

Diversity, Identity & Study Abroad

DIVERSITY AND IDENTITY

The Office of Study Abroad is committed to supporting all students to have the opportunity to study abroad or study away. There are many aspects of your identity that you may want to consider as you plan to study abroad. Study abroad gives you the opportunity to learn about yourself and your culture, as well as to consider the cultural norms of your host country. The manner in which you are viewed in your host country may differ from what you are used to. It is important to learn about the attitudes, laws, customs and expectations in your host country as you plan and prepare.

IDENTITY CONSIDERATIONS

- LGBTQIA+
- Women travelers
- Race & ethnicity
- Religion & spirituality
- High financial need
- First generation in college student
- Accessibility (health and mobility)
- Heritage seekers

QUESTIONS TO ASK FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR

- How is my race or ethnicity group perceived in my host country? What kind of stereotypes are there?
- How should I react if I find something to be offensive?
- Is the person curious or do they have bad intentions?
- Has my host family housed students of color before? If not, will this be an issue for them?
- Am I used to being part of the majority at home but will be a minority abroad? Or vice versa?
- Will there be other students of color in my program?
- Does my program have support staff that will understand and help me through any racial or discriminatory incident I may face?

RESOURCES

- [Generali Global Assistance](#)
(country information available when you sign up)
- [Culture and Diversity Destination Guides](#)
- [Travelers with Special Considerations](#)
- [Mobility International](#)
- [First Generation in College Students](#)
- [Equaldex](#) (LGBTQIA+ laws by country)
- [Unpacked](#) - stories from students like me
- [Students of Color Abroad](#)
- [Religious Diversity Abroad](#)
- [Students on a budget](#)

MUST ASK QUESTIONS FOR WOMEN

- Is it safe for me to go out alone? at night? Are there areas or places I should avoid?
- How are women expected to behave?
- How do men treat women?
- What are the cultural norms regarding friendship and dating?
- Do people in my host country have stereotypes of American women?
- What does my dress communicate about me? Is it considered provocative or inappropriate?

(by [Diversity Abroad](#))

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