Beginning Summer 2016 the University of Nevada, Reno Office of Undergraduate Research and the University Study Abroad Consortium (USAC) will offer a new program aimed at providing undergraduate students an opportunity to do research abroad and earn credits towards their degree. Students selected for this program will participate in an 8-10 week research experience with a mentor at a university in another country under the auspices of the University Study Abroad Consortium (USAC) program and UNR Office for Undergraduate Research. You will work one-on-one with your selected mentor and their research team on an active research project in your field of interest. Mentors and their research projects are listed in the attached handout and at the UGRAD website. All mentors speak English and the research will be conducted in English. This program is designed to allow students to have an international research experience while still making progress towards completing their major and particularly supports students in STEM disciplines.

Five USAC universities are currently part of this new program:
- Universidad del Pais Vasco in Bilbao, Spain
- Leuphana Universität in Lüneburg, Germany
- Università degli Studi della Tuscia in Viterbo, Italy
- Université de Pau et des Pays de L’Adour in Pau, France
- Universidad Nacional in Heredia, Costa Rica

Application and selection Process:
Applications received by 15 January 2016 will receive full consideration, and those received after this date will be considered on a space-available basis. Applications are available online (http://environment.unr.edu/undergraduate/research/opportunities/), or at the Office of Undergraduate Research (201 Ross Hall). Applications will be reviewed by the Office of Undergraduate Research and by faculty mentors. Selection of candidates will be completed by March 1, 2016. One student will be chosen to work with each mentor. Selected students will become part of the USAC cohort for the summer 2016 Sessions I & II at the university where they have been placed. At that point they will work directly with the USAC office in preparing for departure. USAC requires a minimum GPA of 2.5.

If you have questions contact Scott Mensing Director of Undergraduate Research (smensing@unr.edu), or Amber Yoder (ayoder@unr.edu).

Program costs
Students will pay the USAC program fees for the site they will be attending. Program fees include tuition and fees, housing, USAC prearranged housing placement service, student health insurance, program-organized field trips, and more. For details see the USAC website (http://usac.unr.edu/).

Undergraduate Research Awards and Scholarships
Funds have been established to provide Undergraduate Research Awards specifically to help in covering costs for this program. To be eligible for funding students must submit with their application a copy of their 2015-16 SAR (Student Aid Report from fafs.ed.gov) and most recent Financial Aid Offer Email (which can be printed from MyNEVADA Student Center Dashboard/Communication Center/Completed Communications).

Credit towards your major:
International Research Experience students will be enrolled in Independent Study, Internship, or Research courses specifically identified by participating departments as part of this program. Students will work with the Office of Undergraduate Research and their major department to determine the course number they will enroll in for the summer and the total credits that will be counted towards their major.