

[Opening Music, plays continually through the introduction]

Introduction

Hello and welcome to this episode of Global, Here and Now - a podcast where the Poole College of Management Global Programs team showcases a variety of unique ways to engage globally. I'm your host Kelsey Oberbroeckling and today, we're going to highlight the ways that transfer students have experienced international business. Now, Let's Go Global

[Transition music]

Lead-In to Topic

Each year, the Poole College of Management welcomes nearly 1,200 new students. Some of these students have just graduated from high school and are starting their first year at NC State. However, many of these new students to Poole are transfer students with 300 transferring from a community college or other university and 400 coming from another major on NC State's campus. If you've done the mental math, *over half of all new students to Poole are transfer students*. With their previous work or military experience and different academic backgrounds, transfer students bring new perspectives to Poole, which we love!

Because transfer students are in Poole for a shorter period of time - maybe only one year or just a few semesters, there can be this *false idea* that transfer students cannot participate or do not have time to get involved with student organizations, career services and internships and study abroad programs. But this is *simply not the case*. Transfer students thrive in Poole, getting involved as leaders in clubs, obtaining internships and yes, even studying abroad. Today, we're going to hear from two transfer students who have maximized their time in Poole which included a study abroad experience.

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Interview - Tristan Whaley - Comillas External Transfer

Our first guest is Tristan Whaley, a senior who came to Poole as an external transfer student. Tristan is majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in marketing. In the Spring of 2020, Tristan studied abroad at Universidad Pontificia Comillas in Madrid, Spain. Though COVID unfortunately cut his time abroad short, Tristan still had a great experience. Thanks for joining us today, Tristan, and welcome to the podcast!

Tristan Whaley: Thank you so much for having me on.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Yes, go ahead let's get started by telling me a little bit about why and how you chose to study abroad at home, yes.

Tristan Whaley: So when I came to nc state, I had to do the transfer program for my orientation and one of the programs that they mentioned was the studying abroad Program.

Tristan Whaley: And I talked to miss frost and she said this to come into her office, if I had any more questions about studying abroad, so I went there and we just went over to. What I needed to get done for my degree and she said that you know the Columbia University and staying would be the perfect fit for me because it's a business school and it covers all the business program classes, that I would need to complete my general education.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: What were the biggest factors you thought about when choosing when and where to study abroad.

Tristan Whaley: So i've always wanted to study abroad and always wanted to go to Europe, so when the biggest factors for me was of course location and with the university and staying having to be in the business school. I thought this is perfect because it's in Europe it's a business school, so I can also I will always have. I will be able to complete my business degree and not be struggling with coming back and be like oh I didn't complete this class because I didn't go to a Business School while abroad. So I think that was the biggest factor is making sure I was able to complete my degree, while abroad, so I wasn't wasting any precious time.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is so true and we don't want you to we want to make sure that you're making doctor degree and would transfer students who are with us for a little bit shorter amount of time we'd need to make the most of it and you clearly did that. Can you tell me what tools and resources you found most useful when you were planning to study abroad.

Tristan Whaley: Yes, so the the most useful tool is the studying abroad seminar that they have right before you go abroad and I loved it, it was amazing. Because for about two hours you got to go to different rooms and the study abroad of office had. instructors that I would teach you about getting your visa or you know how to travel, you know different currencies how all that stuff kind of works, and it was really eye opening and it really helps to really. learn about how Oh, this is, you know, it was also it was like a big thing but also got you super excited to where you're about to go. And the best part was at the end you go into a room, with all the other students that you're going to be studying abroad with So for me, Spain and we got to learn about Spain and the university and it just got you really pumped and excited while you were learning service great.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: yeah I am so glad that you found that to be so helpful because everything that you said I did for you that's what it's supposed to do and that part where you get to meet the other students who are studying abroad at columbia's is great. it's a really popular choice for pool students so there's a good chance that you're studying abroad in Spain they'll be another pool student that's also going and you. kind of have that built in Community when you get started over there.

Tristan Whaley: Exactly.

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Kelsey Oberbroeckling: So I would love for you to talk a little bit more about classes, I know you talked about taking those business courses, while you were there, but how were classes and Spain different than the classes you take here at nc state.

Tristan Whaley: They were a lot smaller, which was really nice because you felt you got the one on one. You know time with the Professor there because you know here a lot of the classes are 300 plus students in one classroom. So you know it's pretty intimidating, but there was a lot smaller size. that it was in terms of like lecturing it was the same another Professor come in, you will learn about the subject, and you would take your notes now with that. But I had this in particular class negotiation techniques there, which was awesome That was a lot different because they he put us in negotiation like. scenarios and we learned about different things, I was pretty that was like one of my favorite classes, but in terms of just how different, they were they were just smaller and a little bit longer as well, there were two hours a day.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: yeah thanks for that insight. I would love to talk more about the fun parts of your study abroad experience can you share some of your favorite memories from living in Madrid.

Tristan Whaley: OK, so my favorite parts about living in Madrid was of course the transportation system that they have their you know the the buses and how the metro work with getting able to get the point A to Point B was so easy. Being this the whole traveling some space for some incredible you could it was so easy to get around on the. The way that the university had the trip set up for us was also awesome. We would go on these weekend trips, like every other weekend to be good to smaller cities like Cordoba or Toledo, and it was for the whole day and they had it set up for us, so that was also amazing. They also have weekend I set up for us to for going out to clubs so knowledge that i've never had an experience like that, being an icloud so. Four o'clock in the morning just partying it up, but I mean that was awesome because they have that setup for us, maybe we're basically VIP in clubs there in Madrid, which is insane i'm also the grocery stores are also my favorite parts just how easy it was to. Keep it was to get your groceries for the week I mean I could go into a grocery store and spend 20 euros and have groceries for two to three weeks it was amazing.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: yeah so many different parts that you touched on here, I appreciate how the university had those academic programs or weekend trip set up for you, but also had some fun interspersed in there and you're right about the transportation system and the. groceries like that's part of living in a big city Madrid as a big city. What advice would you give someone, particularly a transfer student who was unsure of where to start and just starting to think about studying abroad.

Tristan Whaley: So I would my my biggest thing was just just do it. I mean you just never I mean especially I hate to bring up you know the curve is fantastic but. I mean you just don't know if your time is going to be caught up or not like my cows are like how ours was so it was. So I would say just do it just find a find a location that interests you but also worked really hard to

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find the program that is right for you to stay don't waste of semester. That would be that's My big advice just do it, I mean i've never traveled That was my first time being outside of the country, and I was alone. i've always tried with my family, so I was by myself, I had roommates that I never, never met before so that was also something that helped me grow. And it was a different experience, so I would that's my biggest advice is just do it, you never know when something like this can come up again in your lifetime.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: that's great advice I will repeat it one more time for everyone to hear just do it just study abroad and you mentioned the resources that are here to help you.

So Tristan I know that you are graduation is coming up and you've got plans already for after graduation that might include some more international experiences, can you tell us a little bit more about that.

Tristan Whaley: Yes, of course, so I was actually accepted into University of Wilmington graduate program and i'll be doing international marketing. And I will be sitting six spending six months and Valencia Spain studying their part of the program i'm super pumped to be going back to Spain, I couldn't be more happy about.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is wonderful okay congrats on your graduation and your acceptance to Grad school and what better place to do international marketing then internationally right.

Tristan Whaley: Yes, exactly i'm so happy.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Thank you so much for joining us today, Tristan, we really appreciate having you on

Tristain Whaley: Thanks again for having me on

[Transition music]

Interview - Justin Mason- University College Cork CODA Transfer

Our next guest is Justin Mason, a senior who came to Poole from the college of engineering at NC State, known as CODA, or Change of Degree Audit. Justin is majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Operations and supply chain management. In the Spring of 2020, Justin studied abroad at University College Cork in Cork, Ireland. Though COVID unfortunately cut his time abroad short, Justin still had a great experience. Thanks for joining us today, Justin, and welcome to the podcast!

Justin Mason: thanks for having me glad to be here.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Yes, let's get started tell me a little bit about why and how you chose to study abroad at University College Cork.

Justin Mason: yeah yes, I think I decided, I wanted to. study abroad because I think. does a good job, placing an emphasis in that the world is becoming more interconnected. And it's important for business students understand how to work with people from other countries and other cultures that kind of thing, so I definitely knew I wanted to study abroad once I joined the College of management. I think I chose University College Cork because Ireland itself in the country have always had a big fascination with and I wanted to go to a country that was more English speaking so they're not to worry about. The language barrier, so I think all that together kind of, is why I decided to pick Ireland and University College Cork.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: Yes, Ireland is a country that fascinates me too i'm glad you got the chance to go what were some of the biggest factors you thought about when choosing to study abroad, I know you mentioned the English speaking, but what else kind of went into your search process.

Justin Mason: yeah I think the one of the biggest factors for me personally and why I ended up going to Cork versus some of the other favorite programs was the date. So I wanted to go to do take part in a program that kind of lines up with the academic calendar here in the States so that I could come back and potentially working internship the next summer. um However, as you mentioned, because of the pandemic i've been worked out the way I want it to but actually, that being a blessing in disguise, but because, since I got to go so early in. January I was there for about three months before I got sent home so i've done another program I might not have been there as long so definitely glad I got to go a bit earlier.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: yeah definitely good on you, for like seeing the positive in that not really great situation in the end, but i'm glad it was it started off really well and you had three great months in Ireland. What tools or resources, did you find most useful when you are planning to study abroad.

Justin Mason: yeah that's a great question, I think the resource that I use the most and was definitely the most helpful what's the pool. A global office within the college of management miss frost and her team did a really great job helping me put together everything I needed to go in order to study abroad successfully. She did a good job, helping me figure out what classes, I needed to take to stay on course, in order to graduate in four years. help me figure out my housing arrangement how I could afford it creates anything I had any questions I had for today brandon process I brought them across and she's done a great job helping me get to Ireland and get back safely so yeah.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: yeah i'm so glad to hear that, as a member of the global team myself, I am really proud of like how we can help students and you're right like with any question you might have, whether it be. about how to book an international flight or how to afford it, or what life is going to be like in classes, like the global team in pool college is definitely a resource. And

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we're really lucky at pool college management to have kind of an in house global team that is just for pool students to access so i'm really glad that you took advantage of us in the best way and that we were able to assist you. So you mentioned a little bit about classes, but I was hoping, you could tell me more what type of classes, did you take abroad, and how are they different than the classes, that you take here at nc state.

Justin Mason: yeah yeah, so I think that's a kind of two different types of classes. University College Cork and that's kind of my plan going into it, what is take a few beers of cost this again kind of get that international business piece learn how business is conducted in Europe and. Other countries around the world, so I took an accounting class and entrepreneurship class and the supply chain costs in Ireland. began kind of get that business piece of what it's like in Europe, but also talked with took a few geography classes and history costs, specifically with Ireland. I think one of my favorite classes actually was a traveling class we met every day in a different part of the city of universe or cough Cork in Ireland. And we just got to walk around the city and what about history and geography and how would the impact it's had on Ireland and on Europe, so it was a really, really fun class, and I think I got to know what about a Cork city as a whole to that cost class so know.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is so cool I want to take that class yeah so did you ever meet in the classroom or was it always that you met somewhere in the city.

Justin Mason: yeah the first classroom in the classroom and the second class or excuse me, the last class we had in person, we met in the costume as well. Before we got sent home, but every other classroom in a different part of the city and it was really, really cool i'd be able to see Cork and get to know its history, pretty intimately so yeah for sure.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: that's great it sounds like it really like facilitated like learning in that city, but also life in that city so that's great I again I want to take that class i'll sign up. So tell me about some of your favorite memories from living in Cork.

Justin Mason: Oh man yeah i've got quite a few of coworkers is such a great city and people are so friendly. University of such a great university and a good job, helping students get acclimated and I think, maybe one of my favorite memories is the triplets hook up to the customer more. So there's actually a student organization University College Cork that's whole dedication is helping international spin interesting abroad. get to know Cork and Ireland so that took us a bunch of different field trips around the country and we've got to go up to the list of more i'm really beautiful day there's so gorgeous is really, really cool memory so yeah I think that's probably my favorite memory from Cork.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: That is wonderful, I have heard so many great stories from students about going to the cliffs and while i've been to Ireland, I have not been to the cliffs and clearly I need to go back to see that part of Ireland. But i'm glad that you got to experience it and also really cool that the school had a you know club that was meant to acclimate international students i'm glad that you were acclimated by them.

Justin Mason: yeah yeah a lot of fun for sure.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: mm hmm and can you tell me a little bit about some of the lessons you learned abroad and how you grew as person.

Justin Mason: yeah yeah that's a great question, I think the biggest lesson that biggest takeaway I took from my experience was honestly people in other countries it's just like us. So they've got different cultural things and different life things, but when it comes down to it, we're all human beings and they're all very welcoming and Cork and. yeah it just is a lot of fun being able to see how different people live, but also seeing the similarities to what it's like back in the state so. As far as how I grew I think just having to go through the whole process of getting myself from the United States to Ireland getting my house and taking care of making sure i'm taking my classes. Having a cook over there and learn new foods and learn how to live in a city by myself. definitely grew a lot in those three months there but luckily I had a great Group of Friends great group of students from nc state. Who else they're kind of growing with and we're still a great great friends today so hang on a lot today so yeah I think it was a really great experience, I cannot say enough about it.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: i'm so glad to hear that that is awesome and I guess to kind of wrap up this interview, could you tell us what advice you would give to someone, particularly a transfer student who was unsure of where to start or just starting to think about study abroad, what would you say to them.

Justin Mason: I think I would say something that you can definitely do it if you put your mind to it even it's not even that hard to be honest, if you reach out to the global team within pool. They do a great job helping you check all the boxes, you need to study abroad, and I would definitely recommend you you take the leap and give it a shot it's like I said it was a great experience. I learned a lot about what it means to be a global citizen and what it means to you know do business and even live in another country. i've grown in ways I don't think I would otherwise would have if I hadn't study abroad, so I definitely would like to say recommend you give it a shot. As a lot of support that can get you to abroad and get you home safely and yeah it's I think it's definitely an experience every student every student odyssey should have.

Kelsey Oberbroeckling: thanks for that justin I. ECHO everything you said I agree just do it Thank you so much for joining us today on global here and now really appreciated hearing about your time in Cork, and it was good talking with you.

Justin Mason: yeah thanks for having me a lot of fun.

[Transition music]

Closing

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For prospective and current transfer students in Poole, I hope hearing from Tristan and Justin has inspired you to dream about what is possible for you during your time in the Poole College of Management, especially when it comes to studying abroad. There are three next steps that students can take to start turning the dream into a reality.

1. Explore our website - This information about programs - both summer and semester - how to apply and course planning.
2. Complete Study Abroad 101 which is a short series of videos that outlines the application process and gives more information about resources available.
3. Meet with Poole Global - Meet with our team early on in your planning. We have appointments available multiple times a week and are eager to connect with you.

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Thanks for listening to this episode of Global, Here and Now presented by the Poole College of Management at NC State. For more information and to listen to other episodes, please visit our website at go.ncsu.edu/pooleglobal. Stay safe, stay well and stay globally engaged.

[Closing Music]