



GOING BEYOND

ANNUAL REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023



FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN

Dear friends, alumni, and supporters of *Beyond120*,

I love the start of a new academic year – welcoming new students to campus, preparing new courses, embracing untapped opportunities, and reflecting on the past year. As we review the 2022-2023 year for the Academic Advising Center and *Beyond120*, we find a blend of continuity and change.

Within each of our pillars – curriculum, excursions, research, internships, and global engagement – our commitment to providing students with distinctive avenues to enrich their undergraduate education has remained steadfast. We have proactively expanded efforts in these areas, while simultaneously maintaining the initiatives that have shown success time and again.

While some things remained consistent, others have changed. This year marked my first in the role of Director of the Academic Advising Center, so I naturally have spent much of the past several months learning and observing. We also said goodbye to the inaugural director of *Beyond120*, Ryan Braun, who has begun a new position at another university. While we wish him well, his absence is keenly felt and will take some adjusting. Change is hard, but it can be a great opportunity to take a step back and examine what is working well, and what we could be doing better, a pivotal aspect as we begin the process of crafting a strategic plan for the program.

That said, I am thrilled to announce that we have recently hired a new director, Dr. Taylor Stokes. Taylor comes to us from UF's David and Wanda Brown Center for Leadership & Service, where she has been serving as Interim Director. She brings a wealth of knowledge in experiential learning. We are excited to welcome her to our team.

I hope you will enjoy reading about the wonderful things *Beyond120* has accomplished this year. Our faculty have been able to make a meaningful impact on our students, from academics to professional development and so much more. None of these achievements would be possible without the generosity and support of supporters like you. We are so grateful for your ongoing commitment to the *Beyond120* mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gillian Lord". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gillian Lord
Professor and Associate Dean
Director, Academic Advising Center

BY THE NUMBERS

8

MORSE PRE-HEALTH SCHOLARS

25

2023 *BEYOND120* SCHOLAR GRADUATES

52

EXPERIENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

113

EXPERIENTIAL SCHOLARS

150

STUDENTS ATTENDED A CAREER EXCURSION

185

PRE-HEALTH SCHOLARS

504

INDIVIDUAL CAREER ADVISING MEETINGS

1,023

STUDENTS TAUGHT IN *BEYOND120* COURSES

2,403

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN *BEYOND120* ONLINE
CAREER READINESS MODULES

Workplace and Regional Excursions

In the 2022-2023 academic year, one-day and multi-day career excursions expanded within the *Beyond120* program. During the fall 2022 semester, 23 students visited the Macquarie facility in Jacksonville, FL. Remarkably, 14 of those students engaged in interviews for potential summer internships. The single-day excursion model has proved to be particularly impactful for juniors and seniors looking to gain practical experience through networking, resume reviews, and interviews.

Three excursions this year were extended trips, spanning from four to six days. During these trips, students met with hiring managers, heard from UF alumni and friends, participated in hands-on activities, toured office facilities, and much more. Several students chose to follow up with these employers about internships or full-time positions after graduation.



EXCURSIONS

FALL 2022

Macquarie, Jacksonville, FL

EriVan Bio, Alachua, FL

The Selling Factory, Gainesville, FL

SPRING 2023

Beyond120 in New York
Spring Break Extended Trip

The Wertheim UF Scripps
Institute, Jupiter, FL

FBI Field Office, Tampa, FL

Beyond120 in Oaxaca, Mexico
Summer Extended Trip

Beyond120 in Washington, D.C.
Summer Extended Trip

EXCURSION-INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

The fall semester also piloted the first-ever *Industry Insights* course that integrated excursions into the curriculum. Titled *Entrepreneurship in Gainesville*, students who enrolled in this three-credit course visited the following sites during the semester:

CURRICULUM EXCURSION HOSTS

- » The Cade Museum
- » UF Innovate | The Hub
- » Sid Martin Biotech
- » Gainesville Prosthetics and OPIE Software
- » Infotech
- » San Felasco Tech City and Fracture
- » IProTV
- » Frankel and Celebration Pointe
- » SharpSpring by Constant Contact
- » The Selling Factory
- » New Scooters 4 Less
- » Feathr

The commonality with all excursions is the connection to UF alumni, friends, and partners. Each destination is chosen based on their willingness and ability to speak to skill sets, goals, and challenges faced by students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Whether one hour or one week, *Beyond120* excursions seek to expose students to career pathways and industries that may have never been considered.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

After attending the FBI excursion in Tampa, I now understand why the excursions are so popular and beneficial to students. There are certain things you cannot learn in class, and I am so grateful I was able to go. I am excited for my future with *Beyond120* and, hopefully one day, with the FBI.

— **Victoria**, Class of 2024

When I saw the *Beyond120* excursion to New York application, I was excited to apply and even more excited when I got the acceptance. I did not know what to expect but it was definitely one of the most valuable parts of my freshman year.

— **Caroline**, Class of 2026

At a *Beyond120* excursion to Macquarie Group Limited's Jacksonville office, I met great people, learned about the firm, and received an internship offer for their Financial Management Group. This would not have been possible without the help of *Beyond120*, which provided the opportunity to make connections in person.

— **David**, Class of 2023

Goals

- » Explore new excursion locations and hosts
- » Proactively develop recruitment pipelines
- » Create mentorship opportunities
- » Explore new resources for CLAS students

Global Engagement

This year we added multiple new programs to our *Beyond120* global offerings. Students can now study and intern during any semester in Ireland with industry partners in Dublin, Galway, and soon, Limerick. We have new exchange agreements with multiple universities, including Yonsei University (Seoul, South Korea), University College London (UK), and the University of Manchester (UK), with pending agreements including Nanyang Technological University (Singapore) and Newcastle University (UK).

We offered the *Beyond120* in Oaxaca excursion for the second year, allowing students to shadow and learn about the healthcare system in Mexico. London's internship program retained its popularity, alongside our popular clinical shadowing programs held at three locations in Spain.

Beyond our programs, we collaborated on multiple events, including UF's first global career fair, a workshop on Careers in the Language Services Industry, and numerous information sessions.

BY THE NUMBERS

UF IN LONDON

Beyond120 CLAS Internship - 16 students, Summer 2022 - Spring 2023; 23 students, Summer 2023

CLINICAL SHADOWING IN SPAIN

68 students, 2022 & 2023

BEYOND120 IN OAXACA

11 students, May 2023

UF IN IRELAND

13 CLAS students/41 total students, Summer 2023

INCOMING CLAS EXCHANGE STUDENTS: 109

OUTGOING EXCHANGE STUDENTS: 41



TAEJA GARRICK

UF in Vigo: Clinical Shadowing

Experiential Scholarship Award Recipient, Summer 2022

Shadowing physicians in Vigo, Spain was an unforgettable experience. Studying abroad in Spain allowed me to better understand a healthcare system different than what I am used to and be exposed to the importance of patient care and passion for medicine. It definitely helped solidify my commitment to the medical field. I also had the amazing opportunity to be submerged into the culture and explore!



ANDREA KAMBOU

Beyond120 in London: CLAS Internship (FIE)

Experiential Scholarship Award Recipient, Summer 2022

My eight weeks in London was an experience that really changed my perspective on the world around me. The program I chose allowed me to not only study abroad by taking classes but also gave me the chance to have an internship in a field that fits my interest/career path. I learned firsthand what I enjoyed about my field and what I did not ... now when I graduate, I am able to look for jobs with a narrower approach that fits my wants and needs.



Goals

- » Offer a new location in Croatia for the Clinical Shadowing program, increasing capacity
- » Launch a new semester study and internship program with the University of Limerick in Spring 2024



Internship Connections

Internships allow students to connect the knowledge and skills of their liberal arts and sciences education with practical applications and careers while cultivating new experiences. This year, *Beyond120* coordinated and promoted over 30 internship partnerships, including a dozen new partnerships. These initiatives linked students with hundreds of opportunities across a variety of roles and industries spanning for-profit, nonprofit, and government settings.

To amplify program visibility and student internship readiness, we organized a total of eight internship and career events in partnership with 10 different campus partners and employers, engaging over 200 students. These efforts, in conjunction with more than 100 personalized one-on-one internship consultations, significantly expanded access to impactful internships for CLAS students from diverse backgrounds. Many students participated in internships, all the while making progress toward their degrees by earning academic credits through our *Liberal Arts and Sciences Internship* course. This course, designed to maximize the internship experience, welcomed nearly 80 students in the last year, and we are confident that our new, streamlined application process and curriculum will enable even more students to take part in this learning experience.



BY THE NUMBERS

30+

internship partnerships

10+

new internship partnerships

200+

students attended our internship and career events

100+

one-on-one internship consultations

79

STUDENTS

across 67 different internship host sites enrolled in Liberal Arts and Sciences internships



Goals

- » Strengthen existing internship partnerships and continue building new relationships across industries and sectors
- » Develop more interactive events and workshops, focusing on critical professional skills, high-demand areas, and featured internship opportunities
- » Launch a better online presence for internship partnerships and opportunities, with improved search functions
- » Increase the number of students in the Liberal Arts and Sciences Internship course
- » Identify more scholarship opportunities for students pursuing internships



JAVIER KOWALCHUK

Fall 2022 Sales Development Intern at The Selling Factory and Liberal Arts and Sciences Internship Student

Every day I was encouraged to get out of my comfort zone and practice how to communicate persuasively and genuinely with local business owners, helping me become a stronger communicator outside the office.



ANISHA MENASHI

Spring and Summer 2023 Child Education and Prevention Intern at Peaceful Paths Domestic Violence Agency and Liberal Arts and Sciences Internship Student

The *Beyond120* program has made a significant impact on my academic and professional development by providing an enthusiastic network of faculty who are willing to advise me on how I can grow in this community through paths like research, internships, and studying abroad and how I can pursue any of these paths to contribute to my professional journey.

My internship at Peaceful Paths has given me the experience needed to work with marginalized communities and how I can contribute to educational equity for these groups. This experience has given me confidence and a better idea of what I may want to pursue professionally, as it has opened the doors to other sectors of social work, such as economic development and education policy, which I am very excited to explore!

Pre-Health Programs

The *Beyond120* Pre-Health Scholars (PHS) program caters to pre-health students within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS). PHS encourages student engagement in the *Beyond120* pre-health curriculum, humanities and social science curriculum, participation in research, clinical and community service, excursions, and study abroad opportunities. The PHS program fosters depth and diversity in pre-health students' experiences, aiding in the development of essential pre-professional pre-health competencies. These are not only crucial for gaining admission to healthcare professional schools, but also for cultivating a commitment to lifelong service within healthcare professions.



BEYOND120 PRE-HEALTH CURRICULUM

Introduction to the Pre-Health Process

Human Dimensions of Health

Pre-Health Pathways



PRE-HEALTH STUDENT SERVICE GROUPS

Commencing during the summer of 2020 amidst the challenges posed by COVID-19, the Pre-Health Scholars (PHS) community service initiative was established to address the growing need for community service experiences among pre-health students — a vital component of applications to healthcare professional schools, as well as professional and personal development.

In the academic year 2022-2023, around 10-12 small groups were formed, each consisting of four to six students. Led by a *Beyond120* service group leader and guided by a Pre-Health Post-Baccalaureate mentor, these groups collectively engaged approximately 60 student participants. Monthly, the groups undertake service projects, often themed, to give back to the local Gainesville community.

PRE-HEALTH STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

CEASAR FABRIZIO RODRIGUEZ

As a Pre-Health Scholars service group leader, I had the opportunity to work closely with a diverse group of individuals to help serve our community. As a team, we were able to brainstorm, plan out, and then perform various service group projects. We made care packages targeting some of the underserved populations in the community, such as the homeless and hospice patients. We helped in beautification projects across the community, cleaning up parks, and roads, and helping a local community farm. The Pre-Health Scholars service group program gave my team and I a more personalized and meaningful experience in volunteering and the opportunity to take initiative in how we can serve the community.

ALEXANDER THEOPHILOPOULOS

As a student who decided to pursue medicine later in my academic career, I was extremely nervous about this transition, but the *Beyond120* Pre-Health Scholars program made it seamless. I was able to participate in a PHS internship with the Helping Hands Clinic and gain hands-on experience providing care for the homeless population of Gainesville. Further, I was able to use my passion for serving this population to lead a service group in monthly projects focusing on food insecurity in the local homeless population. I saw how patient health extends far beyond the walls of a clinic.

Through coursework focusing on my own cultural competency, such as medical sociology, I was able to formally study the human dimension of healthcare that I witnessed through my experimental learning. I am extremely grateful to this program and all the faculty and staff who have made it such an engaging experience.

Goals



- » Emphasize course development for reaching greater numbers of pre-health students
- » Broaden PHS service groups opportunities for depth and diversity in service learning
- » Expand speaker series to offer more diversity and to include professional students and faculty
- » Enhance PHS student leadership and collaboration opportunities



Undergraduate Research

This year marked an exciting beginning for the BMS Science Scholars program, a collaboration with Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS). The program funds undergraduate research projects at UF in scientific areas related to drug development. Throughout their project journey, students receive career guidance from industry scientists at BMS, virtually tour BMS facilities, and ultimately showcase their work in a symposium for BMS and UF stakeholders. Noteworthy developments in the research sphere include an excursion to the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute, a biomedical research facility in Jupiter, FL, which took place in Spring 2023. A newly created course in graduate school preparation was launched in Fall 2022, and funding was secured to host a guest speaker from Johns Hopkins for a highly attended live speaking event during the same semester.

BY THE NUMBERS

Over 200 students completed a 1-credit course in the *Beyond120* Research area

25 Annual CLAS Scholars Program Awards

OTHER RESEARCH AWARDS

5 BMS Science Scholars

1 *Beyond120* Chemistry Scholar

12 *Beyond120* Experiential Awards for Research

1 Faculty Award for Excellent Research Mentorship in the Humanities



YU TIN LIN

2023 National Goldwater Scholarship Winner

The BMS Science Scholars program enabled regular one-on-one interactions with scientific mentors who are actively involved in the development of cutting-edge solutions to today's major healthcare challenges. But being a BMS Scholar was far more than academic enrichment. It allowed me to form lasting relationships with my mentors that will extend beyond my undergraduate education. These experiences really helped me grow as a scientist and understand my career trajectory.



Goals

- » Establish a bridge program to provide incoming transfer students an early introduction to research
- » Help create a new program to expand undergraduate research opportunities in AI/data humanities
- » Secure funding for CLAS students to participate in a Scripps summer research experience
- » Develop an event series dedicated to exposing first-generation students to research possibilities

Additional *Beyond120* Offerings

CURRICULUM

The *Beyond120* curriculum was designed with the CLAS student in mind. Students learn to articulate their professional skill sets, reflect on their own meaningful experiences, and develop a greater appreciation for ambiguity in career transitions. While some courses in the *Beyond120* program are more holistic in nature, others seek to expose students to a specific industry or career pathway. The commonality in these courses is the purposeful mission to encourage personal and professional growth for each student. As the needs of CLAS students continue to develop, so does our faculty's commitment to enhancing the curriculum, fostering innovation, and promoting experiential learning both in and beyond the classroom.

EXAMPLE COURSES

Women in STEM

Grad School 101

Human Dimension in Health

Law and Literature

The Art of Adulting

Strategic Self-Marketing





MENTORCONNECT

MentorConnect is tailored for CLAS students who seek insights into career transitions, industry expertise, and valuable advice from mentors. We need talented Gators like you to serve as mentors to our inspired students. Please consider joining the program to help guide CLAS students throughout their journey at UF.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences thanks the Philip and Donna Tenenbaum Family (Philip BA '78, Donna BA '78 & MEd. '79, Robyn BSN '08 and Alan MBA '20) for their support of MentorConnect.



MADELYN MARCOS

Political Science, December '23

Madelyn, a first-generation transfer student, started her UF journey in Spring 2022, determined to conquer the challenges of college life. Although her career path was unclear, she eagerly attended *Beyond120* events to expand her professional network. Creating a MentorConnect account led to a match with alumnus Carlos Colon, an FBI agent in Tampa, thanks to a shared interest in law. When Carlos encouraged Madelyn to apply for an FBI summer internship, he brought Madelyn's future quickly into focus.



CARLOS COLON

Criminology, '98

Carlos guided Madelyn through the rigorous FBI internship application process and celebrated her success. Her internship experience working alongside Carlos and his colleagues fueled Madelyn's aspirations to pursue law school with an FBI career in mind. As a MentorConnect mentor, Carlos finds his involvement gratifying. "The way I see it, why wouldn't you want to be a mentor?" he said. "UF gave me so much as a student, and now I get to give back — to me, it's a no-brainer."

Looking Ahead: *Beyond120* Goals & Growth

We are thrilled to have accomplished so much over the past year.

Here is what is on
the horizon for
Beyond120:

- » Welcome and onboard a new director for *Beyond120*
- » Expand student excursion options
- » Develop and strengthen alumni and partner relationships
- » Broaden internship opportunities
- » Increase global *Beyond120* presence
- » Assess and enhance curricular offerings
- » Expand all *Beyond120* opportunities to new, non-traditional (e.g., transfer, online) students



TAYLOR STOKES

Director, *Beyond120*

Taylor Stokes earned her Ph.D. in Leadership Education (UF, Agriculture Education & Communication) in May 2022, with a focus on how university organizational structure impacts leadership development for college students. Taylor has held leadership positions in the David and Wanda Brown Center for Leadership & Service at UF since 2015. In that capacity, she provided strategic coordination and oversight for service-learning and leadership development programs for students, staff, and faculty. She has developed valuable relationships across campus and throughout Gainesville. These, along with her extensive experience in community engagement and service learning, will be a valuable addition to the experiential learning expertise of the current *Beyond120* faculty.

Taylor looks forward to working with the *Beyond120* students, faculty, staff, and partners and to learn more about the strengths and opportunities of the program. Her goals include helping *Beyond120* grow in both size and reputation and to develop an ambitious strategic vision for this growth. She is eager to help *Beyond120* remain an integral place in CLAS where students can experience and reflect on how they can expand their education and career development through meaningful work and community engagement, both here in Gainesville and beyond.

Beyond120 Faculty



AIMÉE BOURASSA, *Internship Coordinator, Lecturer*

Aimée completed a Ph.D. in Political Science at Brown University, where she also designed and taught multidisciplinary courses. During this time, she developed a passion for supporting student academic, personal, and professional development by connecting scholarly discussions and skills with applied perspectives and experiences. At UF, Aimée coordinates the *Beyond120* internship program and collaborates with several partners to create, promote, and increase access to rewarding internship opportunities. As a lecturer, she also helps develop and offer career readiness courses, experiences, and advising for undergraduate students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.



BRITTANY GRUBBS-HODGES, *Assistant Director of Experiential Learning, Lecturer*

Brittany directs the experiential learning and internship efforts for the *Beyond120* program. She works with corporate partners and internship providers. Brittany earned a master's degree in Mass Communications from the University of Florida and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration. She has experience in education, recruitment, and corporate communications.



BOBBI KNICKERBOCKER, *Pre-Health Coordinator and Director of the Pre-Health Post-Bac (PHPB) program, Senior Lecturer*

Bobbi was originally trained as a Registered Nurse, working in healthcare for 38 years. Much of this was engaged in many facets of pediatric nursing, including hospital, primary care and development, management, and sole provider for an EPSDT clinic for children birth to 18 years on Medicaid. Bobbi also had the opportunity to organize and implement clinics for several summers in Romania for the Roma population, along with spending a few months on the Oglala Lakota reservation learning from and serving the Lakota people. The last 15 years offered the privilege of working as a pediatric and adult hospice nurse and chaplain. This was followed with the opportunity to become part of the Academic Advising Center, with the goal of empowering pre-health students, undergraduate and non-traditional, in their personal and professional growth and development towards comprehensive and holistic application to healthcare professional schools and ultimately humanistic healthcare professionals.



JACOB WATSON, *Research Coordinator, Lecturer*

Jacob became the first *Beyond120* research coordinator in 2020. His academic background is in the humanities, an important growth area for undergraduate research. After completing a Ph.D. in English at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2019, he briefly taught film studies in a part-time position at Duke University while also undertaking a post-doctorate with UNC. Jacob's first project at UF was to develop an all-majors research exposure and preparation course focused on CLAS-specific opportunities (IDS1054: Intro to Research), which now initiates 60 to 70 students to the world of CLAS research every summer, spring and fall.



CHRISTINE RICHMOND, *International Internships and Global Engagement Coordinator, Senior Lecturer*

Christine is in her 19th year working for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and has been with *Beyond120* since its beginning. Her focus is on developing and managing impactful programs centered around international internships and shadowing, spanning diverse locations such as Spain, Mexico, the UK, Ireland, and Singapore. In addition to teaching courses designed to prepare students for their professional lives and for studying or working abroad, she also works with the college's exchange students and *Beyond120*'s student ambassadors.

Beyond120 is generously supported by a community of donors, employers, partners, and friends. We are grateful for the significant impact that you have on the students, staff, faculty, and distinctive programs that define *Beyond120*.

For more information on how you or your organization can support *Beyond120* initiatives, please contact:

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