

# Study Abroad Re-Orientation

## Study Abroad Skills

Think back on your experiences studying abroad as you read through each statement. Place a check mark next to those that describe your experience as part of living, working, studying, or traveling abroad. Put two check marks next to statements that were most significant.

<b>Communication Skills (Written &amp; Verbal)</b>	<b>Check</b>
I regularly communicated/interacted with others in another language.	
I learned new culturally-appropriate ways to express myself.	
I had to listen and observe others in order to communicate appropriately.	

<b>Problem Solving Skills</b>	<b>Check</b>
I resolved a conflict based on misunderstandings of a cultural difference.	
I collaborated with a diverse team or group to accomplish a task or goal.	
I worked through a crisis or stressful situation.	
I managed my time and juggled multiple priorities.	

<b>Flexibility/Adaptability</b>	<b>Check</b>
I had to adjust quickly to new situations and unexpected circumstances.	
I learned to navigate my way in new places.	
I was self-reliant and independent at times.	
I became more comfortable taking risks.	

<b>Interpersonal Skills</b>	<b>Check</b>
I gained a new understanding of another culture or lifestyle.	
I made friends/acquaintances in a culture different from my own.	
I asked for and received help from others.	
I learned more about the role of goals, beliefs, and values in individual interactions.	

<b>World View</b>	<b>Check</b>
I am more aware of values and lifestyles other than my own.	
I am more aware of how the U.S. is perceived in other parts of the world.	
I learned about personal/political issues outside America.	
I learned about the key role of culture in global relations.	

## Describe Your Skills

Employers and graduate schools value the skills you gained abroad, but they need your help to see how those skills connect to them. Review one of the sets of skills above and provide an example highlighting your experience.

*Brainstorm:*

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Skill: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

*Example:*

Living in Delhi (**location**), I was immersed in unfamiliar academic and work environments that challenged my problem solving skills (**skill**). As a volunteer at a social service center I developed culturally-appropriate ways to analyze and address unfamiliar assignments (**activity**). I also sought out resources and professional strategies to resolve questions (**activity**). Ultimately, I became the center's first foreign volunteer to work on its annual report (**outcome**).

*Example:*

By studying and living (**activity**) in Mexico (**location**) I can now communicate fluently in Spanish (**skill**), I am confident about living and traveling independently (**skill**) and have an understanding of history, economics and politics in Latin America (**skill**) that will be a firm foundation for future work analyzing regional relationships (**outcome**).

*Try Your Own:*

## Study Abroad on Your Resume

List study abroad under the education section of your resume. If you worked or volunteered, you can list that under experience. For additional resume examples visit **brandeis.edu/hiatt**.

**IES Abroad**, Granada, Spain

Sep 2015-Jun 2015

Study Abroad at the University of Granada

Courses: Spain and the European Union, Advanced Spanish Language, Beginning Arabic

### **School for Field Studies: Marine Resources Management Studies Program**

South Caicos, Turks and Caicos

Feb-May 2014

Independent field research project: "Daily Ranges in Water Chemistry over a Three Month Period," a quantitative study mapping fluctuations in ocean salinity

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