

## Ready, Set, Go Study Abroad!

What makes a graduate-level study abroad experience worth it for students, but also for the faculty members leading the trip? Is a study abroad an effective way to broaden a graduate student's multicultural knowledge and understanding of course material? How does one assess the effectiveness of a study abroad trip? Each of these questions outline some of the essential components of what makes study abroad a transformative experience for students. While the trip itself can be rewarding, pre-trip design is the key to making study abroad a transformative experience. In this presentation, participants will 1) review the basic design of a study abroad trip, 2) evaluate the alignment of the trip to course content, 3) learn to prioritize cultural engagement, and 4) screen for the optimal type of student participant. Pre and post evaluation will also be addressed to determine what went well/wrong and how to implement the results of these assessments in future trip designs.