CULTIVATING EFFORT IN STUDY ABROAD: AN INNOVATIVE TEAM TEACHING APPROACH

Drs. Tobin Redwine, Tracy Rutherford, & Gary Wingenbach – Texas A&M University
Dr. Wash Jones – Prairie View A&M University
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

• US Student Participation has increased 300% in the last 20 years

• Faculty face barriers to participate
  • Time?
  • Effort?
  • P&T Concerns?
  • Parents?
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

• A potential solution
  • Team-teaching approach

• Our case study
  • Four instructors
  • Multiple institutional approach
  • Four week program
    • Instructor teams of two take two week “shifts”
    • 2-3 day overlap
TEAM TEACHING

• Benefits for teachers
  • Decreased time out-of-country
    • Family balance
    • University workload
  • More instructors
    • Recruitment
    • Engagement
    • Perspectives
TEAM TEACHING

• Benefits for students
  • More instructors
    • Engagement
    • Perspective
  • Enhanced context
  • Renewed energy and reconnection
    • Restocking the “Mom Box”
TEAM TEACHING

- Challenges
  - Maintaining instructional continuity
  - Facilitating student assimilation and adaptation processes
  - Consistent engagement
  - Change is hard!
TEAM TEACHING

- Strategies for overcoming challenges
  - Pre-departure meetings
  - Programmatic team building
  - Frequent peer debrief
TEAM TEACHING

• Outcomes we have observed
  • Increased student participation
  • Enhanced content mastery
  • Mentoring opportunities
WHAT’S NEXT?

• Prevalence of team teaching
• Measurable impacts
• Global partnerships
TEAM TEACHING

Questions and discussion are welcomed