

Study Abroad Field Trip Planning & Evaluation Guide

Most students will NOT reach the anticipated learning outcomes without your support. Never do a fieldtrip without carefully briefing students on the learning outcomes, providing instructions, and debriefing students afterward to “tease out” the anticipated learning outcomes.

In addition to the specific course learning outcomes, there are important general study abroad learning outcomes. Study abroad students should be able to

1. Articulate a reasonably nuanced knowledge of the host culture and country;
2. Express an understanding of the student’s home culture and country identity in comparison to the host culture and country; and
3. Analyze their developmental process as they study and learn abroad.

The Penn State “Embedded Education Abroad Toolkit” is helpful in developing exercises to support the learning outcomes <http://www.uky.edu/toolkit/node/39>.

The keys to a successful fieldtrip are the following:

1. Careful consideration of the learning outcomes related to the fieldtrip or activity;
2. Clear instructions for students to move them toward the expected learning outcomes (course-related and study abroad); and
3. Careful review of each student’s experiential learning after the fieldtrip to support and assist them in reaching the learning outcomes.

Fieldtrip:	Relevant Elements of Fieldtrip	Relevant Exercises or Activities to Reach Learning Outcomes
Course-Specific Learning Outcomes 1. 2. 3.		
General Study Abroad Learning Outcomes 1. knowledge of the host culture and country 2. home culture & country vs. host culture & country 3. awareness of developmental process		