Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)
Teddie Potter PhD, MS, RN, FAAN
Why does COIL speak to me?
Why does COIL speak to me?

• In International Education the main model of educational development is transferring educational practices to another cultural context.

• Endless studies show this never works COIL opens the possibility to co-creating the curriculum using the intellectual capacities on both sides to create something extraordinary.
Collaboration occurs when two or more individuals from different backgrounds with complementary skills interact to create a shared understanding that none had previously possessed or could have come to on their own.

(World Health Organization, 2010, p. 36)
Approaching Coil from a Partnership Perspective

- Communication flows both ways
- Everyone contributes according to their unique strengths
- The process is one of co-creating so the learning is mutually beneficial to all stakeholders
- Respect for other ways of knowing is essential.
Essential ingredients for successful COIL

- True partnership-based relationship among two or more faculty from different global cultures
- Supportive administration at both colleges/universities
- Information technology consultant well versed in online learning
- Cultural bridge
COIL and the Cultural Bridge Role

- The Cultural Bridge translates the cultural context of both cultures.
- Is able to spot and explain the cultural values underlying human behavior and actions.
- Is able to lessen the impact of very direct communication, being able to explain why some actions appear rude,
- Explains why one culture values X and the other Z
NURS 7606 Relationship-Based Nursing Leadership

• 16 week required course for the Doctor of Nursing Practice in Health Innovation and Leadership

• COIL partner: the School of Nursing, University of Iceland

• Goal: to offer all students a global relationship experience and start building relationships in anticipation of a week-long immersion in Iceland.
Challenges: Lost in Translation…

We are eager to work with you and hope we will have regular and meaningful connections on line.

- Difficulty enrolling students
- Difficulty with online platform
- Concern about Icelandic students’ level of English or online competency

Við erum fús til að vinna með þér og vona að við munum hafa reglulega og proskandi tengsl á línu.

- Confusion about COIL philosophy
- Concern about added workload
- Inability to influence student participation
Challenges/solutions

• **Technology:** Arrange participation of excellent IT help in BOTH countries

• **Intercultural communication:** Determine students’ level of intercultural experience, intentional preparation, use of expert Cultural Bridge

• **Logistics:** Strongly think about asynchronous and synchronous benefits and challenges.

• **Resources:** set up partnerships and develop your course strategically. It may take several years of planning before you launch.
Benefits of COIL for Faculty
Benefits of COIL for Students: Seeing Health Care in the United States with a New Lens

• “Seeing other healthcare organizations and delivery models, and talking to other healthcare professionals about their attitudes and social healthcare norms helps and encourages healthcare leaders to conceive different ways of delivering healthcare in the United States.”

• “I expected that the education for nurses would be less than in the United States and therefore, the nursing role would be more limited, with nurses doing more oral medication administration and physicians doing the more advanced skills. The healthcare system was much more advanced than I expected. The most impressive nurse endeavor was the nurse-only clinics for managing chronic health disease states.”

• “I was also able to discuss differences I saw within the healthcare system and areas in each of our healthcare and educational systems that may benefit from change. I began to contemplate how I may be an agent of change in initiating and sustaining some of these changes. It is such a wonderful transition to go from someone who sees changes that need to be made to someone who sees changes they can be involved in making.”
Benefits of COIL for Students: Seeing Possibilities for Global Nursing Leadership

• “This experience has inspired me to embrace the research, experiments, and learning from other countries where parameters are different to help think innovatively to create unique solutions to common problems.”
• “At times, I feel my life is just beginning with the anticipation to travel, learn and serve different cultures and communities. One of my goals is to seek opportunities to experience health care communities in other parts of the world as a nurse leader. I see myself influencing healthcare from a global perspective. This is exactly what I had hoped could be possible. We can learn so much and share so much and once again be richer in our sharing.”
• “It became apparent that with the utilization and support of telecommunications, nurses can unite from different countries and develop approaches and solutions together. Various perspectives can add to a more comprehensive and multidimensional approach to healthcare dilemmas that we all face.”
Resources

SUNY COIL Center http://coil.suny.edu/
References

