



# The Impact of Short-Term Study Abroad

Give your students the opportunity to create their own path forward.



# What are the possible benefits of study abroad?

- ▶ See the world
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Cultural experience
- ▶ Language skills
- ▶ Career opportunities
- ▶ Find new interests
- ▶ Make new friends
- ▶ Personal development
- ▶ University/graduate school admissions
- ▶ Life experience



# Intercultural competence

- ▶ What is culture? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMyofREc5Jk>
- ▶ AACU states that "intercultural skills (are) a learning outcome for all students" (2011)
- ▶ Study abroad can provide these skills by means of allowing students to experience new cultures, a diversity of backgrounds, and an exploration of our increasingly interconnected world.
- ▶ Since 2005, the number of U.S. college students studying abroad has increased by nearly 50 percent (IIE, 2015).
- ▶ 64.6% of all students who studied abroad did so in short-term programs (as of 2016)



# What is short-term Study Abroad?

- ▶ According to the IIE, any program that is fewer than 8 weeks.
- ▶ "super short" is defined as lasting from one week to one month
- ▶ Generally during the “non-academic” seasons (summer, winter, or spring break)
- ▶ Guided or faculty lead
- ▶ Exchange programs



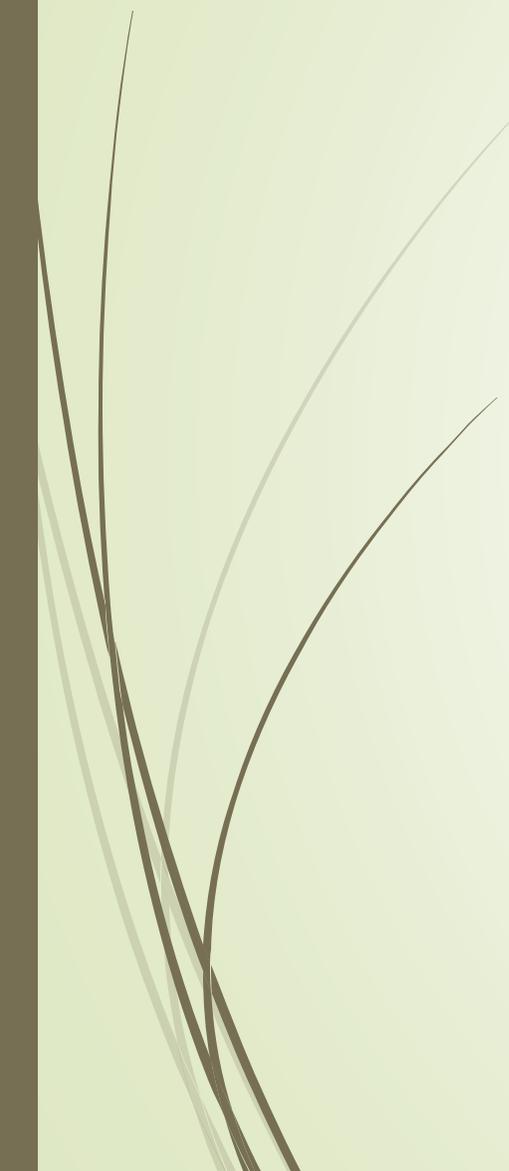
# Cultural Mentoring Abroad



- Pre-departure sessions addressing intercultural competence
- On-site reflection on cultural differences
- General discussions about culture, how to recognize dimensions of culture, and the process of adapting
- Discussions about students' own culture and cultural assumptions
- Providing specific information and challenging students' assumptions about the host culture
- Structured "breaks" from deep cultural immersion
- Giving students ideas about how to explore the host culture
- Providing advice about navigating cultural issues and practical matters in the host culture
- Considering students' individual levels of intercultural sensitivity and adapting teaching and mentoring accordingly



# What are some of the challenges to short-term study abroad?

- Academic expectations
  - Language acquisition
  - Experiential learning
  - Connections to a global community
  - Faculty engagement
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# Impact on student learning

- Intercultural competence
  - Global engagement
  - Language achievement
  - Underrepresented student populations
  - GPA
  - Career skills
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# Program impacts

- Retention
  - Graduation rates
  - Generates student interest
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# What options are available?

- ▶ [American institute for foreign study](#)
- ▶ [University of Cambridge International Summer Programs](#)
- ▶ [African Impact](#)
- ▶ [Meiji Academy](#)
- ▶ [Spanish Institute for Global Education](#)
- ▶ [Center for Study Abroad](#)
- ▶ [PAVE Internships](#)
- ▶ [El Nomad](#)
- ▶ [Earth University](#)
- ▶ [CEA/EF/IES](#)



# Making the most of it

- ▶ Preparation
  - ▶ Academic expectation
  - ▶ Debriefing is a must
  - ▶ Revisiting previous themes
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- ▶ "The true test of any educational experience is the extent to which students integrate their new knowledge and understanding into their lives" (Kenyon and Niehaus, 2011)



# Funding

- ▶ How can I help my students afford a trip abroad?
- ▶ What grants/funding are available to my students?
- ▶ [NAFSA](#)



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