Global learning is known to be one of the most effective high-impact learning practices in higher education. Finding the means to incorporate global learning into a computer science curriculum is therefore considered particularly important for Webster University, a global institution with campuses in four continents. Devising effective mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of global learning is both challenging and vital to the overall success of the program. This poster describes and evaluates a hybrid study abroad course entitled “Global IT Development” that was conducted in the summer of 2012.

**Course Components**

**Defined Sample Learning Outcomes**

1. Demonstrate an increased awareness of globalization
2. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of global IT cooperation and management
3. Demonstrate development in critical thinking, evaluating and judging in a cross-cultural environment
4. Demonstrate an increased intercultural competence
5. Demonstrate intercultural involvement and personal development through study abroad experience

**Research Projects**

- Cultural Impact on IT Development
- Business Ethics
- Remote Management in IT Business and Development
- Global Telecommunications
- Effects of Globalization on American Business
- Investigations of China’s Advancement in IT Business and R&D
- IT Development Methodologies and Management
- IT Security and Management

**Corporate Visits & Interactions**

- Hong Kong Metro Control Centre (MTR)
- Hong Kong Science Park
- Hang Seng Management College
- Foxconn
- Huawei
- China Unicom
- Oracle Beijing
- Microsoft Research & Development Beijing
- Founder International

**Assessment - Students Tell It All**

**Enhanced Global IT & Business Understanding**

“Besides my personal liking I also had the chance to network with business people in all three cities. I see a lot of possible collaborations between us and potential partners in China. May it lead me to a successful business!”

“Seeing a country that unifies traditions and modern technology in such a way was a very valuable experience. I met a lot of great people, learned new facts about the global and Chinese IT market.”

**Broader Academic Achievements**

“This course was well balanced as far as the curriculum is concerned. There were just right amount of historical information, sightseeing, cultural information, and corporate visits.”

“I was able to meet people I otherwise would have never had an opportunity to meet. I loved how diverse the group was, having a different point of view helped expand my view point and I was able to learn more.”

**Increased Cultural Awareness & Competence**

“You can read and/or study about the Chinese culture and companies…but to travel to China, speak face-to-face with corporations and to literally ‘walk in the Chinese footsteps’ has made me respect their culture and how to better deal with some of their business issues.”

“I learned quite a bit of Chinese language and culture just from being immersed in the culture. I also learned a lot about my own strengths. I took pride in how quickly I was able to learn to get around in a different culture.”

**Personal Growth and Career Development**

“The trip to China was my first trip overseas so I didn’t know what to expect. I wondered how the food would taste, if I would get along with all my classmates, and would I get lost…turns out the food was fantastic, all my classmates and professors were amazing; I am so happy I got to meet them and I only got lost once…maybe twice.”

“I loved how the group came together and looked out for each other like we had known each other for years…I also learned a lot about my own strengths.”

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**Instruments for Future Assessment:** Combined methods of Case/Scenarios Studies; Critical Incidents/Essays; Analysis of Narrative Diaries/Self Reports; Observations Reports; Pre-Post Surveys