STUDY ABROAD TO BARCELONA, SPAIN

A group of nearly thirty students, faculty, and staff from the Richards College of Business studied abroad in Barcelona, Spain, March 17-25, 2012, through a program sponsored by the Management Department.

“The course was focused on three primary topics: business, culture, and personal growth,” said Dr. John Upson, Assistant Professor of Management and the group’s leader. Students met with executives from international business firms including Barcelona Biomedical Research Park, Ficosa, and Tiempo BBDO.

“We were able to compare and contrast the business styles of the U.S. and Spain and to gain an appreciation for the historical and cultural factors that have influenced Spain’s business culture,” said Upson.

“As business students, some of the greatest benefits to the group at large were developing a global mindset and learning how to adapt to foreign business environments and effectively interact with people from other countries,” said Dr. Mary-Kathryn Zachary, Professor of Management and faculty chaperone.

In addition to business visits, the group toured historical treasures such as the Montserrat Monastery, Antonio Gaudi’s architectural structures, and the Cordoniu vineyards and cava (champagne) cellars.

During free time, Spain offered students the chance to sample fine cuisine, partake of the arts, visit national sites, and enjoy local entertainment.

Students had the opportunity to see original Picasso works, to visit the La Sagrada Familia Basilica, to watch locals flamenco dancing, to tour the FC Barcelona Camp Nou football stadium and to stay and watch FC Barcelona’s victory over Granada.

In an increasingly diverse country and global economy, the Richards College of Business is proud to continue offering study abroad trips to its students to help create the experiences and develop the skill sets needed to succeed in tomorrow’s business environment.