Estimating the Effect of SU Study Abroad on Graduation

Graduation rates of students who participated in SUA were compared to those of non-participants who were similar to them on a variety of factors (i.e., propensity score matching). These factors included: cohort, term of SUA participation, academic program, gender, first generation status, race/ethnicity, alternate offer status, Pell eligibility, high school GPA, SAT, cumulative GPA prior to SUA participation, cumulative SU credits attempted prior to SUA participation, and ratio of SU credits earned to SU credits attempted prior to SUA participation.

Additionally, various sub-populations of students who participated in SUA were compared to matched non-participants (e.g., first-generation students who participated were compared to matched first-generation students who did not participate). When matching international students, high school GPA and SAT were not considered because many international students do not have these metrics.

Students who participated in SUA had higher four- and six-year graduation rates than their matched peers. This was found for students overall, as well as every sub-population assessed.

