

## Private Discussion Assignment:

This assignment is intended to help you make connections to the discipline.

## Integrative Learning VALUE Rubric:

	Benchmark	Milestones	Capstone
<b>Reflection and Self-Assessment</b> <i>Demonstrates a developing sense of self as a learner, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts (may be evident in self-assessment, reflective, or creative work)</i>	Describes own performances with general descriptors of success and failure.	Articulates strengths and challenges (within specific performances or events) to increase effectiveness in different contexts (through increased self-awareness).	Evaluates changes in own learning over time, recognizing complex contextual factors (e.g., works with ambiguity and risk, deals with frustration, considers ethical frameworks).

In this assignment, which has two parts, you will think intensively about how to spin your intercultural skills into “career gold.” Returning study abroad students find it easy to talk about fun experiences, but have a difficult time talking about the challenges they faced or the non-linguistic and non-technical transferable “soft” skills they developed while overcoming challenges. This exercise is intended to help you discuss these challenges in greater depth, building upon the previous week’s exercise.

### Part 1:

Identify a real company’s job or internship posting you find interesting. Post your responses to all four steps below. Take a screen shot of the company mission and job posting and embed it in the discussion board.

1. Identify two to three skills that the company/job seems to require that you could discuss, explaining your increased skill-level during your semester abroad. If you can’t seem to think of a connection between the job description and your study abroad, look at the list below.
2. List these skills mentioned by the company/job description.
3. Read the “[Ace the Interview](#)” section of the Purdue CCO website, specifically “Practice the STAR Method” and “Ask Questions.”
4. Write a response to the interviewer question “Can you give me an example of a time when your study abroad helped prepare you for career excellence at our company?” Of the skills identified in step two, pick one that is, or can be linked to, an intercultural skill and develop a brief story following the STAR method. Add your story and list of skills in your post.

*Skills that are often enhanced or demonstrated through study abroad:*

- Ability to Accept Responsibility
- Ability to Build Accurate Hypotheses and Generate Plausible Theories
- Ability to Evaluate Competing Perspectives
- Ability to Improve
- Ability to Learn Quickly
- Ability to Maintain An Open Mind
- Ability to Make Others Trust You or Make Friends With You
- Ability to Take Risks
- Adaptability
- Awareness/Understanding of Global Trends, Economics, or Politics
- Behavioral Analysis
- Communication (Conflict Resolution)
- Communication (Language Skills)
- Communication (Non-Verbal)
- Confidence
- Creativity
- Crisis Management
- Critical Thinking Skills
- Empathy
- Familiarity with Hiring and Labor Practices Abroad
- Familiarity with Management Style Abroad
- Familiarity with Research and Innovation Abroad
- Familiarity with Technology or Business Outside US Contexts
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Improved Self-Awareness
- Increased Awareness of Privilege
- Increased Interest in Social Justice Issues
- Information Synthesis
- Initiative and Follow-Through
- Leadership Skills
- Listening Skills
- Organizational Skills
- Patience
- Perseverance
- Planning Skills
- Problem Solving
- Resourcefulness
- Sensitivity to Cultural Difference
- Teamwork Skills
- Tolerance of Ambiguity

## Part 2—Reflection:

1. Create at least two intercultural questions to ask your interviewer that follow the model suggested by the Purdue CCO. These question should be specific enough to persuade your interviewer that you have thought in depth about what the company needs that only you can provide in the area of intercultural effectiveness and sensitivity. Post your questions in the Blackboard Discussion Board. You must take an additional two turns in response to your mentor's feedback discussion to receive a grade for this assignment.
2. Be sure to respond to your mentor's question about your IDI stage.
3. Be sure to respond to your mentor's question about reflection and self-assessment.

Note: For additional resources for developing questions, check out [The Muse's Best Interview Questions](#). Some of the sample questions can be adjusted to make reference to intercultural challenges.