

Using iPads to Enhance Education Abroad

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NACTA 2019: College of Southern Idaho

Education Abroad through Kolb's Lens

Concrete Experience Engaging directly in an authentic situation such as study abroad. Program design aspects that impact this could include length, homestay, orientation, service learning, etc.



Reflective Observation Noticing what happened and relating to past experiences and conceptual understandings. This was enabled via journaling, group reflection meetings and discussion on study abroad programs.



Abstract Conceptualization Distilling perception into abstract concepts. On study abroad this often occurs simultaneously with reflection and journaling. This was sometimes referred to as an "AHA" moment.



Active Experimentation Testing new ideas; honing skills in a new experience. Once students recognize something new via reflection and conceptualization, they apply it to the subsequent interactions abroad to test the idea.



Managing Experiential Learning in a Non-Traditional Classroom

South Africa: Exotic Animal Behavior and Welfare
Animal Sciences 5797.05

- Cataloging learning and experimentation
- Managing reflection
- Communication
- Administration
- Assessment





Big question: With or without Wi-Fi

One Note – Need Wi-Fi

Explain Everything – Students can create presentations (best with Wi-Fi)

Microsoft Office – OK if you can wait for Wi-Fi or airdrop

Carmen – requires Wi-Fi

Notes – very basic typing field that is easy to airdrop

Airdrop – Students have it, but do you? OAA turns it off for security

Today, December 15, we were taken to the Asa Wright Nature Center. Before 1957 the center was just a plantation owner's home up in the mountains where they grew the three most common crops of Trinidad; cocoa, coffee, and citrus. In the 51 years since then, they have become one of the most popular wildlife conservation centers in the world and home to some of the most exotic and beautiful birds, reptiles, and flowers I have ever seen. The Center has miles and mile trails to walk to get a chance to see the interesting creatures that reside there. Our group was taken 1.5 miles down the Discovery Trail to see what birds and vegetation we could find. Walking down the trail you could really feel just how fresh and clean the air was and there was an incredible sense of serenity listening to the birds call out from the trees. Our guide was extremely passionate and really wanted us all to have a great time while learning about the animals and plants there. Overall, visiting the Asa Wright Nature Center was an amazing experience. We were all able to learn so much and see beautiful creatures. As an Animal Science major, although the experience wasn't directly related to my major, I was happy to learn so much about the wildlife at the Center! It was a once in a lifetime experience that none of us will forget!

P.S To all our families,
we are having a wonderful time and Kelly and Mary are taking great care of Just Love and miss you all!



Ideas

- Presentation building over a program
- Use OneNote by having days/pages ready, sync with Wi-Fi
- Quizzes: Notes, even on the bus
- Group Reflections/Discussions – have photos or prompts downloaded
- Photo sharing
- Journaling with Prompts
- There are some airdrop/proximity based chat tools (Firechat)
- Blog submissions (example to right)

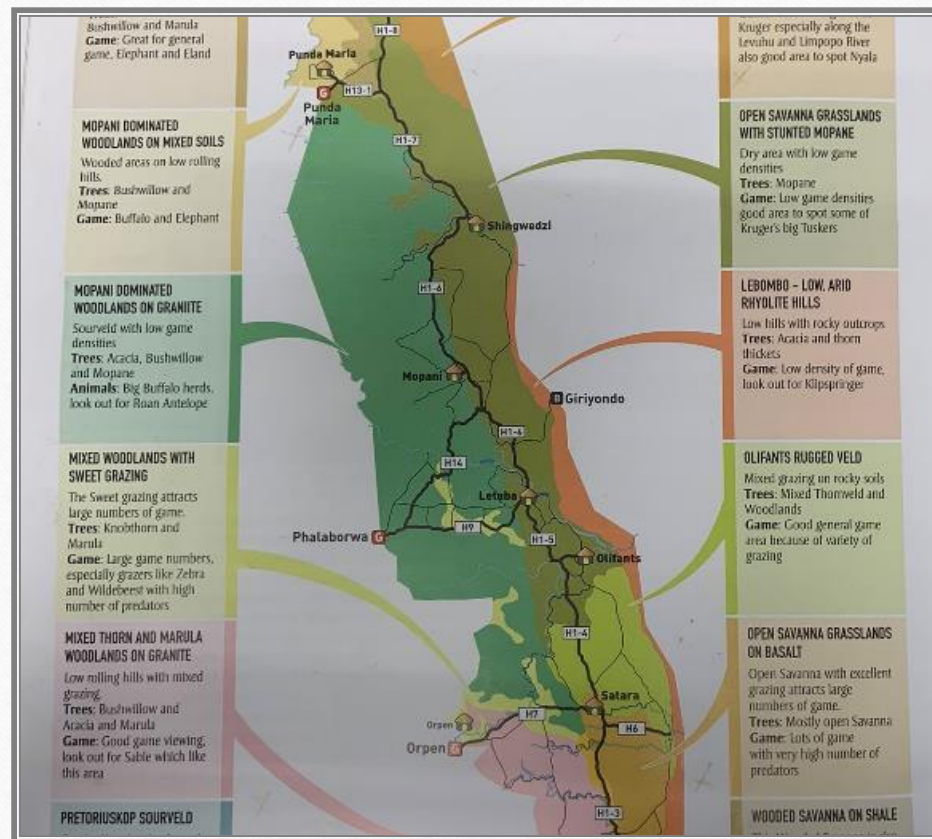


Exam at Dinner

- Students provided question options
- I assembled/sorted
- Airdropped the exam after ordering dinner
- They airdropped it to me when finished
- I graded it and airdropped it back to them

Resource Ideas

- Packing list
- Syllabus
- Itinerary
- Maps
- Journal Articles
- Reflective Journaling Prompts
- Checklist of animals or other things to see

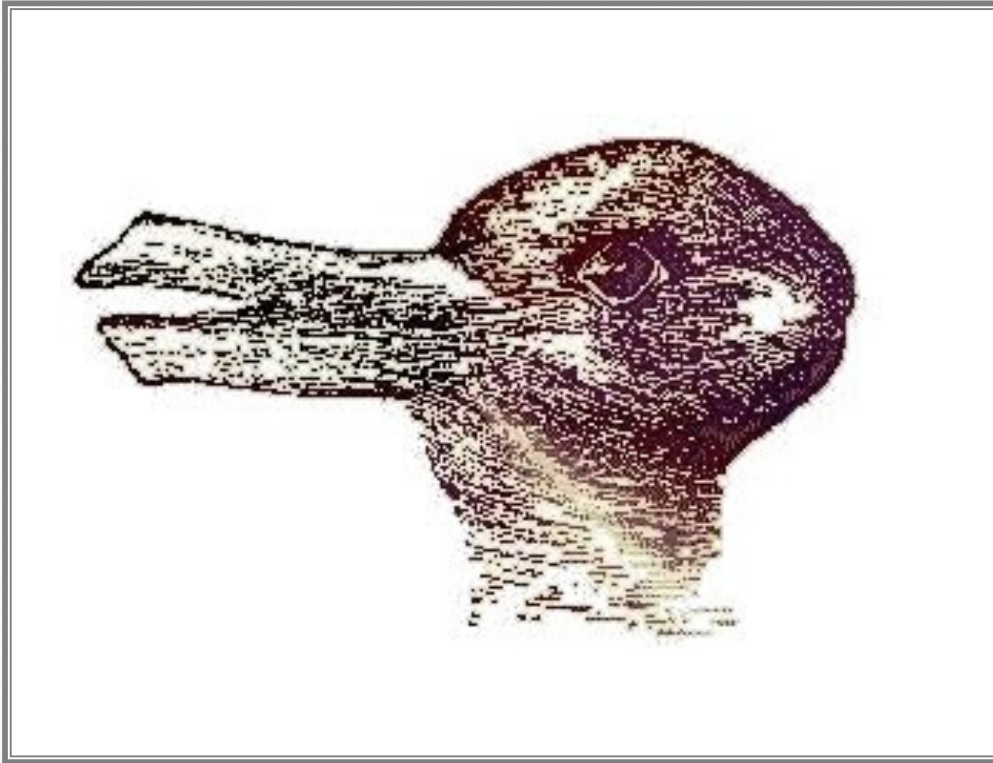


Reflection: What is unique
in this photo and why?



Reflection: Explain what is happening in these photos in terms of male elephant socialization.





Reflection Activity

- What do you see?
- Can you see both simultaneously?
- What ideas have we explored on this program that require you to hold two conflicting ideas simultaneously?

Student Survey Responses re: Using iPads

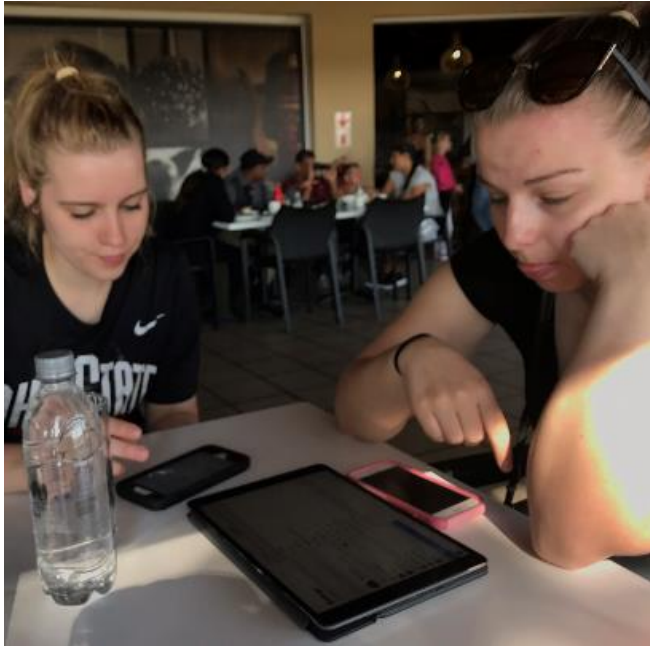
- Reference for Course Discussion: 5+ times (67%)
- Visual aid for course discussions: 3-4 times (67%)
- Photographing animal observations-Mixed methods (phone/iPad): All 5+
- Video: Very mixed but 3-4 times was average
- Communication with group members or instructor: 3-4 times each





To what extent do you feel technology used (Likert scale -2/+2)

- by you reduced or enhanced your overall learning experience? +1.22
- by others reduced or enhanced your learning experience? +1.22
- by you or others reduced or enhanced course discussion? +1.44
- by you or other group members reduced or enhanced communication with the group? +1
- by your instructor or guides reduced or enhanced communication with the group? +1.44
- by you or others reduced or enhanced animal observations? +.89



Student comments

- Great for group readings, discussions. Could be used for more visual sharing.
- Would prefer videos over readings (4).
- I think using iPads as journals and references for reading materials worked well. It would have been useful to also include the syllabus and basic animal facts as reading materials as well.
- There could be more PowerPoints instead of readings maybe some videos to better describe certain things.