UC system-wide programs available to all UC students. There are hundreds of programs with a large variety of course offerings and experience types (academic, immersion, language, research and internships).

- Academics: UC credit / calculated into GPA
- Finances: UC, state, and federal aid may apply; Scholarships available
- Language: English or language immersion
- Timing: Summer, Fall, Spring, Academic Year

UCSD's own faculty-led programs curated for student and UCSD faculty connection and experience, and to meet requirements in particular fields of study. There are over 20 programs available (academic, internship).

- Academics: Two UCSD courses, 8 UCSD units
- Finances: UCSD Summer financial aid; Scholarships available
- Language: English only
- Timing: Summer only

Bilateral partnerships between UCSD and partner-universities, for UCSD students and within particular fields of study. 9 programs available.

- Academics: Transfer credit, may fulfill college/dept reqs
- Finances: UCSD enrollment/tuition/fees, regular access to financial aid; Scholarships available
- Language: Most programs in English
- Timing: Fall, Spring, Academic Year

Infinite number of programs all over the world, run by organizations outside of the UC system. Many programs with affordable options.

- Academics: Transfer credit, may fulfill college/dept reqs
- Finances: State/Federal financial aid may apply; Scholarships available
- Language: English or Immersion
- Timing: Summer, Fall, Spring, Academic Year, Custom