Holistic Learning: Pioneering Your Student’s Cultural and Intercultural Experience

Wednesday, September 7, 2016
Overview of Session

• Learning with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
• Learning through an intercultural and international lens.
• International Education Experience
• Center for World Languages and Cultures.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

- **Critical** to success of university mission to advance scholarly knowledge, **cultivate critical and creative** thought, and generate knowledge.

- **Challenges** each student to understand that academic achievement at the highest levels only happens if DU graduates are **prepared to succeed** in an increasingly diverse and global society.

- **Transforms** everyone in the university to become leaders who are responsible for creating a campus environment that engages, promotes, and **celebrates all of its diversity** in the pursuit of individual and collaborative learning in and out of the classroom.
What Parents/Families can do...

Encourage students to:

- **Own your education.** Be an active participant in learning and avoid the temptation to be a passive consumer;
- **Find and nurture mentoring relationships** and a peer support community;
- **Step outside of your comfort zone** and engage diverse peers, professors, and staff in and outside of the classroom;
- **Use your voice** and share your lived experiences;
- **Follow your passion** and use it as a source of motivation for learning;
- **Trust your instincts** – draw upon their personal, political, intellectual, and spiritual ways of making sense of the world we live in.
Three Take-Aways

- One of the most important metrics of a great university is its substantive commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

- It is everyone's responsibility at DU to develop and deepen his or her understanding of issues related to inequality and to strive to become leaders in finding solutions.

- Embrace awkwardness, uncomfortableness, and unfamiliarity, but be mindful that everyone has different experiences, divergent starting points, and disparate skills to learn and lead around issues of inclusive excellence.
Learning without Borders.

Office of Internationalization includes areas and initiatives that embed international opportunities and perspectives in the DU community.

Strategic Partnerships:
- Lund University (Sweden)
- University of Glasgow (U.K.)
- University of Lille (France)
- Catholic University of Portugal
- University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa)
- Waseda University (Japan)
- University of Western Australia
Why study abroad?

- Gain valuable insight into different cultural values and perspectives.
- Increase language competencies.
- On DU Partner Programs, courses come back to DU as resident credit.
DU Partner Programs:
Going abroad for a quarter/semester/year

www.du.edu/abroad

*Mahidol University
*SIT Tanzania
*Sciences Po Rennes
*Lund University
Cherrington Global Scholars: Benefits

• Stipend towards round-trip travel to the program location

• Application fees for entry/exit visas and/or permit of stays

• DU Partner Program Supplement, if applicable
To be a CGS, a student must...

- Participate on a DU Partner Program
- Have a 3.0 GPA at time of acceptance as a CGS scholar
- Have earned at least 90 credits towards their degree prior to their period of study abroad
- Be in good judicial standing at time of departure and throughout the program
- Have completed at least two quarters at DU before going
- Be at least 18 years old

CGS status can change if these requirements are not fulfilled — even after acceptance into the program.
Is study abroad safe?

- DU has full-time international travel risk analyst.
- DU has emergency plans and emergency/repatriation insurance through International SOS.
- DU has a provider to assist with advice in getting medications abroad, as well as up-to-date security information.
What Parents/Families can do…

Encourage students to:

- Choose an international experience that is less about travel and more about engaging with new perspectives and ways of thinking.
- Engage with our in-depth strategic partnerships and other programs that build on DU’s position as a national leader in term-length or longer study abroad experiences.
- Understand that intercultural and international growth is grounded in diverse cultural interactions on campus here in Denver.
- Do their own decision-making, planning, and application for study abroad: it’s part of the growth process.
- Start early – Encourage to visit the OIE Fall quarter of sophomore year.
Takeaways

- Start with academic, personal and professional goals.
- Inquire freshman year re: your student’s language.
- Use OIE as a discernment partner.

Denise Cope, Director Office of Int’l Ed
Denise.cope@du.edu
www.du.edu/abroad
Why study languages?
- Fun!
- Develop cultural competencies
- Build community
- Access to more knowledge
- Increase competitive edge
- Prepare for study abroad

CWLC Services:
- Free language tutoring
- Learn and practice less commonly taught languages
- Integrate language into other disciplines
What Parents and Families can do:

Encourage your students to:

- Study a language that will enhance their DU experiences and strengthen their resumes.
- Use free language support services – faculty, tutoring, language learning software.
- Practice using the language with others.
What Parents and Families can do....

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- Study a language that will enhance their DU experiences and strengthen their resumes.
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- Practice using the language with others.
Takeaways

- Language learning opens up access to knowledge.
- The CWLC provides support to all students in their study of languages.
- Knowing other languages gives DU students a competitive advantage.

http://du.edu/cwlc
QUESTIONS?
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