We recommend removing extraneous slides if this part of the module is embedded in a larger re-entry workshop. Too many slides, and too much text on the slides, can reinforce passive attitudes. The more active, engaged and responsive the students, the better they will find the workshop.
Getting the most out of your experience.

This activity can link to the ‘bucket list’ exercise in the Exploration module.

Also remind students that it’s not just jobs: their future opportunities to travel, understanding of world events, ability to get scholarships, hobnob with visiting colleagues, etc. will all potentially be richer because of overseas experience.

The advice to getting the most professionally is virtually the same as getting the most academically, culturally and intellectually: expose yourself to your new home, get outside your comfort zone, soak up information, do things you wouldn’t get to do back home...

The difference will be in re-entry, when we tell you how to talk about this experience and leverage it into opportunity.
<5% of students study abroad.

Traveling to get ahead, not just to take a vacation.

Career strategy compatible with exploration & adventure.

Significance

1. Study abroad makes a student distinctive: less than 5% do any sort of travel for education (exchange, language trip). Recognise that you’ve distinguished yourself in terms of your courage, independence, curiosity, adaptability, appetite for adventure -- all things that employers will be looking for.

2. Study abroad should be fun, exciting, and memorable, but it's not a vacation. But you're also studying ABROAD -- some of the most important learning will be outside the classroom and non-academic. Do things you could NOT do if you stayed home; no reason to leave if you want to bring home along.

3. Having a memorable experience and building career credentials are compatible, even parallel goals, but not if you’re adventure is purely clubbing, drinking, and superficial traveling. Having once-in-a-lifetime experiences is part of what employers will want to hear about, if those experiences are truly exploration, growth, and reflect your best qualities.
Placement specific expertise

- Courses (unavailable in Australia?).
- Professional experience (internship).
- Language skills.
- Destination-specific expertise.
- Cohort-specific expertise (peers).

Significance

<See presenter’s notes in the Instructor’s Guide as they are too long to place here.>
How will I get my first professional experience?

Many of you will be asking later, ‘Every job ad asks for experience -- how am I supposed to get experience?’

One answer to this question is...
By getting the most out of your experience, by taking advantage of opportunities and demonstrating your abilities, you will be providing evidence of the qualities that people look for in 'experience.'

You may not practice a trade overseas, but you will demonstrate many of the qualities that make you stand out. Studying abroad is one way to stand out.
Thank you & have a great trip!
Professionalisation
pre-departure workshop

The Bringing the Learning Home Team: Greg Downey (Macquarie), Tonia Gray (Wollongong) & Jan Gothard (Murdoch).

The BLTH Students at all three institutions.

For more information: ozstudentsabroad.com or http://www.tlc.murdoch.edu.au/project/btlh/
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