



Experiential Study Abroad: Student Learning, Assessment, and Credit Transfer

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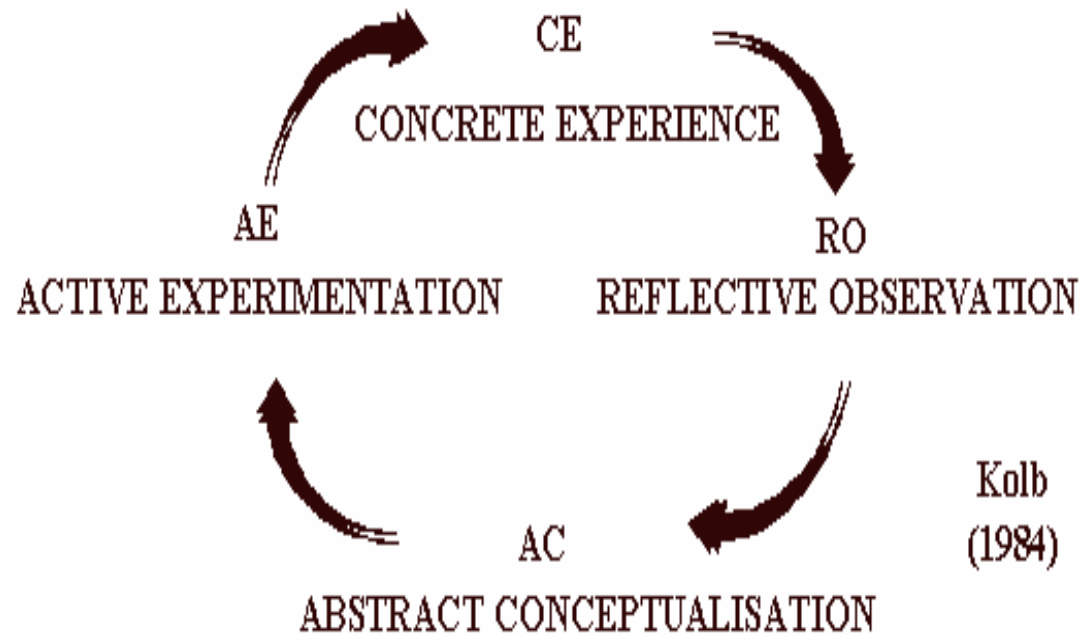


Experiential Study Abroad: Student Learning, Assessment, and Credit Transfer

- Experiential Education Theory/Philosophy
- Experiential Education in Practice
- Assessment and Course/Credit Structure
- Transferring Credits to the Home Institution

Experiential Education

- Experience does not equal education
- A process of learning





Experiential Education in the Context of Study Abroad

“...involves ‘**carefully chosen experiences** supported by **reflection, critical analysis, and synthesis,**’ which are ‘**structured** to require the learner to take initiative, make decisions, and be **accountable** for the results.’”

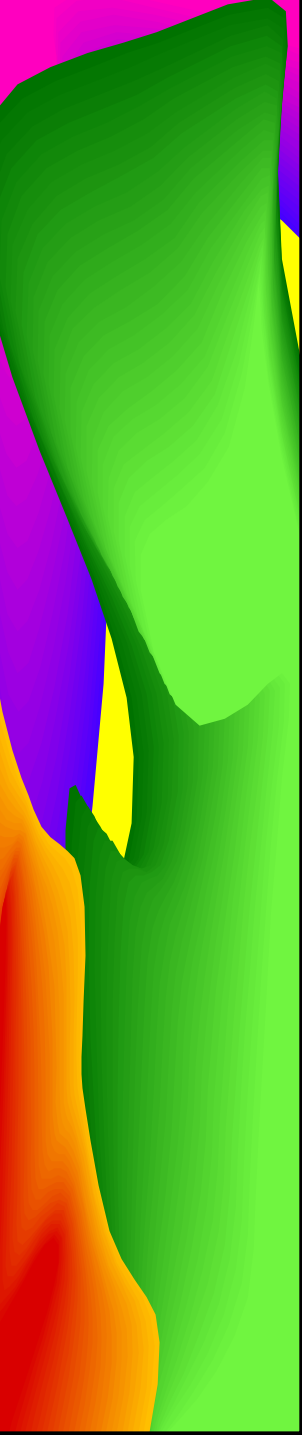
-Itin (1999)



Experiential Education in the Context of Study Abroad

“If you were expecting a semester of 100% out-of-class activities and venues, I fear you will be disappointed. On the other hand, if you anticipate a semester in which diverse settings for learning are built upon a rigorous counterpoint of lectures, readings, and other assignments, then we trust you will find the semester to be everything you had hoped....”

-From the syllabus of SIT Academic Director Bill McKernan,
Melbourne, Australia



Types of Experiential Education Programs

- Field-based programs
- Field-based research programs
- Service-learning
- Internships
- Variations of the above



School for International Training and Experiential Study Abroad

- Field-based programs, theme-oriented
 - Anthropological base – intercultural learning in addition to theme
 - Four academic courses, 16-17 credits*
 - Language course
 - Thematic Seminar
 - Field-study methodology
 - Independent Study
 - Lectures and readings augmented by out-of-class experiences, reflection and synthesis
- (*semester programs)



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- Course design and credit structure
 - 1 credit = 15 contact hours
 - Non-classroom/lecture hours counted 2:1
 - 2/3rds of class must be in a traditional academic setting
- Assessment and academic oversight
 - SIT Academic Affairs, Dean, Provost
- Transcripts
 - Course numbers, grading scale, narrative evaluations
- Home school pre-approval requirement



The Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University and Experiential Study Abroad

- Academic Internships
- Administered by Host Institution
- Enhancement of Student's Total Course Load



The Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University and Experiential Study Abroad

- Home Institution Approval Process
- Butler University Support and Transcript
- Credit Transfer to Home Institution



Study Abroad Options at Brandeis

- No Brandeis programs
- Univ. Curriculum Committee oversees approval of programs
- Approved List of 260 programs
 - Program providers that are accredited U.S. Universities
 - Consortia in which we are members
 - Other academic program providers



Study Abroad at Brandeis

- 3.5 full time staff
- Students carry their financial aid with them on **approved study abroad programs**
- Students remained registered at Brandeis
- Courses go on the transcript as Brandeis elective credit
- Study Abroad Faculty Liaisons in each dept. who award major/ minor credit
- Grades do not count in the GPA



Evaluating Experiential Learning at Brandeis

- Guidelines for internship credit abroad
- One major requires study abroad OR an int'l focused internship
- At least two other majors require an internship and encourage experience abroad



Tips for Your Campus

- Know resources, on-campus and off
- Form partnerships to maximize efficiency
- Pre-approval of credits



Tips for Your Campus

- Consistency of policies?
- Strategies on your own campus?



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