

ND GLOBAL
**A WORLD OF
NOTRE DAME**

Creating opportunity,
belonging, and impact



The main quad of Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. (Photo by Barbara Johnston) / Campus scenic. (Photo by Michael Caterina)

5 ways to build a more global Notre Dame

No matter our role at Notre Dame, each of us can help the University become a more global institution and a more connected global community. Here are five practical ways to embrace that shared work—and to advance Notre Dame’s mission as a global Catholic research university.



Strengthen Notre Dame’s global community by engaging with international students and scholars

The Notre Dame community can make the University more global by welcoming, supporting, working, and learning alongside international students and scholars. Their presence enriches campus life, classrooms, and the wider Notre Dame community.



Connect Notre Dame’s work to public life around the world

Faculty, students, and staff can collaborate with Notre Dame’s global locations and international partners to share research, scholarship, and the arts with local communities. Public lectures, workshops, performances, and collaborative projects help Notre Dame contribute to, and learn from, the places where the University has a presence in and around the world.



Develop global research collaborations

Faculty can work with Notre Dame Global to build relationships with international research partners, seek seed funding, and create the infrastructure for joint projects, publications, and larger external grants. Faculty can also involve undergraduate and graduate students in this work.



Build global dimensions into the work of every division

Staff and campus units can partner with Notre Dame Global on projects that fit their work—from athletics’ international travel and service to arts programming, public events, and cultural exchange. Global engagement is not limited to academic departments.



Pursue a diverse range of global student experiences

Students can enhance traditional study abroad opportunities with immersive global experiences including internships, research, service, or pilgrimage. Notre Dame Global can help identify the right opportunities, partners, and available funding regardless of when or how many times students choose to study abroad or their areas of academic focus.

Note from the editor

Natalie Davis Miller, Managing Editor



Photo by Barbara Johnston

The new semester presents a perfect opportunity to talk about Notre Dame Global and what it means to be a more global institution. Notre Dame Global is in 12 locations across 10 countries on five continents. With nearly 80 percent of our students studying abroad during their tenure, we are in the top 10 of all US universities regarding students who study abroad.

This issue is a glimpse into the world that Notre Dame Global supports: faculty conducting global research abroad, staff welcoming students from around the world to our campus, rectors making the world and our campus a home away from home, and finally, our university showing young scholars what it means to leverage the study abroad experiences as a launching pad to the future.

From the cover to the back page, we’ve highlighted programs and people who support our students both at home and as they study and work abroad.

Wherever you work, whatever you do, we encourage you to engage with Notre Dame Global as we work to fulfill our potential as a global university. This is where Notre Dame meets the world and the world meets Notre Dame.

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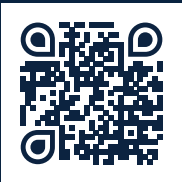
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Becoming more global with *Michael Pippenger*



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Impact

Global locations foster research, scholarly partnerships, and student growth

By Tracy DeStazio, Story Development



When **Laura Miller-Graff** traveled to Mexico City this past summer to teach a class on mental health to Notre Dame students, it wasn't the first time she had taken her work in psychology abroad. She's been doing it for the past 13 years. During that time, Miller-Graff, a professor and associate department chair in the Department of Psychology, has been drawing on Notre Dame Global's locations as essential resources for both scholarship and student education.

Not only has she found a way to effectively leverage Notre Dame Global's extensive network, but she has also partnered with the directors and colleagues in several of those locations to expand her research, teach innovative courses, and encourage her students to think beyond South Bend.

Course in Mexico City introduces student growth, kindred spirit of scholarship

Leveraging the Notre Dame Mexico location in Mexico City, Miller-Graff taught a course titled Mental Health and Public Psychology in Mexico in partnership with Universidad Iberoamericana, a Jesuit institution with a strong psychology department, also in Mexico City. This course integrated classroom instruction, visits to cultural sites, and independent student exploration of the city, as well as community-based learning assignments that

included regular collaboration with Catholic Relief Services as the students supported them in considering how best to capture changes in social cohesion associated with their programs.

The collaboration provided opportunities to co-teach and to share scholarly work between the two universities. Faculty from Iberoamericana presented their own research to the students throughout the course, exposing them to new scholarly ideas on key mental health issues in Mexico and how researchers are working to address them.

"It's important for students to see that there are meaningful things that we share, but there's also very meaningful cultural variation in how people experience mental health and how different mental health care systems work," said Miller-Graff, who is also the director of the Shaw Center for Children and Families.

Introducing her students to stereotype-busting ideas, while also teaching a course that aligns with their majors, could not have been possible without the guidance and daily cooperation from Notre Dame Mexico staff and faculty. Miller-Graff said they played a central role in shaping the course curriculum, coordinating the university partnership, and ensuring the course ran smoothly and effectively.

"The Notre Dame Mexico staff was absolutely incredible to work with—delightful, supportive, and extraordinarily knowledgeable," she said. "It's really a special thing for our students to be able to interact with the staff at our global locations, but it's also a huge support for faculty as well. The amount of support they provided for the course was completely invaluable—and the course would've run nowhere near as well without them."

Not only were the local staff able to assist with logistical concerns in the city and surrounding areas as the students

traveled and explored, but they also helped create the course syllabus by pairing particular activities that worked well for them in the past. This, said Miller-Graff, enabled her and her teaching team to provide an exceptional learning experience for the students.

"I loved hearing about the research the other faculty had done and what they were finding, and what they themselves found most interesting and innovative about their work," Miller-Graff added. "Sitting there with my students, I found that to be an incredibly enriching experience. And that partnership was all coordinated by Notre Dame Mexico."

Collaborative work brings healing, intervention to Palestinian families

One project that has occupied Miller-Graff and colleague **Mark Cummings**, the William J. Shaw Center for Children and Families Professor of Psychology, for more than a decade is the Promoting Positive Family Futures program. Developed in partnership with the Palestinian Counseling Center and further adapted in partnership with Catholic Relief Services, this family-focused intervention program addresses the mental health needs of Palestinian families living under chronic conflict in both the West Bank and Gaza.

In response to a community-identified need, Miller-Graff and Cummings worked with the Palestinian Counseling Center to co-develop the program to support mental health, coping and well-being, communication, and family relationships between Palestinian parents and their adolescent children—many of whom have endured chronic and sustained violence.

After conducting successful pilot studies with 25 families in the West Bank in 2017, supported in part by a Notre Dame Global grant, the team



Laura Miller-Graff poses with Gabriel Mitchell, director of undergraduate studies at Notre Dame Jerusalem, and Mark Cummings, the William J. Shaw Center for Children and Families Professor of Psychology, on the Notre Dame Jerusalem/Tantur campus. (Photo provided)

moved forward in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services to conduct a second study in Gaza in 2019 with 62 families. Eventually, the project secured National Institutes of Health funding for a larger-scale trial involving 300 Palestinian families. Data collection and analysis for these studies are currently underway, with Miller-Graff and Cummings hoping to publish later this year, in collaboration with their research team.

"Our focus was to get to know the community and understand some of the mental health needs of Palestinian families," Miller-Graff said. "Beyond crisis support and emergency response, we wanted to know what was going well in terms of provision of mental health services and what were some of the more critical needs."

Notre Dame Jerusalem, located at Notre Dame's Tantur campus, served as a home base for the team, providing practical and intellectual support

throughout the study and offering meeting spaces, logistical coordination, and a interdisciplinary scholarly community.

"The staff at Notre Dame Jerusalem are just exceptional in every sense of the word—thoughtful, engaged scholars who are really thinking through in a meaningful way what these global centers can be in terms of teaching and research," Miller-Graff said.

For Miller-Graff, working with Notre Dame Global allowed her to take her work in directions she never anticipated, helping her grow and establish meaningful and long-lasting connections.

"Notre Dame's sustained commitment to these locations is of huge value in terms of doing international work," she said. "They provide faculty an opportunity to enter into global research without having to start from the ground up, which helps remove barriers that might prevent them from participating."



Miller-Graff sits in on a class in Mexico City, Mexico. (Photo provided)

Notre Dame Global provides access to funding opportunities

Notre Dame Global has its own research grants and funding opportunities—in particular, for work focused on economics, global development and health, nanotechnology, nuclear physics, energy, computational data science and engineering, climate change, and cancer research. These grants can assist faculty members with research while allowing them to leverage Notre Dame's network across the globe, from Africa to Asia, Latin America, and Europe.



Learn more about ND Global's grants and funding opportunities at global.nd.edu/research/grants-and-funding

Opportunity

The One Thing

In 2026 and 2027, we are taking a new look at Notre Dame’s 12 global locations by asking each of their directors one question: “What is the one thing you would like the Notre Dame community to know about your programs, your achievements, your goals, or your aspirations?”

KYLEMORE

“Ten years later, we can look back on . . . an impressive number of successful conferences and collaborations, and outreach programming that has focused on using the location as an opportunity for integral development.”

— Lisa Caulfield, Director, Notre Dame Kylemore



DUBLIN

“Making student learning and teaching central is how we engage with the purpose of a university—to educate and to inspire brilliant young minds to not only transform the world, but to transform how they see the world, how they feel in the world, and how they want to be in the world in the future.”

— Eimear Clowry Delaney, Director, Notre Dame Dublin



MEXICO

“There are countless opportunities for collaboration [in Mexico], and we are working to encourage scholars to widen their spheres of collaboration beyond their traditional partners, often in Europe.”

— Maria Mercedes Salmon, Director, Notre Dame Mexico



LONDON

“We’re building a growing network of cultural, political, and ecclesial relationships across the UK that strengthens Notre Dame’s presence and opens doors for the University.”

— Joshua Copeland, Executive Director, Notre Dame London



SANTIAGO

“While we have developed strong partnerships with several Chilean universities, we are unique in that we have a long-term, strategic, and profound partnership with one: the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.”

— Juan Esteban Montes, Director, Notre Dame Santiago



SÃO PAULO

“Like the University as a whole, we in São Paulo are rooted in our Catholic identity, committed to academic excellence, and deeply engaged with the world.”

— Thaïs Burmeister de Campos Pires, Director, Initiatives in Brazil



Read the complete articles for The One Thing here.

Opportunity

ROME

“Through close collaboration with local universities, cultural and heritage institutions, and the Vatican and the Holy See, Notre Dame Rome advances the University’s ambition to be the leading global Catholic research university.”

— **Silvia Dall’Olio**, Director, Notre Dame Rome



JERUSALEM

“It is an incredible privilege and a huge responsibility for our team not only to steward Notre Dame’s presence in Jerusalem, but also to make sure it is anchored in the realities of the Holy Land for the common good of all.”

— **Daniel Schwake**, Director, Notre Dame Jerusalem



BEIJING

“Whether through global learning, research collaboration across East Asia, bringing regional scholars to Notre Dame, alumni engagement, or strategic university partnerships, our goal is to create lasting connections and shared opportunities.”

— **Jingyu Wang**, Executive Director, Notre Dame Beijing



HONG KONG

“In all our endeavors, we use a highly collaborative and holistic approach—for recruiting, study abroad, faculty engagement, and alumni relations.”

— **Catherine Leung**, Director, Notre Dame Hong Kong



NAIROBI

“Our presence in Nairobi gives us an opportunity to deepen our impact in Kenya, East Africa, and throughout the continent. We also have several exciting developments on the horizon, including the appointment of a new director, and we look forward to sharing more in the months ahead.”

— **Michael Pippenger**, Vice President and Associate Provost for Internationalization



MUMBAI

“We have a sustained institutional presence—one that advances research, teaching, and public-interest engagement in partnership with Indian institutions across a myriad of sectors.”

— **Dhiraj Mehra**, Director for Initiatives in India



Learn more about Notre Dame’s 12 global locations.

Opportunity

Three study abroad programs in and counting

ND student and parent reflect on value of global education

By Jessie Carson, Notre Dame Global

This spring, Notre Dame junior Audrey Fremeau will fly out for her fourth study abroad program.

She first got the travel bug back in high school, when she participated in Notre Dame's pre-college program in London. Then, the summer after her sophomore year at Notre Dame, she took advantage of the summer programs offered by Notre Dame Global (NDG) and applied to the Poland Summer: International Law & Politics of Genocide program. Last summer, she opted for a more focused, career-building opportunity through NDG and completed the Global Professional Experience (GPE) program in Rome. And next semester, she'll head to Italy for the second time for the Rome undergraduate program.

Despite this being her fourth trip abroad, she's just as excited as the first time—though decidedly less nervous.

She'll be going into this program with a leg up. The city's sights will be familiar to her, and she knows her way around a bit better.

"When I first got to Rome this past summer, it was a lot to learn," she said. "Being from South Bend, I'd never used public transportation before. Now I have that nailed down, so I can use those skills to take advantage of the city more—explore more neighborhoods, interact with locals, practice my Italian."

A visual communication design major, with minors in Italian and marketing, Audrey has deliberately chosen each of her programs. For her, they're not just trips abroad—they're intentional learning opportunities to shape and expand her studies.

Her mother, **Molly Fremeau**, creative program director of marketing for University Operations, Events, and Safety, has noticed this: "I think even before she came to Notre Dame, she knew she was interested in the humanities and arts and letters, so all the places she's been to have fit into that. And I think all these trips, and the classes that she's taken when she's been abroad, have helped her decide on her major."

Molly also recognized that the impact goes beyond her current studies. "It will help inform where she goes after college because she's seen all these other cities and is learning what she likes and what she doesn't like."

With more than 60 semester and academic-year programs to choose from and nearly 40 summer programs, Notre Dame Global hopes

that students approach its study abroad opportunities like Audrey has. When chosen with intention, study abroad programs can be more than exciting travel opportunities for students—they're transformative encounters with new places, people, and versions of themselves.

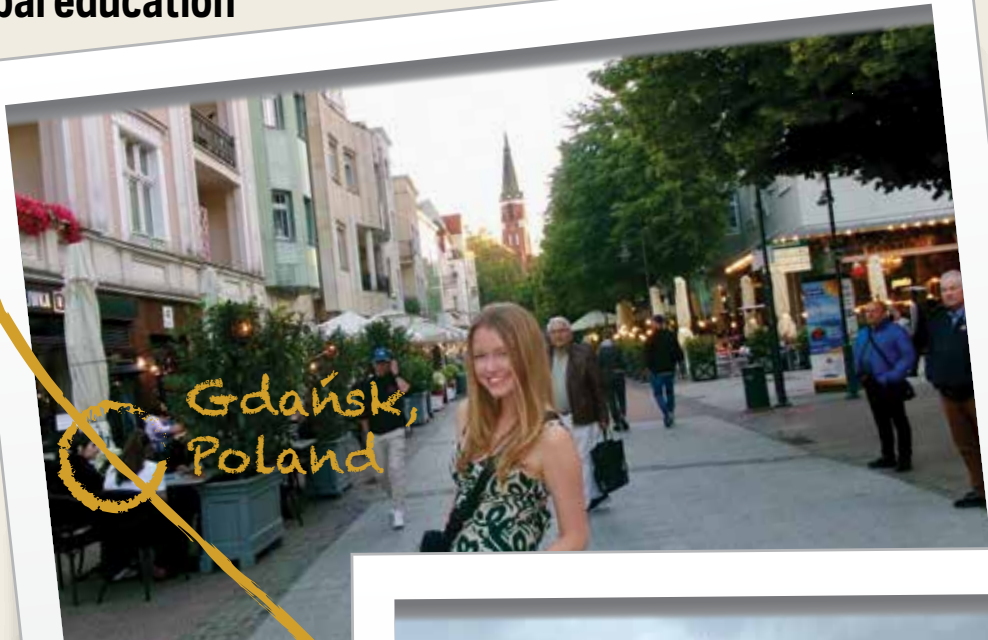
Molly can attest to this, having witnessed the change in her daughter after the very first program. And the more programs Audrey participates in, the more Molly can see certain traits grow in her daughter.

"Each experience has offered her something different. The London pre-college program was an introduction to college life. The Poland program was academically rigorous and exposed her to researching and writing in a new way. Her GPE in Rome was her first experience living and working away from home," she shared. "I think definitely her confidence and her independence have grown as a result."

She added, "Even while preparing for each trip, she's grown to know what she needs, what to pack, how to be prepared."

For Molly, there's comfort in knowing her daughter is equipped to handle the experiences that will greet her overseas. But she also knows that you can't plan for everything and trusts that Audrey will face the challenges head-on. "She's been so fearless about all of these trips," she said. "I'm proud that she's so curious about other places and has taken advantage of every opportunity."

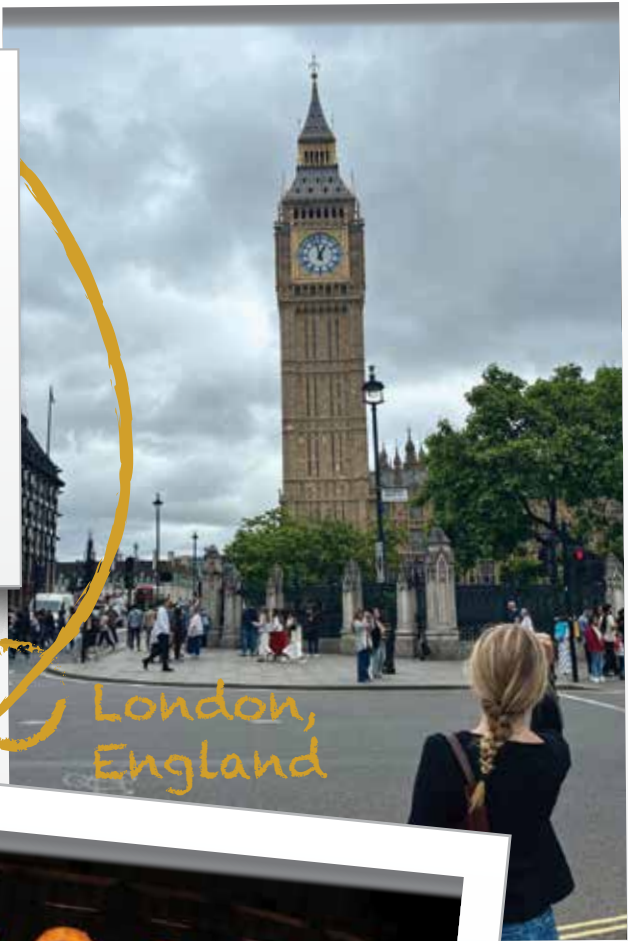
That curiosity has driven Audrey to explore more, experience more, and grow more. "I've lived in South Bend my entire life, so I feel that it's really important for me to get out and see as much as I can," she said.



Gdańsk, Poland



Audrey poses with parents Brian and Molly Fremeau, both UOES employees.



London, England



Rome, Italy



Learn more about ND Global's study abroad programs at studyabroad.nd.edu/programs



By Mary Hendriksen

A hub of culture, business, politics, and academia, London is a metropolis with nearly infinite opportunities for those who aspire to become global citizens.

Every semester, about 200 Notre Dame students choose to do just that—by living and learning at Notre Dame London.

They are welcomed by a student affairs team headed by **Daliah Primrose Bond**, a native Londoner and a historian with a specialty in 18th-century Scottish chapbooks who teaches early modern history classes in Notre Dame London’s Fischer Hall. Bond’s charge, and her passion, is to support the academic and personal development of students.

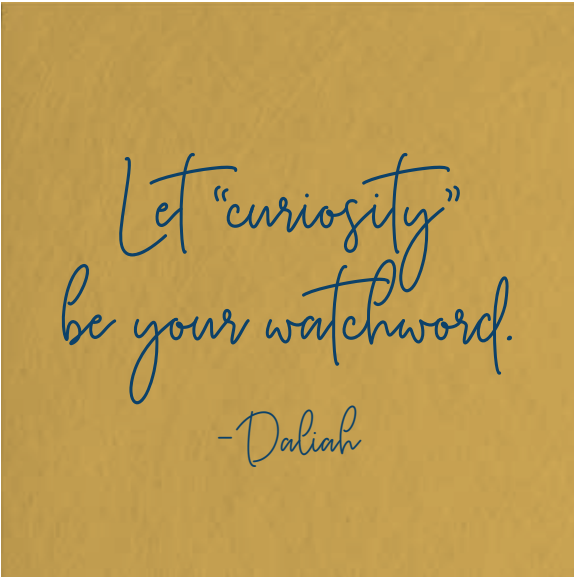
Each term, Bond shares a few key pieces of advice with incoming students:

- “No study abroad experience is alike. Reflect on why you chose to come to London and then be intentional about what you are seeking and what you are learning.”
- “The best part of study abroad might very well not be setting foot in a famous venue or ‘big ticket’ attraction. Instead, it could be a collection of small things—finding your favorite Royal Park for a morning run, becoming familiar with a few residential neighborhoods outside of Zone 1, or mastering public transport!”
- “Let ‘curiosity’ be your watchword.”
- “Experience rather than consume. There is a difference between taking a picture outside a historic landmark such as Westminster Palace and actually asking yourself why Westminster matters and what it means to London and its people.”
- “And experience a variety of neighborhoods, cultures, foods, and traditions so as to meet a diversity of Londoners and participate in everyday British life. We want to encourage students to develop their own relationship with the city.”

While the students begin to acclimate to London, Bond and her team have two tasks: Work to build community within Conway

Hall, Notre Dame’s residence hall in the city, and, simultaneously, encourage students to move from “London tourist” to “London resident.”

“Shared meals, a movie night in Conway Hall, or time to sit quietly, read, or talk—all are offered and encouraged to create a home, a safe space, for students,” Bond explained. “Then, initiatives I started like Foodie London or Artsy London, which each occur six to eight times a term, nurture curiosity and reveal the many facets of London by exploring the city’s diverse cuisines and myriad artistic offerings.”



Bond said another message she works to convey to students throughout the semester is one she hopes they take with them, as they deepen their understanding of themselves while exploring the world:

“We can’t avoid or remove every difficulty; the goal of adulthood is to learn to navigate the challenges that life inevitably brings. A challenge now might be taking a city bus to a zone far away from Conway Hall, or learning how to mesh with eight flatmates, or living, for the first time, an ocean away from friends and family. Learn to be comfortable in the uncomfortable until it becomes familiar. That is where the growth occurs.”

Back on Notre Dame’s home campus, Notre Dame Global and Student Affairs work together to help international students settle into their new home.

With more than 500 incoming international students this year, these efforts extend to every residence hall.

Rectors are key to making sure international students feel at home.

David Diamond, rector of Morrissey Hall, exemplifies that commitment. A retired US Army Special Forces colonel and fluent Arabic speaker, Diamond visited more than 60 countries during his tours as a military ambassador and knows the challenges of acclimating to a new culture.

“This year,” he said, “Morrissey Hall welcomed seven students from Brazil, three from Gaza, two from Canada, and one each from Colombia, England, Germany, Ghana, India, Japan, and Spain—19 in all within the hall’s first-year cohort.

“My role is to help these students become part of the Notre Dame community and, very importantly, to flourish in their lives after college. Most of the international students will return to their home countries. I help them explore: ‘What does flourishing look like in this very moment, and also—in your 20s, 30s, and beyond?’”

Diamond gives high praise both to the international students for their efforts to find ways of making the Notre Dame campus their second home, and to their American counterparts—some of whom might already be familiar with the campus and its customs.

“The men of Morrissey are intentional in building community. After the prescribed activities of Welcome Week, no one stopped. Students were still playing volleyball, becoming acquainted around the fire pit, or holding conversations in their rooms,” he said. “There was really no division between domestic and international students.”

Diamond knows there are important practical tasks to accomplish early in the settling-in process.

“From instructions on how to do laundry in August to making sure that everyone has a warm coat in November, it’s important to reduce the anxiety of entry and to make students feel comfortable in this culture and climate,” he said.

“Also, getting international students connected—literally—to classmates here and with their people back home is key to getting them off to a good start. I make sure a local phone is purchased, and an internet connection is set up during the first few days. Then, the world is back at the students’ fingertips.”

Diamond added that the taste of home can often make students feel comfortable on campus.

“Last year,” Diamond recalled, “a dinner of homemade tamales during Thanksgiving week and an array of Mediterranean foods in February were shared by all the residents of Morrissey and made for powerful bonding experiences. As a result, I’ve planned more food-centered experiences this year.”



Belonging

2026

International Student Orientation



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

515

new international community members welcomed on campus in fall 2026

51

countries represented by our new international community members

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM STUDENTS

92

international students studied abroad at Notre Dame for a semester or academic year from fall 2025 through spring 2026

83

international students participated in research projects with faculty and graduate students during summer 2026

HOME UNDER THE DOME

International Student Orientation provides essential information about maintaining immigration status and life at Notre Dame, as well as an opportunity to connect with the international community and International Student and Scholar Affairs staff.



Learn more about the work of ND Global's ISSA and GEP teams at global.nd.edu/education

