Overview:

This lesson plan will challenge participants to engage with local news from their study abroad destination or a different country/region from where they live, as well as analyze how global issues affect what happens at the local level. They will gather local articles and write/present about them each week.

Background and Information:

Global News is created by Scott Barnhart, Professor of Global Health at the University of Washington; Laura Spess, Research Consultant at Bucknell University; and Anthony Ogden, Associate Vice Provost for Global Engagement at the University of Wyoming. It is uploaded to the UK Education Abroad Faculty Toolkit (see citation below).

Objectives:

As a result of this activity, participants will be able to:

1. "Identify significant current events in [their] study abroad destination."
2. "Relate these current events in [their] study abroad destination to course content."
3. "Reflect on the global context of local events" (Barnhart, Spess, & Ogden, 2009).

Time:

3 hours

Group Size:

Entire group

Materials:

Copies of the Global News Handout (in both Links and Downloads).

Intercultural Development Continuum Stages:

- Denial
- Polarization
- Minimization
- Acceptance

AAC&U Intercultural Knowledge and Competence Goals:

Curiosity:

- To ask complex questions about other cultures.
- To seek out and articulate answers to these questions that reflect multiple cultural perspectives.

Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks:

- To demonstrate sophisticated understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs & practices.
Links to Activity Instructions:

- Global News instructions on the UK Education Abroad Faculty Toolkit

Related Tools:

Tools to use in conjunction with this lesson:

- Describe-Analyze-Evaluate (D-A-E)
  - Participants can use this framework to help them with their analyses of news stories.

- Stereotypes and Generalizations
  - This activity will encourage students make generalizations about their location and the people who live there rather than stereotype.

Related assessment tools:

- Global Learning Short Scale