

INTEGRATION OF CREATIVITY PRINCIPLES AND HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES TO INNOVATE GLOBAL LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Jay Woodward¹, Michelle Kwok¹, & Effrosyni Chatzistogianni

¹Dr.

College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University (USA)

Abstract

In this presentation, the effectiveness of incorporating creativity principles and high impact practices into global learning will be communicated. This session will highlight and expand upon a revolutionary approach to global education that initially debuted at the 2021 END conference. Though the COVID-19 pandemic grounded the majority of study abroad programs, an alternative, virtual way to elicit the growth and gains that global education provides was conceived, which was facilitated remotely and enhanced with face-to-face classroom interaction. Quantitative and qualitative data from students (n=13) who enrolled in a directed studies virtual study abroad experience at a large university in the southwestern United States will be disseminated. The effectiveness of this virtual study abroad model will be conveyed through the lens of Glăveanu (2013) 5A's creativity theory framework that has strong roots in sociocultural psychology. Specific to Actors, the alignment of instruction, construction of a syllabus, and involvement of content providers helped build the virtual experience will be seen. In relation to Actions, innovative delivery methods meant to enhance engagement and encourage collaboration and communication will be demonstrated, including video modules, live streaming, and live face-to-face events. Artifacts created as part of this experience, including exemplars of assignments, rubrics, and projects designed to elicit critical thinking and increase students' connection with the material will be displayed. Participants will learn how to engage in inclusionary practices and recruitment efforts that helped expand this global learning opportunity to new Audiences and underserved populations. Finally, for Affordances a practical and resourceful guide as to how to develop one's own virtual study abroad experience will be outlined. Empirical support of this model will be provided, with results from standardized assessments that demonstrate effectiveness of the virtual study abroad in increasing critical 21st century skills related to cross-cultural competency and intercultural awareness.

Keywords: *Global education, creativity, high impact practices, study abroad, transformational learning.*
