENGLAND WAS  
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DECISIONS I’VE  
EVER MADE...”

## Abroad for the Summer

Junior Sabine Moses recently studied abroad with the UNCA faculty led program to Cambridge, England. Here is her journey:

“Studying abroad for the summer term in Cambridge, England was one of the best decisions I’ve ever made concerning my education. The surroundings are so beautiful and vibrant that it feels like you’re

in a movie and the people are quite patient with cultural differences. Also, our group was fortunate enough to be studying in England during the World Cup, which is a much bigger deal to British citizens than Americans. Going to a pub or staying in our flat for the night to watch the crazy games of football (soccer), was one of my favorite memories from the trip.

I would have never thought I’d see a burly Englishman cry, but trust me, it happens. I wouldn’t trade my experience for the world.”

For more information on UNCA summer programs, visit:

[www.unca.edu/studyabroad](http://www.unca.edu/studyabroad)

## International Education Week

The 15th-19th of November is marked as a time to “celebrate international education and exchange worldwide” states the U.S. Departments of State and Education whom aim to “prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experi-

ences in the United States.” Thus to further international education, the Study Abroad and International Studies departments have put together five days of presentations, discussions, and entertainment on topics from around the world. Some of the major events include a discussion on becom-

ing a global citizen, learning of adventures in Russia, a presentation of traveling to Iceland, a Middle Eastern belly dancing and Bhangra performance, writing poetry in Ireland, developing education in Ecuador, and teaching in Chile. For a complete list of events go to [www.unca.edu/](http://www.unca.edu/)



## Global Ambassadors Program

The 2010—2011 academic year marks the second year of the UNCA Study Abroad/ Study Away and the Center for Diversity Education's Global Ambassador (GA) program. This program is a free service that connects UNCA students with members of the community and area schools. GAs are typically UNCA students who have lived in another country for three months or longer or current international students attending UNCA. GAs typically give presentations to students who range from kindergarten age through 12th grade. These presentations are

designed to complement the K-12 students' standard lesson plans. Occasionally, however, GAs are called on to share their international experiences with groups of adults.

Global Ambassador Alex Neidermeier, studied abroad in Iceland and has traveled to Spain extensively. Her impression of the Global Ambassador program is as follows:

"Global Ambassadors has provided an opportunity to share my travel moments with all kinds of learners in-

terested in exploring the world. The program has helped me think of myself as a different kind of educator, bringing the world to those who can't always explore it for themselves. It has encouraged me to continue to be an ambassador, soon bringing American traditions to the outside world through the Peace Corps. It is an opportunity to rally others to see the world and open up to other cultures different from their own. Most of all, it's a lot of fun for both the adventurer and the listener!"



Global Ambassador  
Alex Neidermeier  
Iceland

## Danny Resner's Tale From Ireland

Over the summer UNCA senior Danny Resner ventured to Galway, Ireland for the NUI Galway writing program. Here is his account:

"Mr. Casey points me to his boat. Today, a few dozen people and I will pay Mr. Casey and a handful of other local boatmen fifty Euros each (around sixty U.S. dollars) to ride a fleet of van-sized boats ten miles out into the Atlantic Ocean to two large rocks called the Skelligs. Ever since I read in my guide to Ireland about the perfectly preserved 6<sup>th</sup> c. monastic settlement at the summit of the larger of the two rocks, it had been on top of my study abroad to-do list. In order to preserve one of the Republic's two World Heritage Sites, the government only allows twelve people on each boat. Small boats can't take much weather, and this is the rainiest part of Ireland, so trips can be infrequent. When I checked into my hostel in Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry, the owner sighed and told me not to be disappointed if the

weather wouldn't permit a trip in the morning. She was used to tourists rolling in for the night and leaving disappointed. But the next morning, I sat down under a clear and sunny sky, an Irish rarity, to toast, jam and tea while I waited for Mr. Casey. Luke, a fellow from Seattle University I had shared a room with the night before, sat with me. He had done his research on ascetics. And on the boat ride to the rock, he told me Skellig Michael was more extreme than anything he knew. Only thirteen monks occupied its cluster of bee-hive huts at a time—one for Jesus and each of the twelve disciples. They rowed for hours in choppy seas to get there, traded puffin feathers for grain on the mainland and fished. Luke reinforced my opinion that the best people to meet are in the most out-of-the-way places. It takes a certain type to take that eight-hour bus ride to the middle of the country where the main draws are ruined medieval ring forts, fields and fields of livestock and a pair of jagged rocks that some

medieval monks broke their backs on. A few yards off the tiny dock on Skellig Michael, puffins were everywhere. The monks used to eat them, but now, unchecked, they get in the way of tourists ascending the 600+ limestone steps the monks built to their settlement. I wandered around the settlement for two hours, lying on the stones the penitential monks slept on, staring out towards Canada and back towards Ireland. With the exception of a ruined 12<sup>th</sup> c. chapel, the buildings looked exactly as they would have when the monks walked these flagstones. Rain threatened and the older folks inched their way down the smoothed steps. But about a dozen, including Luke and I, stayed until the rain fell. And those few quiet minutes must have been what it was like to live there over a millennium ago. Solemn, pensive strolling from carved cross to garden to terrace, gray clouds overhead. And puffins."



Photo taken by  
Danny Resner  
Ireland

## 2010-11 International Photo Contest Winners Announced

Every academic year, the Study Abroad/Study Away and International Studies departments hold the International Photo Contest. After much deliberation, the pictures featured here have been judged the best of the 2010-11 academic year. All photos will be on display in the Special Collections gallery, 3rd floor of the library from November 2nd-30th.

### Best in Show



Allison Schad  
*Parallel Parking*  
Netherlands

### First Place: Portraits



Elizabeth Smith  
*Tangerine Boys*  
Malawi

### First Place: Landscape



Kathryn Kastelberg  
*Blue Pots*  
Morocco

### First Place: General



Rachel Applefield  
*Horse and Rider*  
Italy

248 University Hall  
UNCA CPO# 1360  
One University Heights  
Asheville, NC 28804  
Phone: (828)-251-6666  
Fax: (828)-251-6492  
E-mail: [studyabroad@unca.edu](mailto:studyabroad@unca.edu)

*The UNC Asheville Study Abroad/Study Away department serves to broaden students' horizons and expand their educational opportunities through international and domestic travel. We work with UNCA students who want to visit another country or state, as well as with students from other countries who wish to visit UNCA as part of an exchange program. We offer traditional programs of study in which students attend foreign universities, as well as UNCA faculty-led programs and international service learning opportunities. Students have the option of studying abroad or away for a semester, academic year, or summer. No matter what your particular interests, goals, or budget might be, you are sure to find a program that works for you through the UNC Asheville Study Abroad/Study Away department.*

### We're on the Web!

<http://www.unca.edu/studyabroad>