

Reflection for Returned Students
 Tracy Rundstrom Williams, t.williams@tcu.edu

Identify Learning Outcomes, for example:

- Knowledge of Cultural Frameworks
- Knowledge of host culture
- Knowledge of U.S. culture
- Academic knowledge from new perspectives
- Empathy
- Openness
- Flexibility
- Curiosity
- Intercultural Communication Skills
- Creative-thinking / problem-solving Skills

Program Evaluations, Open-Ended Questions Examples:

- In what ways do you better understand the people and their history, religion, politics, economy, beliefs and practices?
- What did you learn in order to successfully communicate with others abroad?
- In what ways did you integrate into local life?
- How did you adapt yourself to be comfortable with the locals?

Photo Contest

Category	Learning Outcome Prompts (explain / describe how photo demonstrates category)	Example Photos
Knowledge	In what ways do you better understand the country's people, history, religion, politics, or culture?	Monuments, important sites
Flexibility	In what ways did you integrate into local life? In what ways did you adapt yourself to be comfortable with the locals?	Student in homestay, student in local cultural activities
Curiosity	In what ways were you shocked, intrigued, or inspired to learn more about the people and the culture?	Markets, crowds, new sights
Skills	In what ways did you gain new skills, such as resourcefulness, problem-solving, leadership, communication, language?	Using maps, new transportation, engaging with locals, taking trips

Growth	In what ways are you better prepared to be a global citizen because of studying abroad? In what ways are you different as a result of your experiences?	Volunteering, Interning, Teaching, the New You
---------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------

Celebration: Table Discussions

- Prompts:
 - Explain a new phrase or word you learned that is special. What does it mean? How is it used?
 - Describe a time you (pleasantly) surprised yourself while abroad. What did you do, and why did you do it? Why was this out of the ordinary for you?
 - Reflect on an emotional or memorable experience or interaction. How would you describe it? How did you feel in the moment? What did you learn from the experience or interaction?
 - Describe a stereotype you had about your hosts which you discovered to be untrue
 - What things do you feel Americans just won't / don't understand about your host country or your experience abroad?
 - How are you better prepared to be a global citizen because of studying abroad? How have you been transformed by studying abroad?
 - What would you tell someone who is ethnocentric about why globalization, empathy, openness, and interconnectedness are important?
- Travel Quotes:
 - "The traveler sees what he sees. The tourist sees what he has come to see." G.K. Chesterton
 - "To travel is to discover that everyone is wrong about other countries." Aldous Huxley
 - "If you reject the food, ignore the customs, fear the religion, and avoid the people, you might better stay at home." James Michener
 - "Half the fun of the travel is the esthetic of lostness." Ray Bradbury
 - "It is not down in any map; true places never are." Herman Melville