



Reentry Workshop

Returning from Ecuador

¡Bienvenidos de regreso!

This Workshop

- This theoretical training was prepared for:
 - Undergraduate students at a large Midwestern US university
 - Proficient in Spanish
 - Just returning from 1-2 semesters of immersive learning in Ecuador
- Assuming their experience in Ecuador included:
 - Study at a partner university in Quito according to your various majors
 - Stay with host families
 - Volunteer work in rural areas

Activity: Ice Breaker



Instructor Introductions



Jamie Shannon



Nolan Sutker



Drew Ross

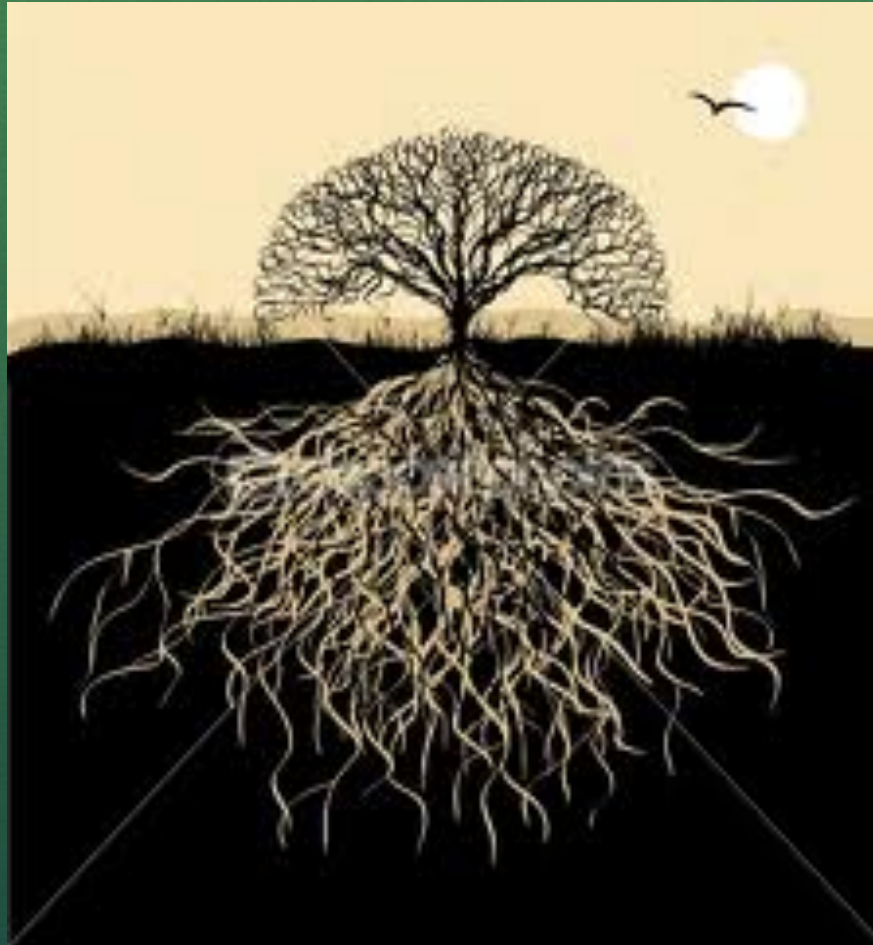


Jayna Winn

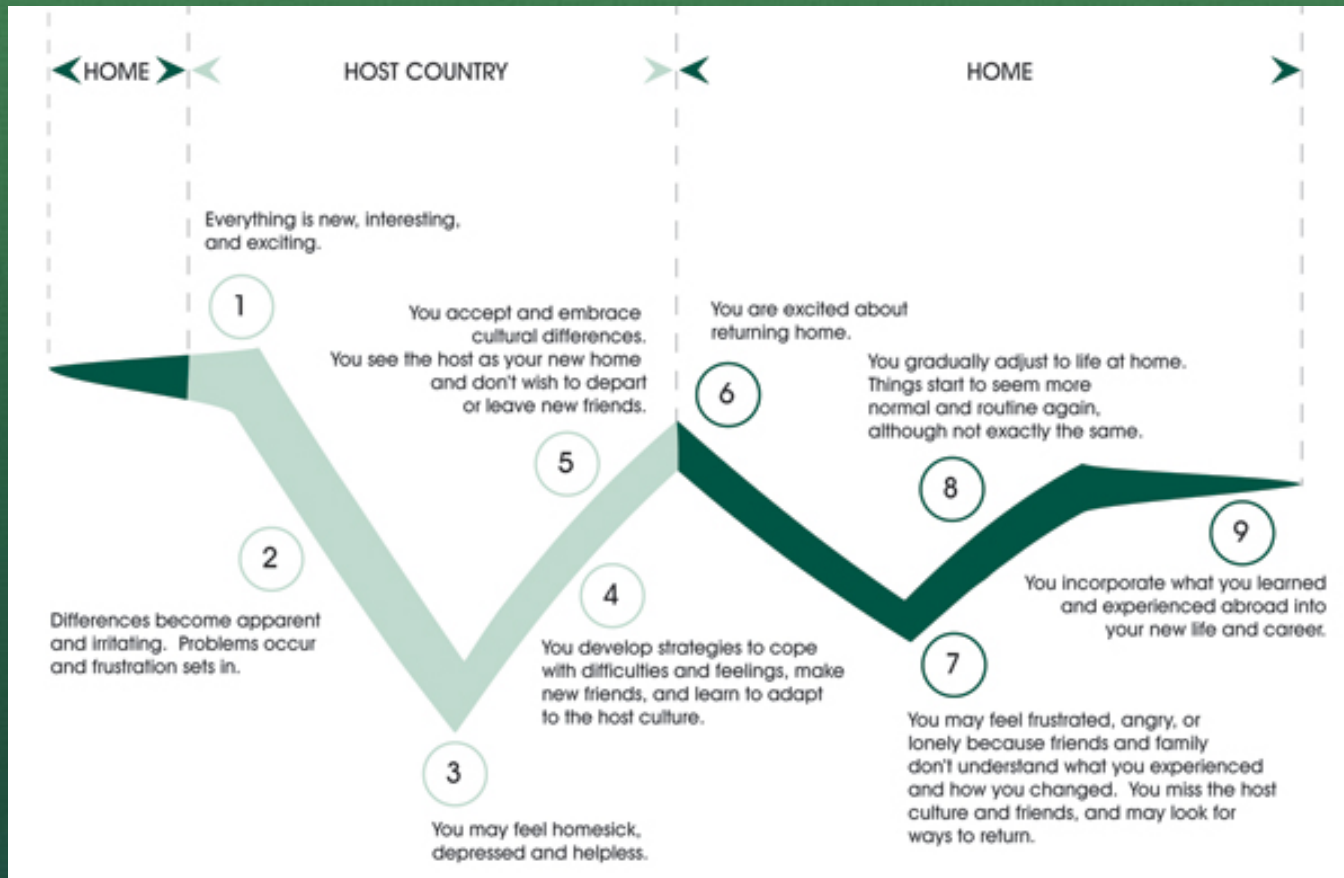
Activity: Similarities & Differences



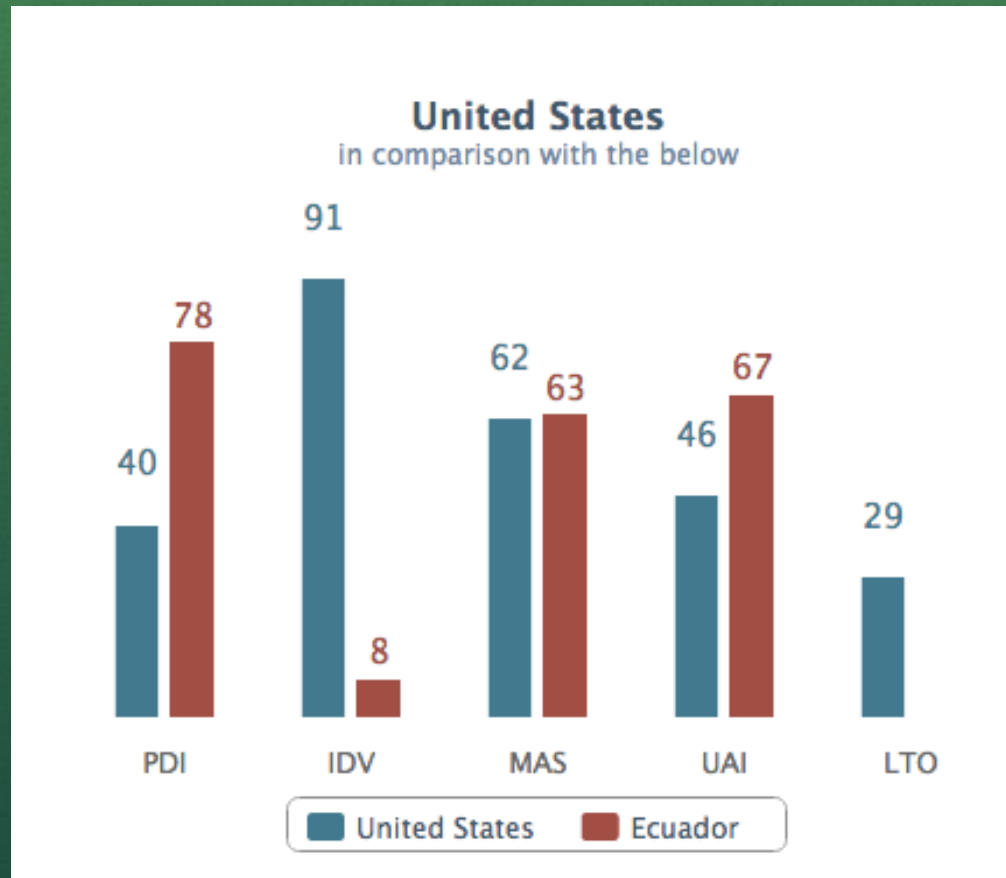
Culture



Cultural Adjustment



Cultural Dimensions



Power Distance Index (PDI)



- High Power Distance (Hierarchical)
 - Enforce/follow guidelines
 - Appropriate behavior for different roles
 - Status and position respected
 - Protocol more important
 - Power and authority are centralized
 - Importance of the chain of command

- Low Power Distance (Egalitarian)
 - Self-directed
 - Flexibility in roles
 - Okay to challenge people in power
 - Informal
 - Organizational structure aims to encourage autonomy and responsibility

Individualism (IDV)



- Individualism

- Identity from achievements
- Challenge hierarchy
- Competitive amongst peers
- Decisions based on individual goals

- Collectivism

- Identity from network
- Maintain hierarchy
- Prefer team environment
- Decisions based on group goals
- “Face” considerations

Activity: Story-Telling



Potential Impacts

- Relationships
- Perspectives
- Worldview
 - Political
 - Social
 - Cultural

Strategies for Success

- Practicing patience – with others and with yourself
- Journaling/blogging/scrapbooking
- Use the knowledge learned today to contextualize your experience
- Incorporate your experience in Ecuador into your life back “home”
 - Reach out to the local Latin American community
 - Stay connected to Ecuador through your host family, news, movies, music, food, social networking, etc.
 - Share your experiences with students considering study abroad

Resources

- Organizations
 - Study Abroad Office
 - Latin American Culture Club
 - El Caserio – Ecuadorian restaurant
- Counseling Center
- Reentry Workshop #2
 - Two months from now
 - We will continue exploring the theory and experiences of cultural readjustment

THANK YOU
GRACIAS