

## **Principles of Good Practice for International Experiential Education**

1. **Process & Personal Integration/Development:** The best kind of learning is “connected” learning that involves learning how to learn and to integrate the learning into one’s own life. Experiential education should be attentive to the learner’s personal development and ability to connect and integrate the educational experience into his or her own life.
2. **Problem-Based Content:** the content of the curriculum should relate to real-life problems. In this way, content can be made real through experience so that students can develop theories based upon their experiences, and test these theories. At the same time, theories help students understand their experiences.
3. **Critical Analysis & Reflection:** Experiential education requires reflection and critical analysis of experiences in order to make the experiences educational.
4. **Collaboration & Dialogue:** Experiential learning involves collaboration with others, which includes communication or “dialogue” with others.
5. **Community:** Learning takes place in the context of community. Education for global citizenship includes the formation of communities of learners and immersion in the local host community, as well as reflection upon one’s connections to the global community.
6. **Diversity:** True global awareness and intercultural competencies can only be developed through encounters with diverse populations within dominant cultures. Study abroad programs should expose students to the diversity of experiences in the host culture and engage them in dialogue with people of diverse backgrounds whenever possible.
7. **Action & Social Transformation:** International experiential education should lead to social transformation and foster the development of global citizenship.
8. **Mutuality & Reciprocity:** International experiential education programs ought to be based on mutuality and reciprocity with the local community.
9. **Facilitation by Trained Faculty & Staff:** Experiential international education requires skilled faculty and staff who are trained in experiential and intercultural education.
10. **Evaluation & Assessment:** International experiential education requires ongoing evaluation and assessment to ensure that learners are accomplishing their objectives and to continuously improve the overall quality of the educational program.

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