DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LEICESTER

DMU Global

Annual Report 2025-26

DMU GLOBAL

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Foreword

The 2025-26 academic year was another successful year for DMU Global, with 938 students participating in international experiences across overseas trips, student exchange, and on-campus and virtual opportunities. Despite an increasingly challenging external environment for such activity, we continued to provide accessible and impactful opportunities that enabled students to broaden their horizons, develop valuable skills, and enhance their overall experience at DMU.

The impact of these opportunities is evident throughout this report. An impressive 95% of participants would recommend a DMU Global opportunity to other students, while 97% were satisfied with their experience. Students consistently highlighted the positive effect that international experiences had on their confidence, independence, intercultural awareness, and future career aspirations. These outcomes reinforce the important role that our work plays in supporting the personal, academic, and professional development of our students.

The achievements outlined in this report would not have been possible without the dedication, expertise, and collaboration of colleagues across DMU. From designing and delivering overseas opportunities to supporting students through the entire mobility journey, colleagues from both academic and professional services teams continue to play a vital role in the success of DMU Global. Our shared commitment ensures that students from all backgrounds have the opportunity to benefit from the transformative international experiences we offer!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another successful year! We look forward to continuing to work together to expand the international opportunities for our students.

Leo Smith
Head of Global Mobility



Summary

DMU Global delivered a full year of international experiences for DMU students, with an impressive **95% of participants saying they would recommend our opportunities to fellow students.**

Through enhanced support, continued innovation and a commitment to accessibility, we enabled 938 students to participate in our opportunities during the 2025-26 academic year.



- Overseas (624)
- On-campus & virtual (285)
- Student exchange (29)

Student feedback

A significant **87% of participants believe that international experiences are an important part of their time at DMU.** These students are keen to explore new overseas destinations, develop their intercultural skills and build networks. Here are some of the main takeaways from their feedback:

97% of participants were satisfied with their experience

93% felt their trip improved their experience at DMU

93% felt their experience was good value for money

Student exchange

In total, 29 DMU students studied or worked abroad across 15 different destinations. A remarkable **96% were satisfied with their experience and would recommend student exchange** to fellow students. After completing their year abroad:

96% felt exchange enhanced their studies

92% are now more interested in working abroad in the future

88% now feel more confident when applying for jobs

Skill development

As a result of participating in our trips, students not only met new people, but also felt a stronger connection to the university and were more interested in learning about different cultures. **They developed DMU Graduate Attributes and transferable skills** such as:

- **Independence**
- **Confidence**
- **Self-Awareness**
- **Adaptability in new environments**
- **Understanding of different cultures**
- **Ability to navigate unfamiliar situations**

Student support

We're committed to making our opportunities as accessible as possible. Through the **DMU Global Access Fund** (£200 bursary) and by working closely with **Disability Advice and Support** (DAS), we have helped students overcome barriers to participate in our opportunities.

91 students received the Access Fund across 27 trips

74% of the Access Fund recipients were from a BAME background

285 students participated with the support of DAS

Overseas trips

Throughout the academic year, we offered a comprehensive range of overseas opportunities. We continued to receive strong interest with over 1,200 applications to take part in our opportunities. This resulted in our team offering almost 900 places, leading to a total of 624 participants.

Key highlights

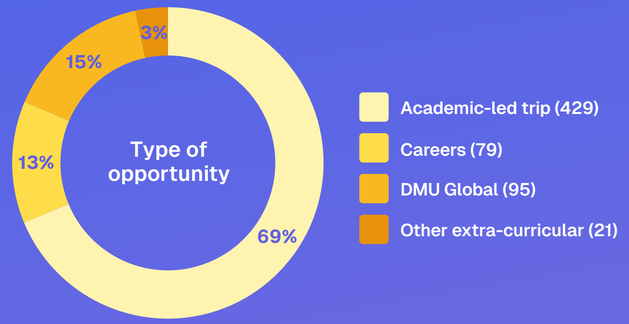
624
students participated

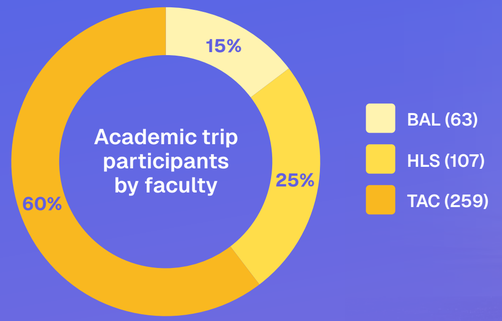
46
overseas opportunities

23
destinations visited

What types of overseas opportunities did students participate in?

Below is a breakdown of participants by type of opportunity. As academic-led trips accounted for the largest share, we have also provided a breakdown of participants on these trips by faculty. **Notably, 87% of participants reported that the opportunity enhanced their studies at DMU.**



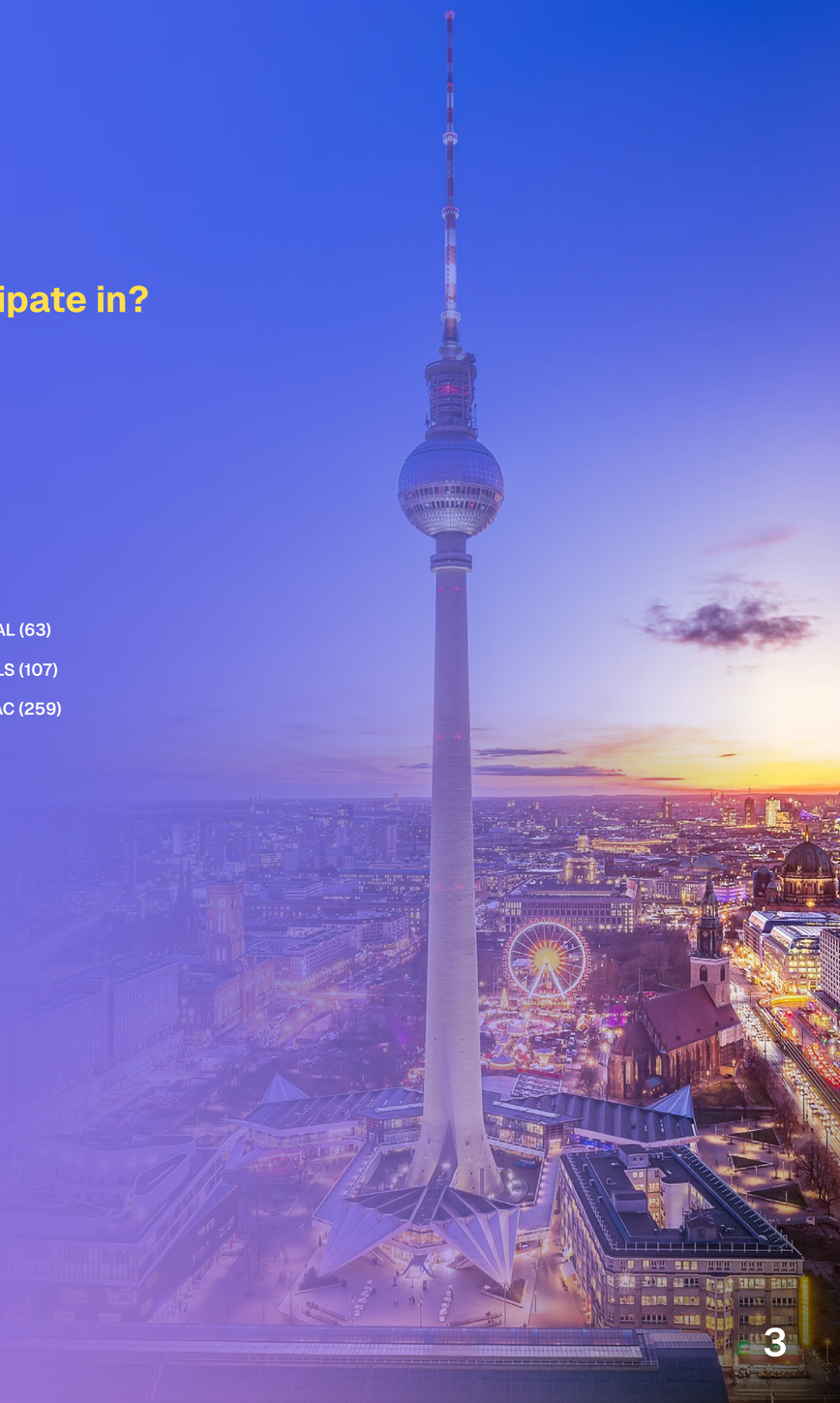


How did students feel about their trip?

94%
understood the purpose and objectives of the trip

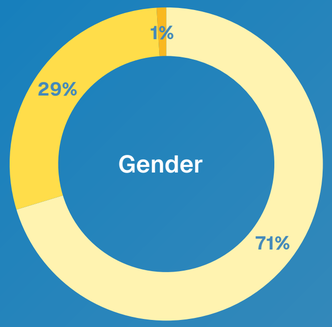
94%
felt the activities and destination aligned with the trip

92%
felt the trip met its objectives and their expectations

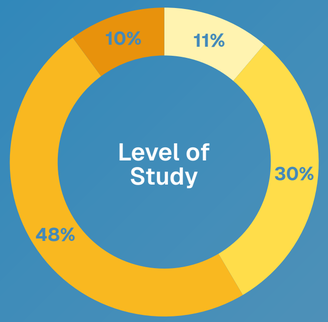


Participant profile

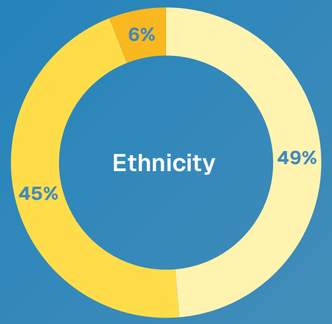
Below is a demographic breakdown of DMU Global participants, showcasing the diverse range of students who took part in our opportunities.



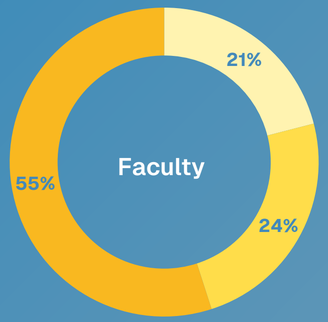
- Female
- Male
- Not known



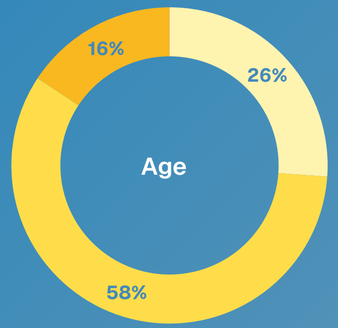
- Level 4
- Level 5
- Level 6
- Level 7 and above



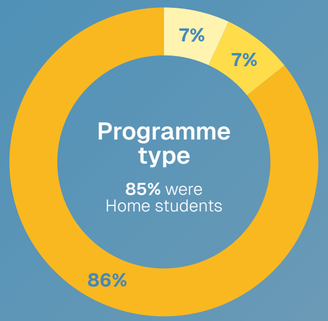
- BAME
- White
- Not known



- BAL
- HLS
- TAC



- 18-20 years
- 21-24 years
- 25 years and over



- Integrated Masters
- Postgraduate Taught
- Undergraduate



Student feedback

We invited 624 participants from our overseas trips to share feedback about their experiences. Of those, 343 responded, resulting in an impressive **55% response rate.** Here's what they had to say...

97%
of participants were satisfied with their experience

95%
would recommend DMU Global opportunities to fellow students

93%
felt their trip improved their overall experience at DMU

93%
felt their experience was good value for money

Why did students take part?

A considerable **87% thought that international experiences were an important part of their time at DMU.** Some of the main reasons students chose to participate in DMU Global experiences included:



To experience something new overseas



To improve their intercultural awareness



To enrich their studies

How did they benefit from the opportunity?

91% of participants said that funding from DMU Global helped them take part. As a result of participating, they reported a number of benefits, including:

84%
said they met new people and built networks

84%
felt more connected and part of the DMU community

83%
felt it helped them develop skills for future employment



Student feedback

After taking part in their DMU Global experience...

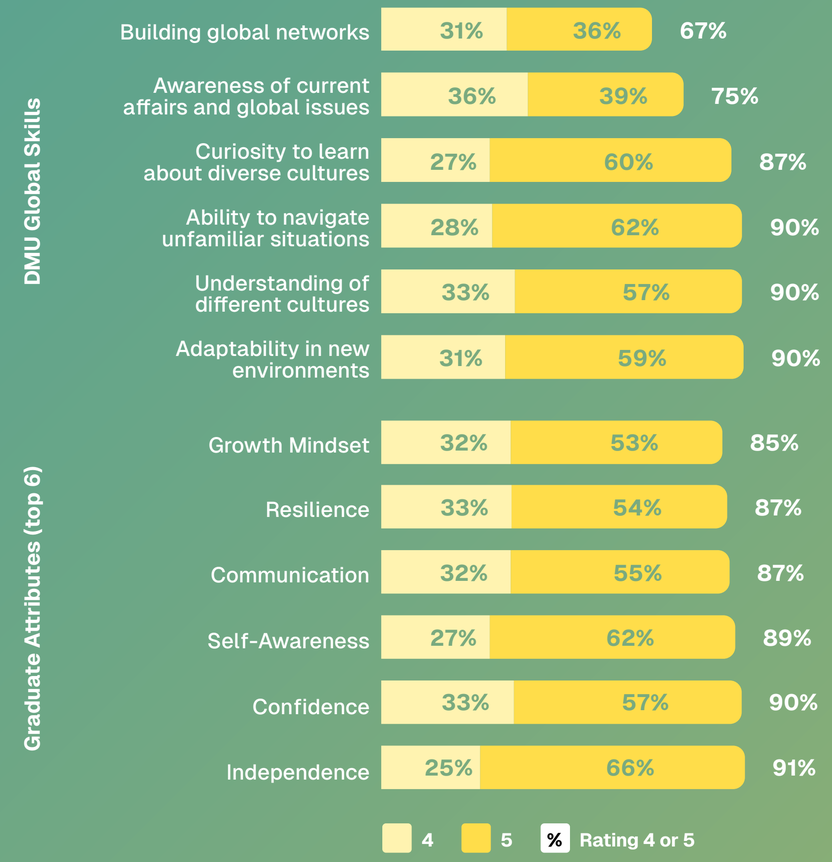
93%
are now more interested in learning about different cultures

91%
now feel more confident travelling overseas independently

87%
are now more interested in future international experiences at DMU

What kind of skills did they develop?

Students were asked to reflect on their experience and rate the development of DMU Global-related skills and DMU Graduate Attributes on a scale from **one (least developed) to five (most developed).** Below are the skills and attributes students felt they developed most.





Student exchange

Every year, DMU Global offers second-year students the chance to spend a year studying or working abroad as part of their degree, with the experience funded by the Turing Scheme. **In 2025-26, a total of 29 DMU students spent the year studying (26) or working (3) overseas.**

Key highlights

96%
of participants were satisfied with their experience

96%
would recommend studying on exchange to fellow students

96%
felt student exchange improved their overall experience at DMU

How did they benefit?

Almost all students who studied abroad completed our student exchange evaluation form and reported a number of benefits, including:

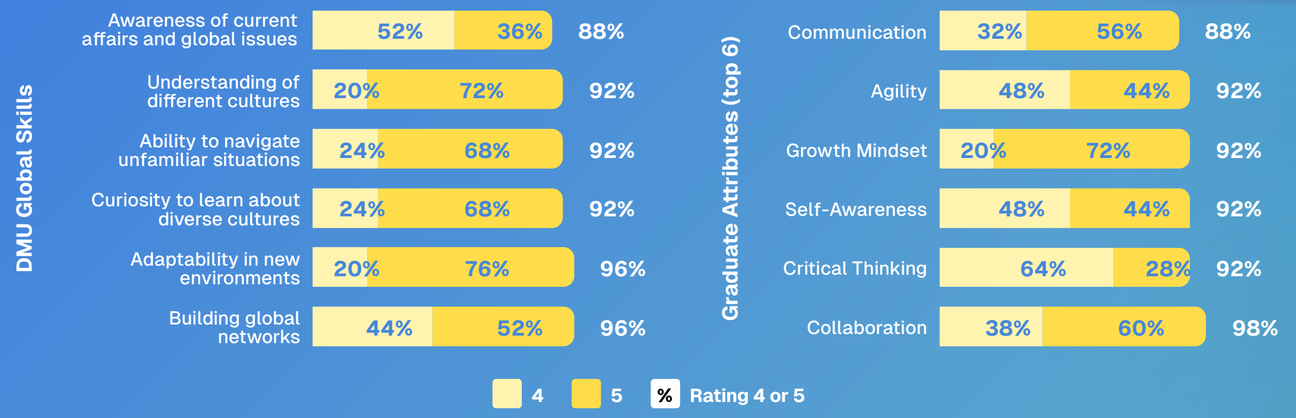
96%
felt exchange enhanced their studies

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What kind of skills did they develop?

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On-campus & virtual experiences

Complementing our overseas activity, DMU Global continued to offer accessible, lower cost international opportunities both on campus and virtually.

Key highlights

285
students participated

- **Languages:** 122 students studied languages including French (18), German (24), Japanese (24), Korean (26) and Spanish (30).
- **Mandarin:** 93 students studied with the Confucius Institute.
- **Teach English as a Foreign Language (TEFL):** 59 students participated in an online TEFL course, learning how to teach English to non-native speakers.
- **Intercultural Competence Course:** 11 students took part in our new intercultural competence course.



Student support

We are passionate about the transformative impact that international experiences can have on students' lives. Therefore, we're committed to making our opportunities as accessible as possible. This page outlines some of the ways we support students.

Key highlights

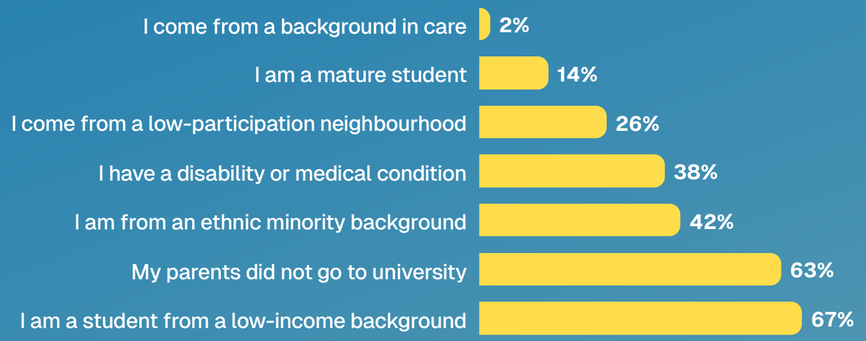
91
students received the Access Fund across 27 trips

74%
of the Access Fund recipients were from a BAME background

285
participants engaged with DAS about health conditions or disabilities

DMU Global Access Fund

The DMU Global Access Fund provides an **additional £200 bursary** to help make overseas opportunities more accessible to students from underrepresented backgrounds. Below are some of the reasons students received this extra funding.



Disability Advice and Support

We work closely with colleagues in Disability Advice and Support (DAS) to support students who declare a disability or physical or mental health condition. This year, DAS engaged with **285 students** (overseas trips and student exchange) through comprehensive reviews and appointments, which helped them to participate.

26%
of participants declared a disability or health condition

200+
reasonable adjustments were made for students

6
support workers travelled to help students on trips

Student quotes

"As someone who had never travelled abroad before, the cost of flights, accommodation and daily expenses felt like a big obstacle. I worried the financial commitment might stop me from taking part. After the trip, I can say it's had a really positive impact on my confidence and my experience at DMU. Travelling abroad showed me I'm capable of handling unfamiliar situations and helped me see the value of stepping outside my comfort zone and trying new things."

Sabeeha, Architecture BA (Hons)
BA Architecture Field Trip to Berlin



"The access fund was really helpful particularly for me as a disabled person because I haven't been able to work around my studies. So, it gave me that bit of extra money that helped me to be able to take part in the trip. Things like getting Ubers and getting around the country while we were there, getting more accessible things and just being able to not have to worry about money while I was over there, which was really helpful."

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