

# EXTENDING THE FLIPPED CLASSROOM WITH SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD

JANUARY 2018



A new course helps students build global connections with peers studying across the Pacific Rim and serves as a model to make study abroad possible for cannot spare the time or cost of a full quarter abroad.



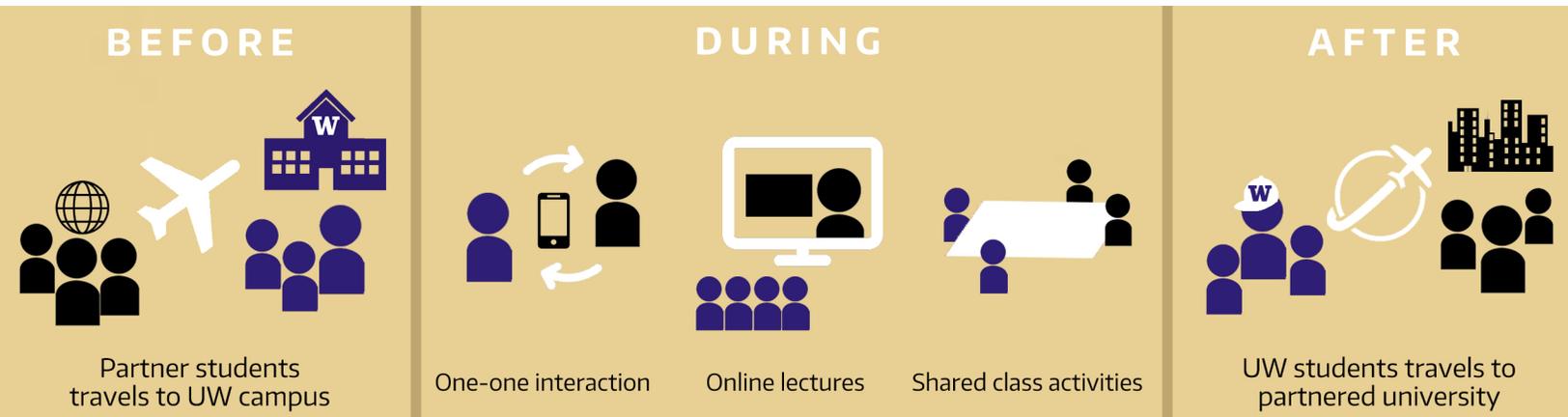
## Global connections bring a new lens to course content

In Fall 2017, Kristi Straus, lecturer in environmental studies, introduced an international option to her course, ENVIR 239 Sustainability: Personal Choices, Broad Impacts. Straus partnered with School of Environment faculty at China's Tsinghua University. Through short videos and teaching materials, students in both classes examined the role of personal choices in affecting social, economic and environmental sustainability. They connected online and via social media to discuss and compare sustainability in the two countries.

These connections brought new insights. As UW students reflected on assignments in which they monitored or changed their daily behaviors around, for example, garbage and diet, they shared their experiences with Chinese peers. Together they linked course concepts to their different personal experiences, government policies and cultural norms.



*Kristi Straus, pilot of the extended flip program*



## Maximizing a short-term study abroad

At the end of the quarter, UW students traveled to China for 10 days. At Tsinghua campus, students attended lectures on sustainability in China and shared perspectives with both local Chinese students and international students studying at Tsinghua University. Together, they visited solar and wind farms, university and industry labs to directly observe sustainability efforts in China.

The online collaboration enabled a richer study abroad experience. Connections first made online quickly grew to friendships in person.

## Increasing access to study abroad

With a ten day study abroad during the break, this model makes it possible for students to participate who might not otherwise be able to afford the time or cost of a longer program. "Courses that involve short-term study abroad promote access and equity to global learning," says Assistant Vice Provost of Global Affairs Gayle Christiansen.

## What is an "Extended flip" course?

An extended flip course combines three proven approaches to maximize learning: a flipped classroom, collaborative online international learning, and study abroad. In a flipped class, content that would normally be part of a lecture is accessed in advance as online videos or readings, freeing up class time for problems, projects and interaction. In collaborative online international learning, or COIL, students connect with international peers. In a UW extended flip course, students engage in online learning experiences with students from a paired class at an international university. Before or after the course, students from both universities travel to one another's campuses for a one to two week intensive study abroad program.



**Amanda Bai**  
A sophomore student studying environment.

“ From this trip, I saw a high potential of environment industry in China and Chinese governments’ commitment sustainability. I now can see a variety of options in my career development.



**Nick Steele**  
A senior student majoring in International Studies

“ This packed trip helped me find what I want to do and where I want to live in the future. I applied for Tsinghua graduate school immediately after I went back from China.



**Mike Liu**  
A senior student studying environment.

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Editor: Marisa Nickle | Katie Kirkland  
Writer: Shantelle Liu  
Designer: Shantelle Liu  
Photographer: Mike Liu

**Learn more**

<p><b>GIX:</b> The Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) is a partnership between Tsinghua University and the UW to develop leaders in innovation with support from Microsoft.</p>	<p><b>COIL:</b> A fellowship program hosted by UW Bothell to support faculty and staff across UW's three campuses to establish online collaborations with international partners.</p>	<p><b>Study Abroad:</b> Find various study abroad programs offered at the University of Washington</p>
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