



GOING BEYOND

ANNUAL REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022



Liberal Arts *and* Sciences

Cultivating
CAREER READINESS
through **COURSEWORK**
and **EXPERIENCE**



Beyond120 students at the Lincoln Memorial.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The *Beyond120* program offers students in the University of Florida's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences an opportunity to expand their educational horizons through career development and experiential learning opportunities.

The past academic year has been both challenging and rewarding. While navigating the continued effects of the pandemic and its impact on student engagement and mental health, we expanded our offerings and supported the largest number of students since the program's inception. We saw all-time highs in career course enrollment and individual career advising sessions. We relaunched our career excursion program, both domestically and internationally, to great success. We grew our mentorship platform and saw over 140 mentorship consultations this year. We developed new health-related internships and inaugurated the first cohort of Morse Scholars, while consistently supporting students in their career-building experiences through scholarships.

As we look ahead, we are excited for the upcoming academic year and the opportunities to continue expanding our support of career readiness in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In particular, our goals for the next year include:

- Developing new exchange programs in London, Newcastle, Manchester, Madrid, Seoul and Tasmania
- Building new internship partnerships locally, nationally and internationally
- Expanding our scholarship fund to support additional student career experiences
- Growing our mentorship platform to connect more students to accomplished alumni and friends
- Launching the Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) Science Scholars Program to emphasize undergraduate scientific research

I am so proud of the work the *Beyond120* faculty and students have done in this year of challenge and success. I look forward to building upon our momentum and continuing to work with the incredibly talented alumni, faculty, staff and students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Thank you for your support and Go Gators!

Ryan Braun
Director

BY THE NUMBERS

16

SPRING 2022 *BEYOND120* SCHOLAR GRADUATES

37

EXPERIENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

60

STUDENTS ATTENDED A CAREER EXCURSION

100

PRE-HEALTH SCHOLARS

115

EXPERIENTIAL SCHOLARS

141

MENTORCONNECT CONSULTATIONS

735

INDIVIDUAL CAREER ADVISING MEETINGS

782

STUDENTS TOOK *BEYOND120* COURSES

1,475

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ONLINE CAREER READINESS MODULES



TOTAL ENROLLMENT
782
STUDENTS

Career Readiness Instruction

Beyond120 faculty continue to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances to deliver exceptional career readiness instruction. Though we continued to offer many online courses, most of our classes returned to in-person teaching in the summer of 2021. A record number of students enrolled in our career coursework this year.

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

"I learned a lot about financial literacy and being able to plan for the future. I also learned about career growth, interviews, salary negotiation, and just about everything I was scared of when it came to adulthood." (The Art of Adulthood; SLS3226)

"This course taught me so much. It might be one of the most important courses I have ever taken and will ever take at UF." (Professional Pathways in the Liberal Arts and Sciences; SLS1409)

"My goal for my college career is to study abroad and this class facilitated this dream into a reality. I am on the pre-medicine track which will give me a global view of medicine when embarking to another country." (Global Pathways: Preparing for International Engagement; SLS1006)

Above: Photo from the "Law & Literature" course, where students learn legal principles and practice applying them to literary texts in mock trial competition.

COURSES TAUGHT

Professional Pathways in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Global Pathways: Preparing for International Engagement

Introduction to the Pre-Health Process

Introduction to Research in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Pre-Health Pathways

The Art of Adulthood

Strategic Self-Marketing in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Industry Insights

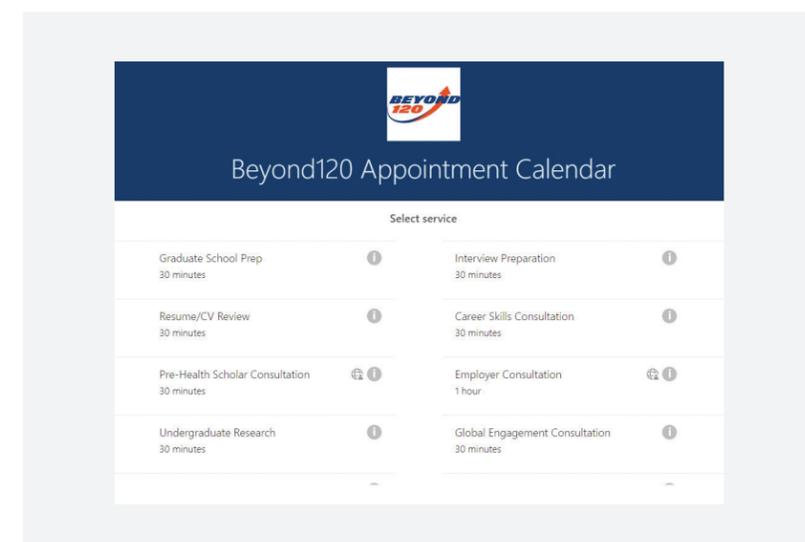
Collaborative Research Experience in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Law & Literature

Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Individual Career Coaching and Advising

Last year we implemented an online appointment system to allow students to meet one-on-one with faculty to discuss their career development. This year we expanded this resource, resulting in 735 individual career consultation meetings.



MEETING WITH STUDENTS, MAKING CONNECTIONS

Providing greater accessibility to one-on-one career advising has been crucial over the past year. Students come to these meetings at all levels of preparedness and experience, and our faculty meet them where they stand. Whether it's a straightforward resume review or mock interview, a deeper conversation about professional pathways that align with their values, or how to fund a study abroad trip, each student leaves these consultations closer to their professional goals.

CONSULTATION OPTIONS

Career Skills

Resume Review

Interview Preparation

Internships

Graduate School

Pre-Health

Research

Global Engagement

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I find a relevant internship, study abroad opportunity or research experience?
2. How do I tailor my resume and interview to fit a particular position?
3. How can I discover the jobs and industries available to me?

735

CAREER ADVISING APPOINTMENTS

Immersing Students in the World of Work

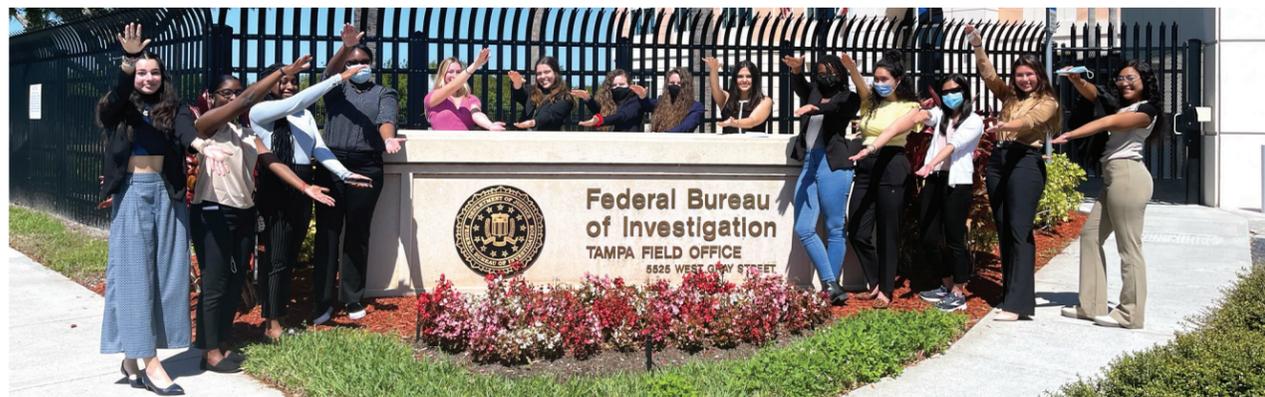
After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, we relaunched our **Career Excursion** program in the Spring 2022 semester. During these immersive trips, students explore career communities, meet industry professionals, build networks, and expand their understanding and occupational imagination of various career fields and sectors. This year, students visited the FBI Field Office in Tampa, experienced the Atlanta business community, gained healthcare and intercultural perspectives in Oaxaca, Mexico, and immersed themselves in the public service world in Washington, D.C.

MARCH 8-12, 2022: ATLANTA

Over the spring break, we took 14 students to Atlanta to learn about various businesses and industries. After meeting with alumni business leaders and professionals, students gained knowledge of career pathways they never would have imagined. All 14 attendees received job or internship offers.



MARCH 25, 2022: FBI FIELD OFFICE, TAMPA



In March, we took 16 students to the FBI Field Office in Tampa to expose them to the various career opportunities available through the FBI.

APRIL 30-MAY 8, 2022: OAXACA, MEXICO



Beyond120 took 10 pre-health students to Oaxaca to give them a global health perspective, clinical observation experience, and an introduction to issues in healthcare disparities.

MAY 9-13, 2022: WASHINGTON, D.C.



In partnership with the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, we took 20 students to the nation's capital to immerse them in the world of civic-oriented careers. It was a truly transformative experience for the students, who learned about career pathways, built relationships and expanded their professional imaginations.

Above: CLAS students and faculty pictured with Debbie Wasserman Schultz, congresswoman and UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences alumna. Right: Mikhail Mikaylov, pictured with congresswoman Kat Cammack, U.S. representative from Florida's 3rd district, which includes Gainesville.



"To me, excursions are almost like professional field trips for college students that are focused on learning about different career fields and networking with different companies."

— **Stephanie Odom**,
History major



"Shadowing in clinics allowed us to see healthcare from a new perspective and I learned more than I ever could in a classroom."

— **Julia Ingram**,
Biology major



"Due to the amazing guest speakers and UF alumni connections, as well as the fascinating group activities, this excursion was both a delightful personal experience and a beneficial professional venture."

— **Mikhail Mikaylov**,
Political Science major

Career Events

PRE-HEALTH SERVICE GROUPS

During the 2021-2022 academic year, *Beyond120* Pre-Health Scholars gave back to the local community. They conducted campus and community clean-ups and constructed and distributed care packages for veterans in hospice at Vitas Healthcare and unhoused community members at the Gainesville St. Francis House.



CAREER WORKSHOPS

Beyond120 continued to offer relevant career workshops to students, utilizing alumni, successful students, and faculty across campus to provide insight and guidance.



SPRING 2022 GRADUATE ANA CAVALCANTE REFLECTS ON HOW BEYOND120 IMPACTED HER COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Getting involved with *Beyond120* in my freshman year was one of the best decisions I have made at UF. I never could have imagined that taking a class in my first semester of college would open so many doors throughout the rest of my time at UF. My experience with *Beyond120* has included one scholarship, four classes, five excursions, ten-plus workshops, dozens of alumni connections, and a collection of lasting friendships. This program has constantly pushed me out of my comfort zone and encouraged me to think about my future career in a less linear model and to consider opportunities I had not previously been exposed to. It has been an honor to have been surrounded by so many self-motivated peers and to have been mentored by the team that helms the program. My time at UF and how I view my future career path have been irreversibly impacted by my involvement with *Beyond120*, and I will forever be grateful for it.

— Ana Cavalcante



Experiential Scholars/ Pre-Health Scholars

The Experiential Scholars and Pre-Health Scholars Programs are supplemental systems that encourage students already engaging with opportunities offered by the *Beyond120* program to maximize their experience. The program operates on a points-based system that requires students to complete 20 points by the time they graduate. The students who meet this lofty threshold clearly demonstrate a commitment to career readiness and experiential learning.

In Spring 2022, we recognized 16 total graduating students who earned the *Beyond120* Scholar designation, certificate and regalia.

SPOTLIGHT

GRADUATING EXPERIENTIAL SCHOLAR ON THE IMPACT OF BEYOND120

"*Beyond120* has truly been one of the best programs I've gotten involved with at UF. I am a firm believer that experience and how you apply lessons from the classroom is crucial. Hearing about the different avenues and industries my liberal arts degree can take me through experiential learning and excursions, especially from successful industry leaders, is always such an insightful experience. The opportunities for professional development never ends, even as an alumna. I am so grateful for everything *Beyond120* has given me, whether it be life skills or forever friendships."

— Ariane Latras, 2022 CLAS graduate



PRE-HEALTH SCHOLAR LEARNS THE IMPORTANCE OF HOSPICE CARE

We established an internship program for the Pre-Health Scholars with local organization Community Hospice and Palliative Care. In Fall 2021, rising senior and Biology major **Ryanne Thelwell** participated in this internship, and in her words: "Entering this internship, I did not have a full understanding of the purpose of hospice and palliative care facilities or how they operated. This internship allowed me to observe the biopsychosocial model of healthcare in action while helping shape my future goals."



215
STUDENTS
PARTICIPATING IN
THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMS

16
GRADUATING EXPERIENTIAL
& PRE-HEALTH SCHOLARS

Beyond120 Scholarships

The *Beyond120* program provides scholarship funding to support students in various academic and experiential endeavors, particularly internships, study abroad and research. Additionally, our CLAS Cares fund supports students experiencing hardship. We are proud to be able to support students in this way and look forward to increasing our support capacity in the future.

37
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

\$42,500
AMOUNT AWARDED



MOMBO NGU, RISING SENIOR SOCIOLOGY MAJOR ON A PRE-MED TRACK

“The *Beyond120* program provided me a scholarship which helped me finance my study abroad trip to Vigo, Spain. I was able to shadow physicians, improve on my Spanish speaking skills, and surround myself in another culture while there.

To be able to have this financial support allowed for me to attend and experience this once in a lifetime opportunity. My family and I are incredibly grateful that the *Beyond120* program invest their resources and time into my journey. I am incredibly excited to apply what I have learned in Spain into my everyday life and future career in medicine.”

CLAS MentorConnect



BUILDING OUR MENTORSHIP PLATFORM

Since launching MentorConnect at the beginning of the pandemic, we have continued to grow this platform to give students an opportunity to virtually connect with mentors. The Gator Nation is everywhere, and with a CLAS alumni base of over 125,000, we recognize the opportunity to connect undergraduate students with UF alumni and friends from various industries. In the past year, we have:

- Refined the technical performance of the platform
- Simplified the process to request and accept consultations
- Provided more guidance to mentees regarding how to prepare for their meetings
- Recruited a broad group of mentors to support our students' diverse interests

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- » Increase engagement with platform and number of consultations
- » Create more groups based on academic departments, industries and interest areas
- » Provide additional coaching and preparation guidance for mentees

141 MENTORSHIP CONSULTATIONS

AVERAGE MENTOR RATING BY STUDENTS

5/5 (42 RATINGS)

Undergraduate Research

Students who participate in research during their undergraduate experience build valuable skills, contribute to scholarly communities and enhance their competitiveness for graduate school and in the workforce. Despite the enduring challenges of the pandemic, *Beyond120* continued to support and provide opportunities for student research.

2022 RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



On April 7, 2022, *Beyond120* students were out in force presenting their research at the Center for Undergraduate Research 2022 Research Symposium.

Pictured above (from top): Bar Elmaleh, Jakob Levin, Armaan Kalkat.

HUMANITIES AWARD (FACULTY)



Faculty mentorship is a critical part of the student research experience, and each year we recognize a CLAS faculty member for excellence in research mentorship in the humanities. The 2022 award winner is **Jaime Ahlberg** from the Department of Philosophy.

“Dr. Ahlberg is someone willing to step up for the least advantaged. I strongly believe her work has contributed to the world itself becoming a little more human.”

— **Aimee Clesi**, Mentee & Student of Dr. Ahlberg

MIGNARDI CHEMISTRY RESEARCH AWARD

For demonstrating excellence in undergraduate research in chemistry, **Alivia Ishee** received the Mignardi Chemistry Research Award for the 2021-2022 academic year. A rising UF junior and double major in Chemistry and Microbiology, Alivia conducts research in the UF Ding Medicinal Chemistry Laboratory. She was selected to participate in the American Chemical Society LEADS Conference in Washington, D.C., which allows promising young scientists to meet with and learn from distinguished researchers in their fields.



SPOTLIGHT

MORSE SCHOLARS

Thanks to the generosity of UF alumni **Joe** and **Kristin Morse**, we welcome the inaugural cohort of the Morse Scholars program. This program supports Pre-Health students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who demonstrate tremendous academic and professional potential at the beginning of their collegiate careers. Morse Scholars are students who are part of an under-represented population in healthcare and receive structured academic, professional and financial support through the *Beyond120* program during their undergraduate experience. We are excited to welcome the next cohort of Morse Scholars in Fall 2022.

CLASS of 2025 MORSE SCHOLARS



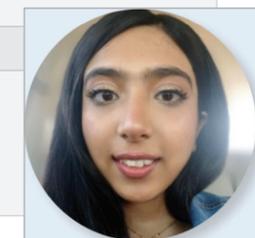
MALANA JACKSON
Exploratory Major



JANAE HODGE
Microbiology Major



EMORY RANES
Biology Major



MANAAL ZULFIQAR
Biology Major

Introducing Gillian Lord

NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

After a decade of remarkable service, **Joseph Spillane** is stepping down from his leadership role, returning to his scholarship and teaching in the Department of History. Longtime chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies **Gillian Lord** steps into the role of associate dean for student affairs and director of the Academic Advising Center. She will oversee many CLAS initiatives, including *Beyond120*.

Lord (Ph.D., Penn State) joined the Department of Romance Languages, now Spanish and Portuguese Studies in 2001. She directed the lower division Spanish language program for more than 10 years and chaired the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies from 2010-2021. Lord's teaching, research and service highlight her commitment to our educational mission and her dedication to student success.

She has taught at all levels of the curriculum, ranging from beginning language classes to specialized graduate seminars, in addition to co-teaching a cross-disciplinary Quest class. She has received multiple awards for her teaching and mentoring, including the UF Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Mentoring Award, the CLAS Teacher of the Year Award, and the UF Center for Leadership and Service Faculty of the Year Award. Lord's research focuses on second language acquisition. She has published extensively on the linguistic outcomes of classroom-based teaching and learning, and has recently co-authored a beginning and intermediate digital Spanish text program. Lord's leadership spans departmental, college and university service, including serving as chair of the CLAS Faculty Council and in key roles on the CLAS and University Curriculum Committees, General Education Committee, and CLAS Tenure and Promotion Committee. Lord has worked as a Preview advisor for 11 years and serves as Associate Chief Marshal for University Commencements. She looks forward to working with the Academic Advising Center to shape the undergraduate experiences of our CLAS students.



“Experiential learning is very much in line with everything I have always believed as an educator.

In fact, the very nature of language teaching, in particular, emphasizes the key components that make up the foundation of *Beyond120*: opportunities to practice what we learn beyond the classroom, real-world experiences, and cross-disciplinary applications of our learning. I'm very excited to continue supporting the essential work that *Beyond120* does, and I hope to help them maintain and expand all the curricular and extracurricular opportunities they provide for our students.”

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*:

- » Expand international offerings to enhance students' global literacy
- » Provide more students with curated internship opportunities
- » Grow scholarship funding to ensure every CLAS student has the opportunity to meaningfully participate in experiential learning
- » Make greater mentorship connections between CLAS alumni and students
- » Build our current Scholars programs and successfully launch new ones, such as the Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) Science Scholars
- » Support CLAS faculty across departments to develop Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) courses to expose more students to academic research
- » Support student leadership development through the CLAS *Beyond120* Ambassadors Program

Beyond120 Faculty



RYAN BRAUN | Director



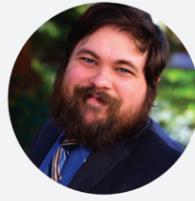
AIMÉE BOURASSA

Lecturer and Internship Coordinator



BRITTANY GRUBBS-HODGES

Assistant Director for Experiential Learning



JACOB WATSON

Lecturer and Undergraduate Research Coordinator



BOBBI KNICKERBOCKER

Senior Lecturer and Pre-Health Coordinator



CHRISTINE RICHMOND

Senior Lecturer and Global Engagement Coordinator

CONNECT *with* US

BEYOND120 WEBSITE
WWW.ADVISING.UFL.EDU/BEYOND120

SOCIAL



The students and faculty of *Beyond120* deeply value your support and appreciate your continued investment and partnership.

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

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UF Liberal Arts *and* Sciences