First Year GLC Students Travel to Cambodia

Student Experiences

“When I was packing for our trip to Cambodia I tried not to let my expectations get the best of me. I was so excited and wanted to experience everything. My trip to Cambodia with the GLC surpassed what I had imagined. Over the two-week trip, it was the perfect mix of education, immersing ourselves in the culture and pure fun with OU and AUPP students. The GLC is unlike so many other study abroad programs and I am grateful for the opportunities and experiences that came from it.”

– Madeline Baker, Junior Communications Studies Major

“My trip to Cambodia gave me the chance to indulge for the first time in a deeply rooted culture that changed my daily perceptions forever.”

– Rachel Addlespurger, Junior Communication Studies Major

The Projects

While abroad in Cambodia, our students worked with four different clients and served five different consulting requests. The clients that the first year GLC students worked with included Cambodian Living Arts, Moto Girls, Chip Mong Group and the Bohpana Center. Each group successfully pitched their recommendations to their clients on one of the final days in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The clients were extremely receptive and appreciated the recommendations provided by the students. The first year GLC students worked with companies who had varying needs. Cambodian Living Arts was seeking marketing...
consulting on international tourists. Moto Girls, a women-run moto company, was in search of a better way to market their moto service. The Chip Mong Group was in need of recommendations for their corporate communication and developing new ways to be a socially responsible company. Lastly, the Bophana Center was in need of a sustainable way to raise funds for their company. Each group provided its client with a deliverable, such as market research, a video marketing package, a fundraising proposal and more recommendations, exceeding all expectations.

The Cultural Immersion

The first year GLC students made quick friends with their AUPP teammates. They went on a scavenger hunt, ate many meals together, experienced the AUPP teammates’ local mall together and adventured all around the city. Throughout the first years’ time in Cambodia, they continued to be exposed to all different aspects of Cambodian culture through organized activities. Students participated in a cooking class, went on a food tour at a local Phnom Penh market and experienced Cambodia shadow puppet theater with the Cambodian Living Arts. Half way through the two-week program, the first years visited Siem Reap where they had the opportunity to experience the breathtaking views of Angkor Wat at sunrise.

Although these different activities were some major highlights for our students, these few descriptions cannot begin to explain the endless benefits that students gained in understanding culture, leadership and adaptation. The GLC students still mention how much they enjoyed spending time with their AUPP counterparts, as well as how much they miss them.

Second Year Students Abroad in Germany

Student Experiences

“The Germany trip was something I will never forget”

– Riley Wasserman, Senior International Business Major

The Projects

While in the country for two weeks the second year GLC class worked with American Studies students from Leipzig University. The GLC students quickly became great friends with the Leipzig students in the course of two short weeks. They were able to develop policy memos that were based on topics of their choosing while acting as the representatives from different major organizations. One group acted as the UN, another as the International Rescue Committee, as well as the EU. They were able to look at different issues within each organization in a way that the actual organizations have had to deal with at some point.

The group representing the International Rescue Committee (IRC) tried to develop a solution for Syrian refugees currently living on the islands of Greece. The group studied the camp conditions and explored the idea of moving the refugees to the mainland in order to integrate them within the Greek culture through resettlement and education. This project allowed the GLC students to think critically about issues that are affecting the world. All project groups presented their final recommendations to practitioners and experts in relevant fields at a workshop held by think tank Das Progresive Zentrum in Berlin, Germany.

The Cultural Immersion

The second year GLC class learned the perspective of the other organizations and what issues they aimed to accomplish. Working with students from another country was absolutely incredible. They had the chance to learn more about the German culture, learning style, and
hobbies. By doing so students from GLC and Leipzig realized how different, yet similar they are, being that they are from different countries. The second years created a bond with the German students that made it difficult to leave after the two weeks, and many of the GLC students and still keep in touch with their German colleagues.

Let’s Welcome Mathew LeRiche, New Director of The Global Leadership Center

Dr. Matthew LeRiche is a researcher, academic and political adviser. Importantly Dr. LeRiche has been involved in both the private sector and academia.

Matthew LeRiche is a lecturer in international politics, civil military relations, conflict security and development. He is an expert in political and conflict risk analysis, initially specialising in the political and security dynamics of South Sudan which he has researched since 2003. He comes to his new role as the Director of the Global Leadership Center and Assistant Professor of Global Studies at Ohio University from teaching at the London School of Economics and Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Dr. LeRiche was attracted to the GLC because of he finds that he fits best in a hybrid environment that is both academic and applied. he noted that he really enjoys translating theory into action. Dr. LeRiche has big plans for the Center. Over the summer, he, along with the teaching assistants revamped the GLC curriculum that will add more structure to the program. He also has a desire to create a center that does more than hold a certificate program, but can offer a range of undergraduates and graduate programs. He hopes to bring research activity to the center.

Further envisioning what he wants for the future of the GLC, Dr. LeRiche noted that he finds building the new field of Global Leadership extremely important and that the programming should focus on personal experience of the students. he noted “experience is the key to the future of higher education” and GLC is an ideal place to innovate. He also identified he was excited about the GLC partnership with Leipzig University in Germany. He noted with a firm base for this program GLC will be looking to provide future students with the opportunities of internships and new innovative collaborative programming.

Plans that are being introduced to the center in include a professional development series that the GLC will host. Now as a part of the Center of International Studies (CIS), GLC aims to connect a larger number of OHIO students to the “GLC Magic”. There will also be a renewed mentoring program at GLC, which will be a model for a CIS-wide program, run out of the GLC. Dr. LeRiche noted that longer term his goals were to build the GLC into a center that produces re-search, teaching and practical application. “Online graduate certificates and other programming are already in the pipeline” he noted. He also explained how important engaging GLC alumni is to his plans. Dr. LeRiche explained he was excited to find was to engage alumni in mentoring and to begin providing continued professional education focused on alumni. Most important was his recognition that there was an opportunity to shape the idea of Global Leadership towards the agenda of confronting global challenges.

The Global Leadership Center is elated to have Dr. LeRiche as the new Director. Students and faculty, alike, are looking forward to the new programming and ingenuity that Dr. LeRiche is bringing to the table.

The GLC Welcomes New Teaching Assistant, Ethel Agbemafo

Ethel Sefakor Agbemafo is a second-year graduate student in the Latin American Studies program. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Spanish and Sociology from the University of Ghana as well as a diploma in Spanish from the University of Cienfuegos Carlos Rafael in Cuba where she studied in 2013. She loves language and the science that is behind it. She has worked as an interpreter for various institutions in Ghana including the National Youth Authority and their project on the production of Bananas in collaboration with the Embassy of Colombia in Ghana. Ethel is interested in the relationship between Latin America and Africa and how to bridge the language gap that currently exists between both continents, especially between Ghana and countries in South America. At the GLC, Ethel will work directly on student projects with the Ecuadorian counterparts and will play a central role in the Ghana program this coming summer.

Ethel is excited to be joining the staff of the Global Leadership Center because she loves to teach and is intrigued by the experiential teaching style adopted by the Center. For Ethel having taught in a traditional way for so many years, she wanted to explore a different pedagogical approach so as to have a well-rounded notion of teaching others. Also, the GLC engages many different fields including business, biotechnology, culture and health and she hopes to broaden her scope in these areas.
First Place at Student Research Expo

Last fall, a GLC team of four was assigned to conduct research and provide recommendations on an issue that affected migrant farm workers in Meigs County, OH. Many migrant workers, especially those who are undocumented, suffer from poor conditions due to their inability rely on government protections for their health. On top of this, with many migrating away from their family-oriented culture in Mexico, workers often suffer from anxiety and depression. For these reasons, this group focused their project on the mental health of these workers.

Through research and interviews with a licensed therapist in Meigs County, a licensed social worker and a director of mobile health units for Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine – all who had worked either with migrant workers or low-income families in Meigs County – they crafted a three-prong recommendation. First, they recommended a partnership between OUHCOM and Woodland Health Centers, one of the few mental health clinics in Meigs County. Next, they recommended a five-year plan to implement mental health services through migrant workers’ churches with the goal for it to eventually become self-sustaining. Finally, they suggested a collaborative Facebook page where social workers, activists, church figures, etc. could connect to talk about relevant news and recommendations; the goal of this page was to foster connections that could provide value in achieving our long-term goal.

At the group’s presentation, the individuals and groups which the proposed partnership was about were able to exchange contact information with a plan to follow through with the health programming partnership. In February, they entered their project into Ohio University’s 2017 Student Research and Creative Activity Expo, where they won first place in the category of social public health and received $200. The team was incredibly humbled from working on this project and hope that their work might lead to people finding support and assistance.

GLC holds successful Mom’s Weekend Fundraiser

Last April, the first year GLC class held their first “Mom’s Weekend Jacki-O’s Beer Tasting” event in attempt to fundraise for their trip to Cambodia. The fundraiser was held on April 1st from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Jacki-O’s Taproom. The event only costed $20 and consisted of a shuttle that took attendees from the uptown Jacki-O’s to the Campbell St. Taproom, light appetizers and six four ounce pours.

Those who attended the event were welcomed at the door by GLC first years who volunteered to run the event. The attendees were encouraged to look around at the barrels that were brewing beer and grab some nibbles before the tasting began.
Once the tasting began, Brad Clarke, one of the brewers at Jacki-O’s, began to tell the history of the establishment as the first beers were being poured. The rest of the afternoon continued with the attendees receiving their pours and explained the history behind the different beers and how the beers were made.
The event sold out, enabling our first years to apply their earnings to some costs of the trip. The students have continued this fundraiser. The second GLC fundraiser was held on Dad’s Weekend 2017 and was, again, very successful.

GLC to Begin Professional Mentoring Program

This year, the GLC is excited to announce a new program that is beneficial to both its current students and alumni – the GLC Global Professional Mentoring Program. The program will consist of two different kinds of mentorship: second year mentorship to first years and professional mentorship to second years. The GLC Mentoring Program will provide current students with invaluable connections to professionals who can provide resume assistance, professional advice and a glimpse

First-year GLC students (from left to right) Yvonne Yan, Luke Deteres, Madison Eblen and Rachel Hartwick.
of the post-graduation world. Through different alumni events, such as the Alumni Homecoming forum, mentees and mentors will be able to further develop their relationship. Anna-Kaye Rowe, a CIS-Communications Development graduate has joined the GLC team to develop the program.

GLC Alumnus Bethany George Speaks at Homecoming Event

Bethany George, a 2001 graduate of the Global Leadership Certificate, spoke at the Center for International Studies and Global Leadership Center homecoming event. Bethany is currently an employee at Rev 1 ventures, a hybrid between a venture capitalist company and an accelerator startup studio. Rev 1 Ventures provide a bundle of services for startups and make nearly 20 to 25 investments in startups per year.

Upon graduating from Ohio University with her degree in Journalism, she decided to attend graduate school, accrediting the GLC for her desire to continue her education. While in graduate school, Bethany helped begin Rev 1’s sister organization at the Ohio University Voinovich School, focusing on tech growth. She later began her career at Rev 1 Ventures in 2014.

Bethany was excited and very flattered to be speaking at this year’s homecoming event. She mentioned that she hasn’t really had a chance to work as closely with the GLC in this capacity and looked forward to more engagement. She shared her experience as a GLC student and said that the program has greatly helped her in her professional career; teaching her that ambiguity doesn’t have to be uncomfortable.

GLC Visits Accenture Consulting

The GLC visited Accenture Consulting, a consulting firm that, “solves (our) clients’ toughest challenges by providing unmatched services in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations.” Upon arrival at Accenture Consulting, the students were hosted by Michael Gorshe, a Managing Director.

Michael is a 1970 graduate of Ohio University and began his career in the management training program at Kroger, he has become and industry leader in food retail and consumer packaged goods. His position includes all around business development and meeting and understanding the needs of the c-suite.

The visit was a show and tell of who Accenture is and what it does. Questions like, how does Accenture recruit, who do they look for while recruiting, how they develop employee skills and how they develop smaller teams in such a large organization were all addressed during the GLC students’ experience at Accenture.

The students had the opportunity to go on a tour of Accenture facilities. Michael discussed how to hold an engaging discussion so one can understand the clients’ needs. Our students had the chance to tour Accenture’s innovation center, including their digital hub and consumer innovation network. This allowed the GLC students to appreciate what global business and consulting is like.

The GLC students had a spectacular time visiting and touring Accenture Consulting. Michael Gorshe provided an unique insight into how our students can lead and exceed in their chosen fields. Most importantly students saw how the success of global projects and work is based upon diverse teams, where individuals with wide ranging backgrounds and expertise are needed.

GLC to Run Global Professional Development Program in 2018

The Global Leadership Center began hosting the Global Professional Development Series in Fall 2017. The program goal is to encourage and educate students to be “Compassionate. Competent. Confident. Connected. Cooperative.” The GLC now hosts sessions most Fridays during the 2017/18 academic year. The series includes workshops like “Meaningful Networking,” “Applying for Funding,” “Applying for Graduate School,” and others. In 2018 the program will be offered as a for credit course. The program is geared towards students who are interested in learning effective and creative ways to become global professional professionals no matter degree or background.