

Global Student Certificate

Approving Signatures Explanation Sheet

The PLATO Project

The Global Student Online Courses located at www.GlobalStudent.us are one of the products of The Project for Learning Abroad, Training, and Outreach (PLATO)—a national project developed by the Center for Global Education at Loyola Marymount University, and funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education with additional support from the IFSA Foundation. PLATO is an integrated study abroad training, certification, and diversity outreach program which provides comprehensive support resources for study abroad available to all U.S. high school students—with special support for underrepresented students. PLATO responds to U.S. education's challenge to have no student left behind through the inclusion of a greater number of underrepresented students in study abroad, many of whom come from institutions with only a limited infrastructure to support study abroad students.

Global Student Certificate

The Global Student Certificate is a symbol of academic achievement that can be earned by any high school student who studies abroad for academic credit and completes all three Global Student Online Courses including the *Info Log* assignments and the home campus and K-12 or community outreach presentations required in the third course.

The Global Student Online Courses can help turn what for many students may be an unconnected experience abroad into a meaningful, integrated international learning experience. Additionally, it connects participants to their home campus and community through mentorship and outreach, enabling returned study abroad students to make their overseas experience relevant and useful. Following completion of the program and recognition of their achievement through a Global Student Certificate, students will have something tangible and marketable that they can add to their resume displaying their accomplishments.

Signatures

To be considered official, the Global Student Certificate must be signed by the designated people below whose signatures confirm completion of the different components of the courses.

1. **The Center for Global Education** confirms that students have completed the online components of the courses before the students can download their Certificate.
2. **Program Director** or **Study Abroad Advisor** signature confirming that the student studied abroad and received academic credit.
3. **Campus Advisor, Program Director, or Faculty member** confirming that the student completed their Info Log by having the student demonstrate completion of the assignments listed on the next 2 pages. Note: The student may not feel comfortable letting you read their entries, as some will be very personal—the only requirement for students completing the courses independently is to prove that the entries were done.
4. **Home Campus Faculty/Staff member** or **Student Group Leader** signature confirming that the student presented on their study abroad experiences to a student group or class on campus.
5. **K-12 Teacher** or **community member** signature confirming that the student presented on their study abroad experiences to a group of K-12 students or community members.

If you have been tracking the student's progress and know that they have studied abroad, completed their Info Log, presented on campus, and presented at a K-12 or community group, you may be able to sign up to all 4 lines of their Certificate for them.

Info Log Assignments to be Confirmed

Course 1

Module 2: Why Study in the U.S.

- Determine Your Top Ten Reasons
- Recognize Your Feelings
- Prepare Your Thoughts for Discussion
- All Students can Travel/Study Abroad: Special Issues

Module 3: What's Your Cultural IQ?

- Reflect on Your Personal Identities
- Stereotypes
- Understand Gender as Part of Cultural Adaptation
- Learn about Intercultural Sensitivity and Assess Your Level
- Evaluate a Cultural Incident
- Cultural Adaptation Strategies

Module 4: Learning about Your Host Country

- Your Host Country's Geography
- Your Host Country's Social Facts
- Your Host Country's Political Facts
- Your Host Country's Economic Facts
- Your Host Country's Sports, Music, and Entertainment
- Research Your Host Country in Depth

Module 5: Country Specific Culture

- Gather Information about Culture Shock in Your Host Country
- Research Nonverbal Communication
- Research Proper Etiquette in Your Host Country
- Research how You may be Stereotyped
- Prepare for the Challenges of Diversity
- Prepare Your Culture Report
- Take the Culture-Learning Strategies Inventory

Course 3

Module 1: Intro to Course 3: Once You Return

- Determine Your Top Ten Goals
- Establish Initial Steps for Larger Goals
- Increase Your Understanding of Global Awareness and Diversity
- Assess Your Re-entry Adjustment So Far
- Compare to Others who have Gone Before
- Say No to Shoeboxing
- Evaluate Your Experience
- Ideas for Improving Your Program

Module 2: Reverse Culture Shock

- Find Out the Top Ten Challenges
- Interpret One Student's Experience
- Reflect on Your Changes

Module 3: Global Citizenry

- Move Forward in Your Own Development
- Describe Your Changing Perspectives
- Explain how Your Views may have Changed
- Revisit the Concept of "Your Culture"
- Explain Your Own Culture

Module 4: Adjusting to Life Back Home

- Strategies for Effective Re-entry Adjustment
- Using Your New Knowledge

Module 6: Your Role as a Cultural Ambassador

- Learn how You may be Viewed Abroad
- Expand Your Knowledge
- Get Informed about U.S. Issues

Module 7: Globalization and Its Impact

- Learn about a Globalization Issue in Depth
- How do You Feel about Globalization?
- Learn about Multinational Organizations

Module 8: Target Language Learning

- Why Learn a Foreign Language?
- Radio in Your Target Language
- Tools to Help Read
- Choose an Article
- Select a Speaking Activity
- Learn what to Do about Language Fatigue
- Evaluate Your Strategies
- Use what You Learned about Mnemonics
- Develop Your Plan for Interaction

Module 9: Logistical Issues: Getting Ready to Go

- Review the Top Ten Health and Safety Tips
- How to Stay Healthy Abroad
- Research Drug Issues in Your Host Country
- Know the Risk Involved in Your Activities
- Learn about Avoiding Crime Abroad
- Research Legal Issues in Your Host Country
- Research the Crisis Questions
- Manage Your Money
- Currency Exchange Issues

Module 10: Planning for the Return Home

- Decide What You Want to Accomplish
- Review Your Goals
- Keeping in Touch
- Find out Importance of a Proper Goodbye

- Complete the Self-Evaluation

- Compare Answers to Your Expectations

Module 5: Become a Mentor to Other Students

- Read Other Students' Stories
- Brainstorm
- Create Your Statement

- Share How You have Grown

- Add Pictures to Your Words

Module 6: Provide Outreach to Educate Others

- Share Your Story with Your School Faculty

Module 7: Planning for College

- College Programs

Module 8: Going Abroad Again

- Start Thinking About Your Plan

- Explain Your Choice

Module 9: Thinking about an International Career

- 5 Keys to Unlock Your Global Career Skills

- Your Plan for an International Career

- Creating an International Career

Module 10: Congratulations on Completing the Courses!

- Determine What Exemplifies a Global Citizen

- Write Your Final Reflections

Feedback

For more information on the Global Student Online Courses, please visit our website at www.GlobalStudent.us.

Another PLATO resource designed by the Center for Global Education for all students and particularly for students of diverse backgrounds (African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latin@/Hispanic-American, and Native American students), their parents, and administrators is AllAbroad.us. The website includes advice from mentors of all backgrounds, Top 10 Reasons for each to study abroad, Scholarships specifically for different groups of students, advice on dealing with discrimination while abroad, and resources for outreach.

Other resources designed by the Center include the Study Abroad Student Handbooks at www.studentsabroad.com and the Study Abroad-Now More Than Ever site at www.globaled.us/now/about.html where you will find more information about the importance of study abroad and why students should participate!

We welcome any questions, feedback, or suggestions you may have regarding these courses or other resources! Please contact us at info@globalscholar.us.