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# **Developing a Cultural Awareness Curriculum for Study Abroad Students**

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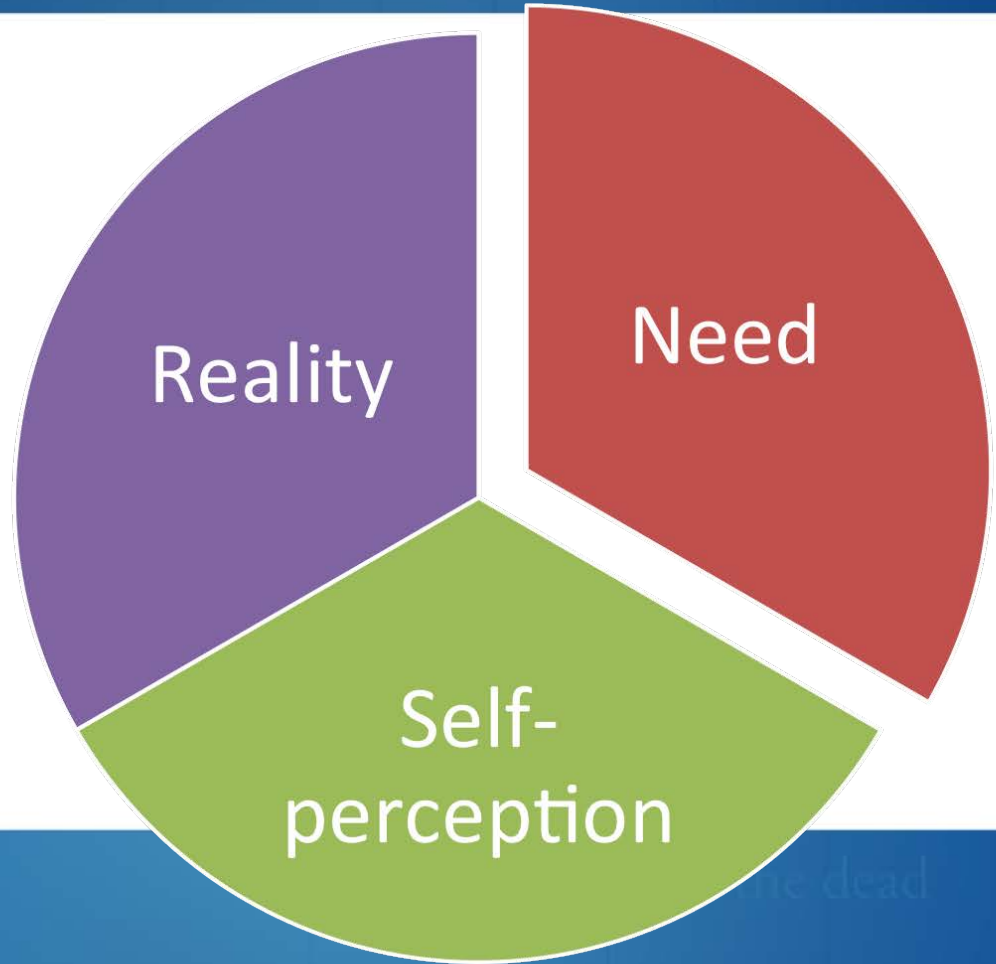


“We don’t see the world the way it is. We see the world the way we are” -Anais Nin

# Welcome and Intros



# Impetus



# Why Create a Cultural Awareness Curriculum?

Students have limited intercultural experience and connectedness with global issues. Before service learning or study abroad, we must support students' learning to:

- Expand global knowledge
- Anticipate and engage in complex issues
- Modify behavior and resist stereotypes

# Curriculum Objectives

1. Define strategies to develop students' awareness of their own cultural understandings and practices, and how these shape their perspectives of other cultures.
2. Identify methods for observing cultural habits of the self as compared with the cultural habits of the destination country.
3. Engage students in developing cultural awareness through their participation in strategies and activities.

# Student Objectives

1. Understand where you are in intercultural awareness development.
2. Understand the history and legacy of your destination country.
3. Participate in strategies and activities that help develop and expand your cultural awareness.



# Part 1: Cultural Awareness Starts with the Self





# Examining the cultural growth and awareness

Quality improvement program evaluation

Pretest-posttest design

28 students in a health care profession major of study

Cultural Competence Assessment (CCA) instrument

single open-ended question



# Results

26-item self-reported cultural indicators on the CCA, revealing no statistical significance between the pre- and post-test score

Qualitative question included in the post-test, generated a theme relating to personal and professional cultural awareness and sensitivity of the participants

## Geert-Hofstede Comparison





## Part 2: What Comprises Culture?



# What Comprises “Culture”?

- Colonial Legacy
- Government/Corruption
- Social Service Availability
- Education
- Race Relations



# Why are these constructs important?

Knowing historical context can help avoid offending others.

- Cultural legacies are important.

Helps students to navigate living/visiting in the community

Expands range of thinking/understanding

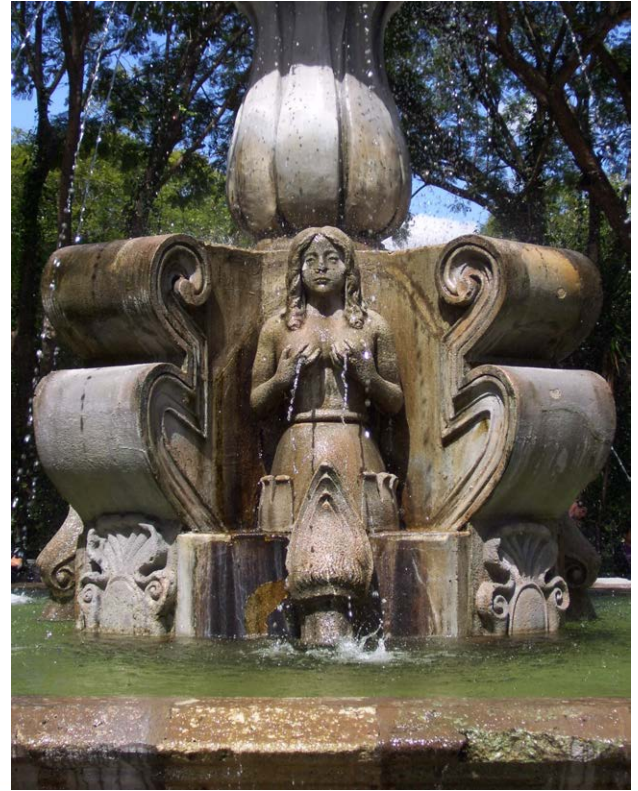
Develops awareness of others

Relationship development



# Guatemala

## Colonial Legacy:



# Government/Corruption

Understanding rule of law:



President Otto Pérez Molina and Vice President Roxana Baldetti face a mounting corruption scandal. (Emisoras Unidas)



# Social Services

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# Education

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# Race Relations

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## Mayans



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# Race Relations

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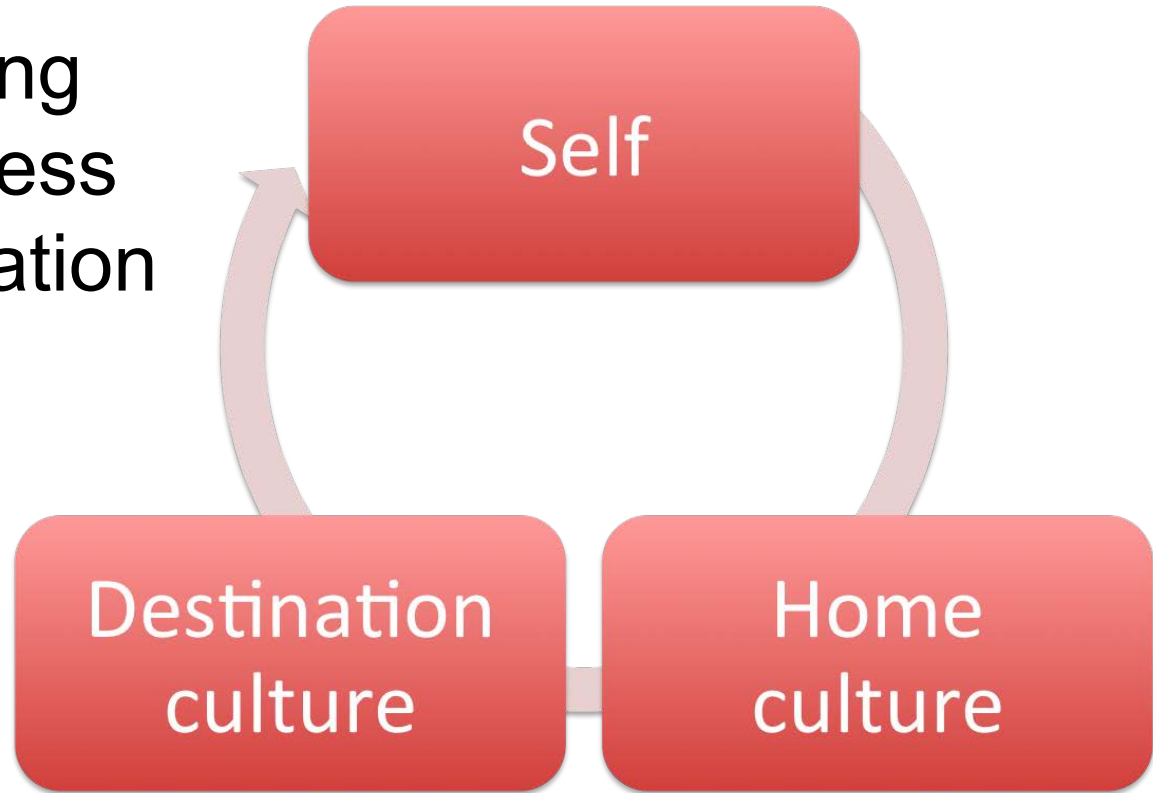
## Ladinos



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## Part 3: Developing Cultural Awareness through Participation



# Awareness through Collaboration

- (self) Tribes strategy: What's in your wallet?
- (home culture) Mini ethnography: “making the familiar strange...”
- (destination culture) Riding the bus in Guatemala (simulation [-video](#))



# Awareness through the Arts

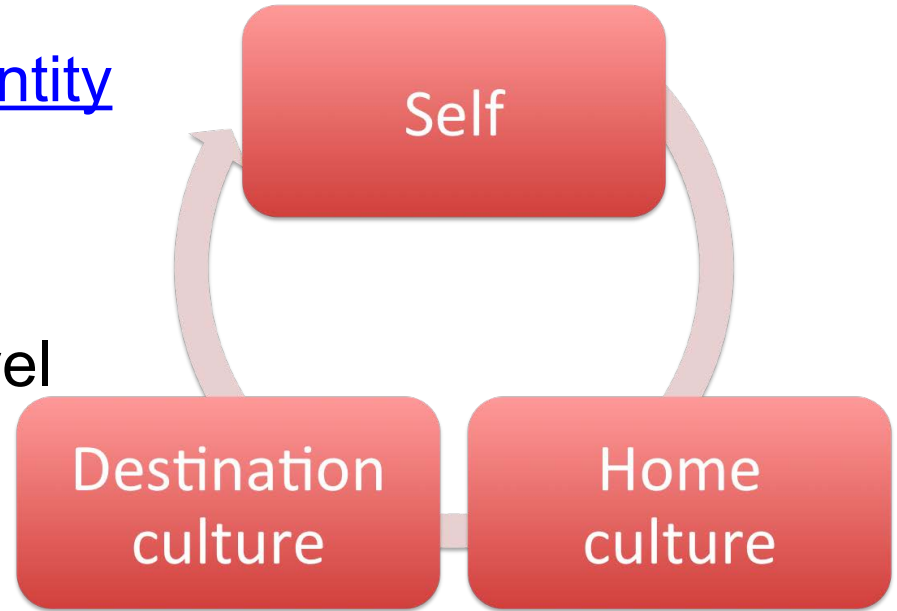
- (self) Self-portrait [collage](#)
- (home culture) Photography: my community, my culture (e.g., [NY Times Culture Shot](#))
- (destination culture) Digital story (e.g., [Adapting to a new culture](#)); comics journal (e.g., <http://marekbennett.com/nicaragua2014/>)





# Writing for Awareness

- Writing about the self (e.g., [identity chart/map](#))
- Pre-travel reflections
- Journaling/[blogging](#) during travel
- Post-travel reflection
- Action plan



# Multimedia Tools

- Film, [Which Way Home?](#) ([watch full film online](#))
- Ted talk, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: [The danger of a single story](#)
- [Define American](#)
- [Facing History and Ourselves](#)
- [Aula Intercultural](#)



# Wrap up

