GLOBAL PATHS TO ENLIGHTENMENT

A Foundation Scholar Study Abroad to the Dominican Republic

Tacy Allan
Honors Thesis
GLOBAL PATHS...

Course
• Spring Semester
• Spring Break Trip
• Area 3: Other Cultures General Education

Major Project
• Water Filtration
• Trip to Dominican Republic (DR)
• UNIBE
WHY WATER?

- Salient Issue
- Universal Need
- Simple and Powerful
- Lacking Universal Access to Clean, Safe Water
SIMILAR COURSES & PROGRAMS

- **SIE @Bryant University**
  - 10-12 Study Abroad
  - Academically Talented Sophomores
  - Runs Fall Semester, Winter Break

Other Universities:
- University of Connecticut, Sacred Heart University,
- Messiah College,
- Spelman College,
- Temple University,
- North Dakota State University, and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS AIMED AT FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horizons (Program)</td>
<td>Upward Bound (Partnership)</td>
<td>Minority Outreach Initiative (Initiative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• College Readiness</td>
<td>• Partner with Federal Programs</td>
<td>• Scholarship Opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Retention</td>
<td>• College Preparation</td>
<td>• Study Abroad Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Career Preparation</td>
<td>• Study Abroad Access</td>
<td>• Break Down Barriers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Excel through Graduation</td>
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SERVICE LEARNING

• 2010: Office of Service Learning
• 675 Projects
• 400 Community Organizations Involved
• 6,507 Student Participants 2013-2014
# Sample Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Week 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro, Social Action</td>
<td>(Dr. Paul Clemens)</td>
<td>(Steve Kohler)</td>
<td>(Jan Maatman)</td>
<td>(Dean Carla Koretesky)</td>
<td>(Tim Palmer)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Week 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gendered Explanations</td>
<td>Intro to DR, Culture</td>
<td>Trip to DR, UNIBE, Service Learning</td>
<td>Debrief, Application, Tourism</td>
<td>Final Debriefing, Reflections and Projects</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UNIBE

- WMU Partner for Study Abroad
- Research University
- 4,200 Students
  - Represent more than 20 Countries
- Focus on Global Learning
“LEARN WHILE GIVING”
UNIBE PROGRAM

• Cultural Immersion and Service Learning
  – Learn Traditions and Values
    • Also Daily Life
  – Contribute to Communities

• For students with “interest in service learning and community engagement”

• Typically 2 Week Program
  – Modifiable
**ESTIMATED COST: $4185/STUDENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Meals</td>
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<td>Other Fees</td>
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*Price reflects round trip airfare from Chicago O’Hare to Santo Domingo airports (starting at $707/round trip per person)

**UNIBE course fee for Service Learning (2 weeks) is $2900. This covers housing (single occupancy), cultural excursions and most food.
MEASURING SUCCESS

• Key Indicators
  – GPA
  – Study Abroad
  – Foreign Language
  – Pre- and Post- Evaluations
    • Graduation Evaluations
ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO STUDY ABROAD

• Multi-Cultural Engagement
• Increase in Creative Ideas
• Increase Ability to Make Links Between Concepts
• Tolerance for Ambiguity and Open-Endedness
• Prioritization of Information
• More Deliberative Modes of Thinking
• Increased Leadership Skills
• Build Valuable Job Skills
  – High Employment Rates (90%)
  – Higher Salaries than Peers (25% Increase)
PICTURE REFERENCES

- Paths: luisapariciofernandes.blogspot.com
- Lightbulb: http://pacinst.org/issues/water-energy-nexus/
- Footprints: http://people.ucsc.edu/~bkdaniel/number-water-footprint.jpg
- UNIBE: www.unibe.edu.do/
- House: http://www.unibe.edu.do/sites/default/files/service_learning_-brochure_0.pdf