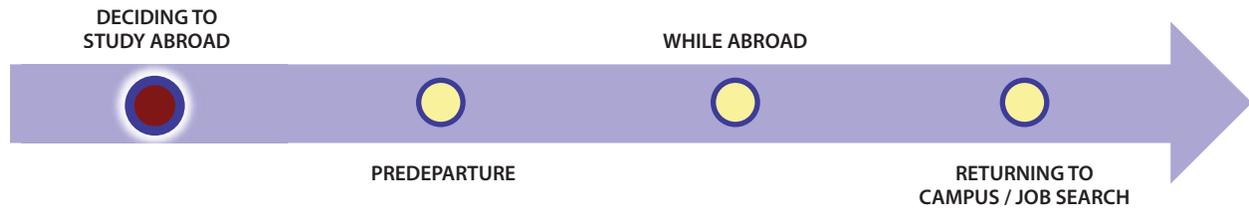


MY STUDY ABROAD CAREER PLAN



DECIDING TO STUDY ABROAD

Not sure whether you should go abroad or not? These assignments and questions may help.

<p>Assignment 1:</p>	<p>Interview a returned study abroad student from your major or who took part in a study abroad program in which you are interested. (Your Study Abroad or Career Services office can provide you with some names.)</p> <p>Ask about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The trade-off of time overseas and skills gained ■ What they would do differently if they were to study abroad again ■ What was most challenging about their experience abroad and how they coped ■ How they hope to use their experience in their job search
<p>Assignment 2:</p>	<p>Do an online search for jobs in which you are interested when you graduate from your program. Highlight desired skills and traits.</p>
<p>Assignment 3:</p>	<p>Schedule an appointment with career services, study abroad, and your academic adviser to learn more about how study abroad can support your career aspirations. Don't make this decision without considering your long-term plans.</p>
<p>Key Questions:</p>	<p>What career do I hope to pursue after I graduate?</p> <p>What key skills are needed to be successful in this field?</p> <p>In what way does this study abroad program impact my academic course of study?</p> <p>What opportunities will I miss out on if I am abroad during this period of time?</p> <p>How does this study abroad program make sense in terms of my career goals and future employment goals?</p>

MY STUDY ABROAD CAREER PLAN (continued)

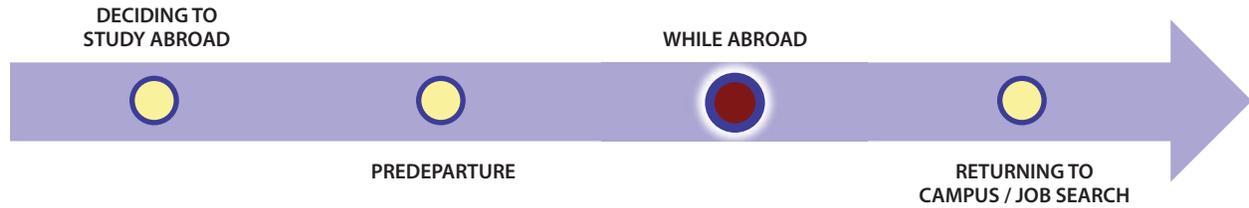


PRE-DEPARTURE

There are a lot of logistics to consider before you go, but careful preparation now can ensure that this experience will make an impact that will last your entire life.

Key Questions:	Name three benefits that study abroad could provide to support your career.
	How do your career goals link to your study abroad program?
	How will you stay connected to your field of interest while you are away?
Assignment 1:	Look for ways to jump start your experience by taking courses (e.g. international business etiquette), meeting with foreign nationals from your destination country, and studying the language and cultural expectations of your destination.
Assignment 2:	What is intercultural sensitivity? You don't have to be overseas to witness it in action. Review the different stages and catalogue real life examples of each stage to help you recognize development in action.
Assignment 3:	Picture yourself employed in your chosen field and give your younger self some advice about how to make the most of this experience.
<i>Set up a pre-departure appointment with your adviser.</i>	

MY STUDY ABROAD CAREER PLAN (continued)



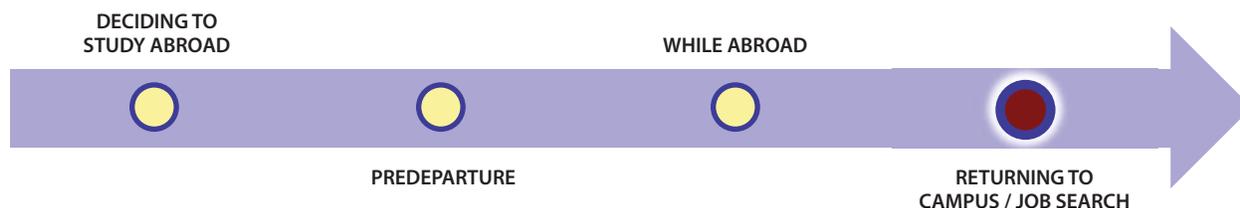
WHILE IN COUNTRY

*After so much planning, it's hard to believe that you are finally here.
Be sure to stay focused while you are abroad and accomplish both personal and career goals.*

<p>Assignment 1:</p>	<p>Keep a journal that details the experiences and skills that you are experiencing while abroad. Use this journal to help you develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Intercultural experiences that test your view of yourself and your culture. Consider your reactions in terms of ethnocentrism and ethnorelativism. ■ A list of skills that you are developing ■ Plans to engage with host nationals ■ The social mores around “how business gets done” in the country where you are studying
<p>Assignment 2:</p>	<p>Set up meetings with 2-3 host nationals in your planned career as a way to compare how culture impacts work and to understand your field of interest in a more global way.</p>
<p>Assignment 3:</p>	<p>Develop a plan to discuss and dialogue about your study abroad experience upon your return to campus. Consider the possible options: Study Abroad ambassador, volunteering with communities representing your time abroad, doing a presentation to highlight your learning abroad, or even publishing your experiences in a blog or self-published book.</p>
<p>Key Questions:</p>	<p>What skills do you hope to gain while you are abroad? What activities or experiences can help you to build these?</p> <p>How do you work towards interacting and engaging with host nationals?</p>

Set up an online chat with your Career Counselor.

MY STUDY ABROAD CAREER PLAN (continued)



RETURN TO CAMPUS

Now that you have returned to campus, put your experience abroad to work to further your career goals and ensure your competitiveness as a candidate during the job search.

Assignment 1:	Your résumé is a marketing tool to introduce yourself to a potential employer. Highlight how your skills align with those that are defined in the job description. Meet with your Career Adviser to update your résumé and detail how your study abroad experience is an asset for employers.
Assignment 2:	There are many organizations that seek employees with intercultural skills. Select a few from the list and review their job boards. Consider the position that you are qualified for and how your skills make you a competitive applicant.
Assignment 3:	The connections you made abroad may end up as tomorrow's career connections. Before too much time passes, reconnect with those contacts that you met while abroad. Consider finding them on LinkedIn.
Assignment 4:	Interview professionals in your field. Ask about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Career goals prior to studying abroad ■ How the study abroad experience impacted their career direction
Assignment 5:	Your ability to succinctly describe what you have gained during your experience abroad will demonstrate strategic thinking and harness the power of your study abroad experience. Develop your narrative around your study abroad experience. Emphasize behavioral skills attained while abroad using the STAR method to help you frame your response.
Key Questions: [Be prepared for these possible interview questions.]	What are the skills you have gained during your time abroad?
	How will your experience abroad make you a better employee in these changing times?
	What was the most challenging situation you faced during your experience abroad, and how did you deal with it?
	Give an example of something from your study abroad experience that has changed you, and why.
	Describe a time when you anticipated potential problems abroad and developed preventive measures.

Set up a career planning appointment with your adviser.