Study Abroad Learning Outcomes

Identity Goals

• Become culturally self-aware.
• Re-examine values and priorities to become better contributors to the global community.
• Learn to accurately and diplomatically represent home culture.
• Learn to examine own actions in terms of personal responsibility and ethical, social and environmental consequences.

Cross Cultural Goals

• Appreciate differences between cultures and develop open-mindedness and respect for differences in culture.
• Develop sensitivity to the concerns of under-represented, minority or indigenous peoples throughout the world.
• Understand the diversity of the host society and better understand the diversity in own society.
• Appreciate subtle (and not-so-subtle) differences in social mores, the function and deployment of humor, and what is deemed “acceptable”.
• Demonstrate critical thinking skills in the areas of cultural analysis and intercultural understanding.

Academic Goals

• Develop a better understanding of global issues.
• Gain an understanding of the host society including its politics, economy, society, history, identity and culture.
• Develop a deeper sense of political difference across cultures, and how the US is perceived abroad.
• Develop skills and academic and professional abilities applicable for use in regional and global contexts.
• Develop an openness to differing viewpoints on controversial topics and be able to form and share own opinions.
• Increase levels of independence and confidence when it comes to researching and seeking out local resources

Professional and Life-Long goals

• Improve problem-solving skills by developing empathy for others and a trans-cultural perspective.
• Improve ability to bridge social-economic differences with U.S. peers.
• Develop skills and academic and professional abilities applicable for use in regional and global contexts.

Language Learning Goals

• Gain independence from English and incorporate the host language into daily communicative strategies and performance.
• Communicate effectively with people in the target culture in their own language.
• Expand communication skills by finding creative ways to navigate around communication barriers.
• Develop an understanding of non-verbal cues of communication used in daily interactions.