SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH DEAF EYES:
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCES OF DEAF STUDENTS

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NTID Scholarship Symposium

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Topic Outline

• Community Cultural Wealth Theory (Yosso, 2005; Listman, Rogers & Hauser, 2011)

• Deaf-centric programs at NTID

• Impact of study abroad experiences on career development of Deaf & hard-of-hearing postsecondary students

• Career Benefits & Aspirational Capital: 1500’s-present

• Findings of Deaf Community Cultural Wealth Capitals
Community Cultural Wealth Theory Framework (Yosso, 2005; Listman, et.al, 2011)
Deaf-centric Study Abroad Programs at NTID

- Chile, Italy, Costa Rica, Japan, Israel

- Pre-departure class
  - Learn culture, written & sign languages of host country
  - Meet Deaf people and visit Deaf sites

- Study Abroad trip occurs during break

- Re-entry online class
  - Share and present projects related to the country under study
Career Benefits & Aspirational Capital

• Study abroad experiences appear to develop leadership skills, educational/career goals, and maturity

• Examples:
  - Volunteering with DeafWorldTeach, teaching at the Majuro Deaf Education Center in the Marshall Islands, Western Pacific Region
  - Doing a summer internship teaching English at a school for the deaf in Santiago, Chile
  - Peers leading a group of students on a 5-week trip in Central America during RIT’s intersession
  - Participating in a US-Indonesia Deaf Youth Exchange program
  - Opening a Deaf Art gallery
  - Pursuing graduate studies in Sign Language Education and Social Work
Deaf Community Cultural Wealth Capitals

• **Social Capital**
  - Strongest and predominant theme
  - Meet diverse Deaf people and build networks

• **Deaf Global Community Capital**
  - Make cross-cultural comparisons and find similarities with international Deaf people re: cultural values, experiences and feelings.

• **Aspirational Capital**
  - US students recognize and become more aware of their privileged status
  - Strengthen resolve and motivation to continue graduate school education and work with the international deaf community as they recognize inequities in the Deaf global society (social justice capital)
  - Exposed to influential Deaf role models
The Stars are the Map I Unfurl
References

