# **GLOBAL STUDY PROGRAM**

2019/2020 - A YEAR OF CHANGE

The **Global Study Program** is UC Davis' visiting student program that enables students from select partner institutions to take courses and enjoy the safe, peaceful environment of Davis, while studying under some of the top professors in the nation.

# 2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- 262 Students enrolled
- **45** Partner universities
- **13** Countries participating
- 88 UC Davis departments involved
- 3.43 Average GPA
- **116** Students earned a 3.7/4.0 GPA or above

# NEW PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

- National Taipei University, Taiwan
- Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- University of Helsinki, Finland

**98 PERCENT** OF STUDENTS RECOMMEND THE GLOBAL STUDY PROGRAM









#### SOYOUN KANG, Jeonbuk National University, South Korea

"I will miss the kindness of people. The people here are very friendly, especially to foreign students. I am very thankful to GSP staff and students for making my time here in the U.S. so special."

#### LUISA WINGERATH, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

"I didn't know anything about Thanksgiving before, but it was on my birthday! We made a lot of great food and had such a good time. I'll definitely miss my friends. I will also miss my relationships with professors and TAs. It's rare that students can be friends with teachers in Germany."

#### ANDREA ROSALIA ROMO PINTO, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile

"UC Davis gave more information about their program and seemed more supportive. They had courses I wanted to take in literature and linguistics, and the program looked more interesting and fun for international students. I now have friends from Taiwan, Japan, etc.—all so far from South America."

### RYOTARO OKADA, Ritsumeikan University, Japan

"Americans are friendlier than I expected. In Japan, people don't usually speak with people they have never met, but Americans usually do. Therefore, it's easier to make friends. Davis is very safe and a comfortable place to live."





# DRAMATIC EXPERIENCES FOR GSP STUDENTS

Global Study Program students take a wide variety of UC Davis classes as they grow intellectually and personally. Among the favorites of our students are the drama and theater courses. Every year our students enroll in courses that teach them how to express themselves through movement, expression, and interpretation of the dramatic arts. One of our annual highlights is the end-of-year course performance, enthusiastically attended by GSP students and staff.

2020 presented particular challenges for teaching drama, but Continuing Lecturer and student favorite Michele Apriña Leavy worked quickly to make sure that GSP drama students continued to learn and grow, noting, "as the term progresses and the course evolves, I am finding creative ways to problem solve. It has become a true process of discovery." GSP student Andrea Romo Pinto said that taking the Drama 198 course, even after it went online, "was the best decision I made, since the class totally exceeded my expectations." As an added bonus, the change to a virtual course allowed not just GSP staff and students, but family and friends from around the world, to enjoy the final presentation.

Another Spring 2020 UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance production featured GSP student Mayuko Agari. For their staging of the classic Sophocles play, *Antigone*, co-directors Professor Margaret Laurena Kemp and Artist-in-Residence Sinéad Rushe worked with students to create an immersive sound and visual performance, *AntigoneNow.* "As an artist and instructor, my call to action is to model collaboration, research, creativity and community engagement through performance and theatre-making practices," Kemp said. The all-female cast recorded themselves in isolation from the U.S., U.K., Japan and Singapore. Congratulations to GSP student Mayuko Agari for her part in this ground-breaking and contemporary production!



# UC DAVIS FACULTY RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

As faculty at a world class research university, UC Davis professors and researchers serve a dual purpose both educating students and pursuing cutting-edge research in the sciences, technology and the humanities. The ability to connect scientists and engineers from different fields has perhaps never been more important than in an emergency, when collaborations between different experts can actually save lives. The UC Davis main campus is centrally located between California's Bay Area and Silicon Valley and the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento.

One such collaboration has joined UC Davis engineers with the hospital clinicians to create a simple, inexpensive ventilator. "This is a critical device to have. It provides the vital functions of a ventilator while being completely portable," said Andrew Li, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at UC Davis Health. Tingrui Pan, Professor in the Colleges of Engineering and Biological Sciences and Faculty Director of our GREAT Research Program directs the laboratory creating the so-called AmbuBox. He says, "we felt that we could make a system without moving parts, using compressed air to squeeze and inflate an ambu-bag," and led the scaling up of his lab's work on the precision controls necessary to accomplish this.

UC Davis experts from a variety of departments and fields are contributing to the global fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. For more on the the UC Davis response to the challenges of COVID-19, please visit: ucdavis.edu/coronavirus/news/our-experts-news

# FROM OUR STUDENTS

"GSP really takes care of its students. I studied abroad in the UK, after I got there, they kinda just let go. GSP always has a lot of events going on. I always know where to get help and the staff are really nice." —YURI SHIRAKI, Doshisha University, Japan

"Throughout the quarter, I felt very happy with the curriculum, class experience and the help provided by GSP. Also, I did well in the final exams and obtained a GPA of 4.0/4.0 in all three courses. Thank you for your kind help!"

-CHENYU LI, Zhejiang University (ZJU), Remote Instruction Spring Quarter, China

"My home university had a partnership with UC Davis because they are both agricultural schools, so it seemed like the right choice as someone who is studying animal science. Also, Davis is the best school for animal science and the climate is great!"

#### --MAREN-HELENE RUD, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), Norway

"I feel more comfortable speaking English now...I'm planning to come back to the U.S. to pursue an MBA degree. Taking economics classes in the U.S. prepares me for future studies."

-RYO AIDA, University of Tokyo, Japan



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